NUNAVUT HANSARD

UNEDITED TRANCRIPT

NOVEMBER 5, 2026

IQALUIT, NUNAVUT

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Corrections:

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Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker
Hon. David Joanasie

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok
(Iqaluit Manirajak)
Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for Poverty Reduction; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. David Akeeagok
(Iqaluit-Niaqqunnguu)
Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College

Hannah Angootealuk
(Aivilik)

Edward Attagutaluk
(Aggu)

Hon. Janet Brewster
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)
Minister of Health; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention

Hon. George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)
Deputy Premier of Nunavut; Minister of Justice; Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut; Minister responsible for the Labour Standards Board; Minister responsible for the Human Rights Tribunal

Jamie Kablutsiak
(Arviat South)

Gordon Kautuk
(Uqqummiut)

Brian Koonoo
(Tununiq)

Simon Kuliktana
(Kugluktuk)

Hon. Cecile Nelvana Lyall
(Netsilik)
Acting Minister of Environment; Acting Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Hon. John Main
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister of Finance; Minister responsible for Indigenous Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Commission; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Board

Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)

Fred Pedersen
(Cambridge Bay)

David Porter
(Gjoa Haven)

Abraham Qammaniq
(Amittuq)

Jason Iqaluq
(Hudson Bay)

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

Hon. Craig Simailak
(Baker Lake)
Minister of Community Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation; Minister responsible for Mines; Minister responsible for Trade

Hon. Annie Tattuinee
(Rankin Inlet South)
Minister of Human Resources; Acting Minister of Culture and Heritage; Acting Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
November 5, 2026

Members Present:
Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok, Hon. David Akeeagok, Ms. Hanna Angootealuk, Mr. Edward Attagutaluk, Hon. Janet Pitsiulaaq Brewster, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. Jason Iqaluq, Hon. David Joanasie, Mr. Jamie Kablutsiak, Mr. Gordon Kautuk, Mr. Brian Koonoo, Mr. Simon Kuliktana, Hon. Cecile Nelvana Lyall, Hon. John Main, Mr. Johnny Mike, Mr. Fred Pedersen, Mr. David Porter, Mr. Abraham Qammaniq, Hon. Craig Simailak, Mr. Steven Taqtu, Hon. Annie Tattuinee

>> House Commenced at 13:30

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Mr. Joanasie) (interpretation): Item number 1, opening prayer, Mr. Koonoo.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, and good afternoon people of Nunavut, those listening to the radio and watching the proceedings and welcome to the people in the gallery. Item number 2, Ministers' Statements. Minister Main, Premier of Nunavut.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 148-7(2): Special Citizenship Ceremony in Iqaluit

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon colleagues. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special citizenship ceremony held in in Iqaluit on September 28, 2026. I'd like to thank my colleague, Minister Brewster for participating on my behalf.

At the ceremony, 15 individuals took the Oath of Citizenship and officially became Canadian citizens and specifically Nunavummiut. Citizenship Judge Rania Sfeir presided over the ceremony, marking an important milestone for each of the new citizens.

The Government of Nunavut works hard to incorporate *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* and Inuit Societal Values through the spirit of *Tunnganarniq*. We welcome people from many different backgrounds who make Nunavut their home. Their knowledge, skills, perspectives, and contributions of all our residents add strength to our communities and we embrace this diversity.

On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I extend my sincere congratulations to our 15 new Canadian citizens and wish each of them every success and happiness as they continue building their lives and contributing to their communities here in Nunavut.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation, Ms. Lyall.

Minister's Statement 149-7(2): Nunavut Housing Corporation Board Meeting in Baker Lake

Hon. Cecile Lyall: Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to attend the Nunavut Housing Corporation's recent Board of Directors meeting in Baker Lake. The visit provided an opportunity to celebrate an important milestone with the community and recognize two outgoing Board members for their dedicated service.

On October 7, 2026, the Nunavut Housing Corporation's President Mathieu Parker and Board Chair John Apt joined my cabinet colleague, the MLA for Baker Lake, Craig Simailak, Board Vice-Chair Peter Tapatai, and Baker Lake Housing Organization Chairperson Sarah Sevoga to cut the ribbon and hand over the first keys to tenants of the new modular homes in Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, receiving the keys to a home is a meaningful moment for any family. This handover also marked the delivery of the first modular homes under our Build Canada Homes partnership with the Government of Canada.

By bringing federal investment together with territorial funding and Inuit partnership, we are supporting a planned and sustained approach to housing delivery that reflects community's needs and Arctic realities.

This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada through the Canada–Nunavut Agreement under Build Canada Homes. I thank our partners and the Baker Lake Housing Organization for helping turn this commitment into homes for Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, the Board meeting also provided an opportunity to recognize outgoing Board Chair John Apt for nine years of dedicated service to the Nunavut Housing Corporation. On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I thank him for his leadership, thoughtful stewardship, and commitment to improving housing across our territory.

I also extend my sincere appreciation to outgoing Board member Annie Aningmiuq for her service and contributions. Both John and Annie leave with our gratitude for their commitment to the interests of communities across Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the community of Baker Lake for their warm hospitality, and all Board members and staff for their continued work to improve housing for Nunavummiut.

Quanna, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: (No interpretation). Minister Brewster.

Minister's Statement 150-7(2): Cannabis Risk Awareness Mass Media Campaign

Hon. Janet Brewster: Good afternoon, Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak about the Department of Health's Cannabis Risk Awareness Campaign and the work underway to share information with Nunavummiut across the territory.

Cannabis affects people differently, but its use can carry risks to health and safety. Having clear, reliable information can help people understand those risks and make informed choices for themselves and their families.

Mr. Speaker, young people are particularly vulnerable because their brains continue to develop into their mid-twenties. Cannabis use can affect memory, concentration and learning, and frequent use can increase the risk of dependence and mental health problems.

Cannabis use during pregnancy can also affect a baby's health and development. The safest choice during pregnancy and breastfeeding is to avoid cannabis. Anyone with questions or concerns can speak with a health care provider.

There are practical steps families can take to help keep children safe. Cannabis products, especially edibles, may look like ordinary food or candy, and should out of reach of children and pets.

Mr. Speaker, conversations about cannabis need to reach people where they are. This fall, the campaign team is undertaking activities in the Kitikmeot, including visits to Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, and Kugaaruk. The team will also visit boarding homes in Yellowknife and Edmonton, where Nunavummiut stay while away from home for care.

Further activities are planned, including a visit to Kinngait during the week of November 16. Information will also be shared through radio, newspapers, social media and community engagement.

Mr. Speaker, these conversations are most helpful when people feel comfortable asking questions without judgment. Parents, caregivers, young people and community members all have a role in looking after one another and sharing information that supports healthier choices.

I encourage Nunavummiut who would like to learn more about cannabis and its effects to visit nuquits.gov.nu.ca/cannabis or speak with a health care provider.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statement. Minister responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Minister's Statement 151-7(2): Celebrating a Historic Clean Energy Milestone for Nunavut in Naujaat

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, September 16, 2026, marked an important milestone in Nunavut's transition toward a more sustainable energy future when community members, Elders, municipal leaders, and project partners gathered in Naujaat to celebrate the official opening of the Ikayuut Solar Energy and Storage Project. Congratulations to Ms. Hannah Angoteealuk, Member for Aivilik, on this tremendous success for her constituents, and thank you to Minister Cecile Nelvana Lyall and Minister Annie Tattuinee for joining us for the opening.

Ikayuut is the first clean energy project to become operational under Qulliq Energy Corporation's Independent Power Producer Program. For the first time through this program, locally generated renewable energy is being purchased by Qulliq Energy Corporation and integrated into a community's electricity supply. The project was developed through a partnership between Kivalliq Alternative Energy, Sakku Investments, and Northern Energy Capital.

Mr. Speaker, the impact on Naujaat is significant. The 1.4-megawatt project is expected to reduce the community's reliance on imported diesel by approximately 30 per cent, while providing a new source of clean, locally generated electricity. The project has also transformed the site of a former municipal scrapyard into clean energy infrastructure that will support the community for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, the significance of Ikayuut extends beyond the electricity it generates. It is a tangible example of economic reconciliation in action, demonstrating how Inuit leadership and ownership, combined with strong partnerships, can advance renewable energy development in our communities.

Through the development of Ikayuut, the project has also created local employment and training opportunities and established a Community Benefit Fund. These are important examples of how investments in renewable energy can create lasting benefits for the communities involved.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Mr. Akeeagok.

Minister's Statement 152-7(2): Post-secondary Nunavut Inuit Study Grants

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the government recognizes that post-secondary student supports have the potential to play a significant role in improving outcomes for Nunavut Inuit students. I am very pleased to report that implementing the re-envisioned program is well underway. As we sit here today, a made-in-Nunavut post-secondary education support program that is student-focussed, simplified, and grounded in a philosophy of holistic support is well on its way to becoming a reality for Nunavut Inuit students.

Mr. Speaker, due to the magnitude of changes to be implemented, a phased approach has been adopted and each year my department continues to implement new and exciting changes to make post-secondary education a truly accessible option for Nunavut Inuit students.

These changes are supporting more students to pursue their post-secondary goals. It may interest members to know that as of this fall, we have received more applications for funding than we have in each of the last ten years. We anticipate program demand to continue to grow as we roll-out the envisioned post-secondary support program.

Mr. Speaker, the most recent enhancements to the program are the new Nunavut Inuit Study Grants, introduced this fall. These grants are intended to reduce barriers and promote education accessibility, inclusion, and student success for Nunavut Inuit. The grants include: a transitional support person, transition allowance, holiday travel, funding

for mandatory exam fees, and allowances for health and wellness, tutoring, school supplies, furniture, and recreation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my continued gratitude for the support from the members of this House, other Government of Nunavut departments, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the dedicated team at the Department of Education who are maintaining office operations while simultaneously rolling out various aspects of the re-envisioned program.

Mr. Speaker, our approach to this important work exemplifies *Piliriqatigiinniq* in action. I look forward to sharing further updates as we continue this vital work to support Nunavut Inuit students in achieving their post-secondary education goals.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Back to the *Orders of the Day*.

Before we get to the *Orders of the Day*, I would like to welcome former member of the Legislative Assembly, David Iqaqralu, welcome to the Assembly; and the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated vice-president, Paul Irngaut, welcome to the Assembly.

Item number 3, Members' Statement. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Koonoo.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 158-7(2): Fishing Quota Increase

Mr. Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I have some good news from the Baffin Fisheries Limited. People from Clyde River and Pond Inlet have been trying to get a quota for halibut or turbot so they can fish for it. We were recently informed that 15 tons for both Clyde River and Pond Inlet has been approved from the 100 tons offshore quota.

That is really good news, and it's going to be very useful to the people of Clyde River and Pond Inlet in their efforts to make a living, and it's going to really be useful for the future economics as well, and I hope that this proceeds and grows well.

And their worker, Logan Loader worked real hard and Nathan Ootoova, I recognize them for the good work that they did. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aivilik, Ms. Angootealuk.

Member's Statement 159-7(2): Naujaat Visit

Ms. Angootealuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People of Naujaat, I would like to inform them that after Christmas I will be visiting the community to do a constituency visit, and I would like to thank CNAC who came from the federal government to do a cleanup in our community at the old DEW Line Site. Milestone and SDL, thank you that they have gotten rid of all the bad old stuff, and there's a lot more room now. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Pedersen.

Member's Statement 160-7(2): Selected to the Executive Council

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned at the end of the Leadership Forum this morning, I just want to thank the members again for putting their trust in me by selecting me to sit on the Executive Council.

I want to assure my constituents in Cambridge Bay that I will continue to advocate on your behalf, and to bring forward the concerns and issues of the riding of Cambridge Bay.

I look forward to having in-depth conversations with the Premier, and to find out what portfolio I will be given. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Mike.

Member's Statement 161-7(2): Nunavut Agreement and the Nunavut Land Use Plan

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People of Nunavut, good day, good afternoon; and people of Pangnirtung and the people from Pangnirtung who are staying at Larga Boarding Home that I will be visiting there on November 12 until the 19th. I just want to notify them, first of all.

Mr. Speaker, I talk about the *Nunavut Agreement* a number of times because they have been approved by the people of Nunavut. And the Agreement has to apply to Inuit people's benefit.

Article 5 about the Land Use Plan, I have worked hard to support it and to make sure that the Nunavut Planning Commission does the work that they need to do. And also in the Agreement, we have to use them because they have been approved by the Inuit, Article 32, having committees that will advance social development; it's called a Social Development Council.

During the winter session, I want to get clarification as to what we can expect in the future with the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. We need to improve the lives of Nunavut Inuit. We hear the situations that children and youth have to go through.

I just want to say right now that at the winter session I will be raising these two issues, and there are more. There is the Kugaaruk, the McKeand River that they are planning to build a dam, to dam a river that moves towards Pangnirtung. The river is 300 kilometres long.

I would like to ask my colleagues, I am requesting unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is requesting unanimous consent to conclude her statement -- or his statement. Are there any nays? I don't hear any. Go ahead, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you to my colleagues.

The McKeand River that they want to dam, they would block the river and use it to produce electricity. The river is 300 kilometres long and it flows towards Pangnirtung. And the river, it's very obvious that fish and birds and other animals rely on it as their home.

We all know it in the Pangnirtung claims area, it will be in the Inuit side of the land selected. And I will be bringing this up again at the winter session so that my constituents in Pangnirtung will know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you as well. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Mr. Akeeagok.

Member’s Statement 162-7(2): Remembering Moses Attagoyuk

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I want everybody to remember with me about a person who is no longer with us, Mr. Moses Attagoyuk. He had moved to Iqaluit when he was still young, and he was to go work at the Ukkivik Residence, and he did that. And then he moved on to CBC, and he stayed at CBC for 25 years. Even though after he retired, he would always come and visit CBC.

And he was our community representative on CBC, and he was also involved with the Canadian Rangers for many years, and he knew the land near Iqaluit very well and he was a very good hunter.

I think not just me, but whenever I say something wrong in Inuktitut, he would correct me by calling me on the phone, so he was a good advisor for me. And whenever I didn't pronounce something properly, he would not discipline me, but he would just advise me how to say it more properly. So he really helped with that and I'm really appreciative.

We all knew here that he had lung problems for eight years. He would go back and forth to the hospital, and the nursing staff got to know him very well. And whenever he was told that he doesn't have long to go, he would just liven up and then keep going.

And his daughter took good care of him and his wife, Ida; they were married for 66 years, and she's no longer with us, she passed away at the age of 85. And they have eight sons and five daughters, and they have numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. And he was always busy until he passed away. So I want to remember him along with everybody else, the late Moses Attagoyuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): We have their family in our minds, in our hearts, and we thank him for being on the radio for a long time. We will remember him.

Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Member's Statement 163-7(2): Granddaughter's 4th Birthday

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon colleagues, and to the people of Baker Lake, good afternoon; I hope you are having a wonderful day today. Today is a special day for our family, Mr. Speaker. Our granddaughter -- I have to say "our" because my wife is in the House today. Our granddaughter is celebrating her fourth birthday today home in Baker Lake. She's now four years old. She will be going to kindergarten starting next year. So recently she started going to Kinder Atii class, that's for children that are getting ready to go to kindergarten, to start exposing them.

And as I said, it's her birthday today. She brought cupcakes that they baked to share with their classmates this morning. (no interpretation) I hope you're having a wonderful day today. I love you. We'll see you when we get back home. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Assembly, Mrs. Simailak. Member Statements, Member for Arviat North and Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Member's Statement 164-7(2): Caribou Hunting Safety

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have to inform people of Arviat and Whale Cove that in this fall the caribou are very attractive to hunt with lots of fat on them and they provide food for the winter. But some of the ice is still quite thin and the dangerous spots are dangerous. And to remind all the hunters, I know real hunters know all this information already, although I know that, however, things can happen unexpectedly, and we want to make sure that they tell people where they're going and when they should be expected back. And if it's not possible, try not to go hunting on the land alone, especially young people.

We want them to stay safe, all the hunters. When they go out on the land and when they come back home safely, it's a happy time and they bring really fat caribou meat. And they provide the food to fellow residents of the community. So I thank the hunters and the Search and Rescue volunteers.

They're always busy in Arviat and Qikiqtarjuaq. They are tireless and very able at what they do. However, we should not always assume that we'll be rescued. Let's prepare things properly and tell people where we're going, and if it's not -- if it's possible, don't go out alone. That's just a reminder to the hunters, and if my colleagues here want to go hunting, please stay safe. But myself, I'm just a boardroom guy, and I think I've forgotten how to hunt and I don't even remember what caribou looks like now, but I can imagine them a little bit.

Mr. Speaker, that's just a reminder to stay safe during this fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statement, Rankin Inlet South, Member Tattuinee.

Member's Statement 165-7(2): In-Laws Birthday Wish

Hon. Annie Tattuinee (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to remember my in-law, my mother-in-law, and she will be 91 years old. I love her very much, and I know that she taught me very well in Inuktitut language and how Inuit culture is very good and how Inuit are so powerful. I love her very much, and we will celebrate her birthday.

I just wanted to rise up to remember her and have a good day, and when it's her birthday, please call her. She enjoys being given birthday greetings and to all the rest of my family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): We wish her a happy birthday, actually all people who will be celebrating birthdays. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Item number 4, Returns to Oral Questions. Minister for Arctic College, Minister Akeeagok.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 165-7(2): Post Secondary Educational Institutions in Nunavut

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Asked by Mr. Kablutsiak, Member for Arviat South, question No. 165-7(2), date, October 27, 2026. It's quite long so I gave the response to the Clerk to be deemed as read in the Hansard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. Do you agree that they put in our Hansard? Thank you. They will be written in the Hansard. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Return to Oral Question 195-7(2): Activities of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to supplement an answer that I gave to the Member for Aivilik regarding question 195-7(2) on the activities of the Qulliq Energy Corporation. The first phrase of testing for the Ikayuut Solar Energy Project was completed in August 2026. The project supplied a net total of 4,000 kilowatt hours in August, 4,800 kilowatt hours in September, and 2,800 kilowatt hours in October. And the second phase of testing is expected to be finished by the end of December, 2026. And once this work is completed, the project will be fully connected to the Corporation's grid.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you as well. Item number 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aggu, Mr. Attagutaluk.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Attagutaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome my two children who are here: Olivia Attagutaluk and Kassandra Attagutaluk, so they are on their school break. So they're here -- well, there's freeze up in our community. And as well, Toby Attagutaluk. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Qamani'tuaq, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, my wife is here in the House today, Marilyn, and our two daughters, Lily and Maggie. They were unable to make it over here yesterday from Baker Lake due to some other travels and whatnot that came first. Our two other boys are back at the apartment this afternoon, so they weren't able to come in this afternoon. But please, a big warm welcome to the women in my family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Uqqummiut.

Mr. Kautuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome my community visitors, David Iqaqrialu and Iga Iqaqrialu, and welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Mr. Koonoo.

Hon. Brian Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too would like to recognize an individual who's very well known from my community, Charlie Inuaraq and his wife, Elisapee Inuaraq, welcome to the gallery. And also David Iqqarialuk and his wife Iga Iqqarialuk, welcome.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome each an individual who have been welcome, Paul Irngaut I would like to welcome him and recognize him. I've worked with him for sometime for Nunavut Planning, and as well for Nunavut Inuit. I would like to thank him for working with me.

In September we attended a conference in Toronto, and I met him there as well. And we were encouraging the Toronto, but I regret not having to go watch the Toronto Maple Leafs. I'm sure that he would have been a great fan. I know that he would be a great fan. Perhaps next time when I go to Toronto with him, I'll go watch the hockey game. And I would like to thank him and welcome him to the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Irngaut, welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, although this individual was recognized, my in-laws, Charlie and his wife, my late wife's Ittu, grandpa. And also our old colleague, I would like to recognize David Iqaqrialu. I know that he came to elect me for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu because he lives there from Apex. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you as well. Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Going to Item number 6, Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Mike.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 216-7(2): Police Act

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon and welcome to the visitors, each and every one of you. I have a question -- two questions today. And just to explain, Mr. Speaker, I have two questions today to one minister. I'm not too sure if the world will end, but we will -- I will have to finish these questions in regards to the *Police Act*. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice today, and they concern -- as the Minister is aware on the implementation of Nunavut's *Police Act.*

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister will recall, in June of 2021, the Legislative Assembly passed Bill 53, an *Act to Amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act,* which included provisions to establish independent civilian oversight of serious incidents -- I know it's very difficult. I know sometimes the police officers have to deal with very difficult issues in Nunavut, and it's an entity on itself, and I know that there's serious incidents involving police officers in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, during the Legislative Assembly's recent televised hearings on the annual report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, Member's raised the issue of the *Police Act.*

Mr. Speaker, the department's approved 2026-2030 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2026-2027 fiscal year is to, "Complete regulatory work to bring the *Police Act* into force."

Can the Minister provide a clear timeline for when the legislation will come into force?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I appreciate the member asking this question. I was the Minister of Justice back in the 5th Assembly when we passed the *Police Act*, and it's been a long time coming to implementation.

I'm very happy to report, Mr. Speaker, that the regulations are almost complete. I anticipate them to be complete before the end of this calendar year, and then implementation of the Act in early 2027. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike: Mr. Speaker, as the Minister will recall, during consideration of this legislation in June of 2021, Members at that time stressed the importance of ensuring that investigations are conducted independently and there was an emphasis on respecting Inuit culture and *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the amendments also included provisions concerning the appointment of cultural advisors to support independent investigations involving police officers. (interpretation ends)

Can the Minister clarify what steps his department will undertake to establish a process for appointing cultural advisors in order to ensure *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* is appropriately incorporated into independent civilian investigations?
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think this is to me a very key component of the implementation of the *Police Act* of having that ability to have that oversight, and most of the majority members here participated in a presentation by this RCMP, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Civilian Oversight Commission here in the Legislature where the Board Chair and executive director of that Civilian Oversight Authority gave a presentation. So, I think it reinforced with all of us how important it is to have that civilian viewpoint when investigations are ongoing.

Mr. Speaker, as the regs are being developed and the directional statement working within those parameters, we're establishing what that body will look like exactly and then go forward with the recruitment strategy. And again, Mr. Speaker, I do look forward to that occurring early in 2027. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Minister for your response.

Mr. Speaker, the government's response to the standing committee's report on the *Review of the 2023-2024 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut,* indicated that the Department of Justice was considering bringing the *Police Act* into force separately from its regulations to allow the Nunavut government to enter into an agreement with an independent investigative body.

Perhaps the Minister can provide today on the status of negotiations with independent investigative bodies?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So the Memorandum of Understanding structure has been completed. There has been a number of negotiations with outside bodies that would be able to provide service in that function and role. Mr. Speaker, those negotiations are still ongoing, and I do anticipate having that component of the *Act* come into force as well in early 2027. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Aggu MLA, Mr. Attagutaluk.

Oral Question 217-7(2): Aqqusariaq Addictions and Trauma Recovery Centre

Mr. Attagutaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My questions today are for the Minister of Health and they concern the new Aqqusariaq Addictions and Trauma Recovery Centre.

I thank the Minister for the Statement that she made yesterday in the House concerning the status of the new facility.

Mr. Speaker, I want to follow up today on questions that I asked earlier this week. Mr. Speaker, the government has previously indicated that it is "finalizing a funding agreement" with the not-for-profit organization that will operate the Aqqusariaq Addictions and Trauma Recovery Centre.

Can the Minister provide an indication today of what the centre's annual operating budget will be and can she confirm how much of the budget will be provided by the federal government, how much will be provided by the territorial government and how much will be provided by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have those numbers in front of me today, and I would be happy to get back to the members with those numbers.

I know that we are working really closely with NTI and with the governing body in order to ensure a good turnover of the Centre to that team. I'll be happy to get back with those numbers when I have them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Attagutaluk.

Mr. Attagutaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was happy to hear the Minister advise the House that the government has representation on the interim board of directors for the new facility.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health over 120 positions in its Mental Health and Addictions Services Division.

Can the Minister clarify the extent to which her department will be working with the not-for-profit to develop the programming that will be delivered at the new Aqqusariaq Addictions and Trauma Recovery Centre?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The program development is done. The therapeutic program, the cultural programming, the intake programming is all done, and the next steps will be to train staff on how to deliver that programming. And the Government of Nunavut will be providing assistance with that training when and as needed. And of course through Arctic College there's training for people who want to work in the health field.

So there's a lot of work underway, and we're really hopeful that we will have Nunavummiut working in that Centre when they are ready to start staffing and taking in clientele. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary, Mr. Attagutaluk.

Mr. Attagutaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister's statement that she delivered yesterday indicated that, "The not-for-profit will determine when Aqqusariaq is ready to open and share information about accessing its services."

Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly often ask questions in this House to the Minister of Health about the services that are delivered to Nunavut Inuit at contracted facilities, such as medical boarding homes and elder care facilities in Ottawa and Iqaluit. Can the Minister clarify the extent to which her department's Office of Patient Relations will have the ability to review concerns raised by Nunavummiut about the care they receive at the Aqqusariaq Addictions and Trauma Recovery Centre?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Office of Patient Relations is set up to help Nunavummiut who are receiving health services through the Government of Nunavut, and as Aqqusariaq will be a third party, they will not be part of the Government of Nunavut. They will have to set up their own process for dealing with concerns or complaints that might come forward about their service.

And I thank the member for asking that question. I will ensure that we go back to that team and discuss how Health can help them to establish that process and also what Acts their professional staff might be covered under. If there is a professional practice-related concern, there is a process for many of those professionally licensed individuals that work in the territory and will make sure that the team is fully aware of what those processes are for the professionally licensed individuals as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Uqqummiut MLA, Mr. Kautuk.

Oral Question 218-7(2): The Office of the Chief Coroner

Mr. Kautuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My questions today are for the Minister of Justice, and they concern the activities of the Office of the Chief Coroner of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister will recall, I raised the issue of the Office of the Chief Coroner's annual report during Tuesday's sitting of the House, and I was pleased to note that the Minister tabled the report during Wednesday's sitting of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I must say if all my questions could produce results this quickly, I would certainly be a very happy Member of the House – and here are the reports.

Mr. Speaker, on a more serious note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Minister and the dedicated staff of the Office of the Chief Coroner for the important and often difficult work they undertake on behalf of Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, the Office of the Chief Coroner's recently tabled 2025 annual report indicates that, "As of, December 31, 2025, the Nunavut Coroner Service had 10 community coroners across Nunavut; three of them are Inuit."

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that recruiting and retaining community coroners can be challenging, especially in the smaller communities.

Can the Minister indicate what additional measures his department is considering, in addition to community coroner call-outs, to address the recruitment and retention of community coroners throughout Nunavut?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: I'll do my best to try and keep up to the member's level of expectation of responses going forward. Mr. Speaker, I can say in addition to callouts, word-of-mouth at the community level, and like I had mentioned the other day, a call on all MLAs when you go back to their community to approach people that you may feel suited for this type of a role, and encourage them to contact my office or through the Office of the Chief Coroner to express their interest.

Mr. Speaker, we all know people in our communities. We all know, as I said the other day, how important it is that when somebody passes away, that everything is treated with respect, and helping families go through some of the worst days of their lives when somebody is lost under whatever circumstances they may be.

So, Mr. Speaker, again we'll continue to do callouts, word-of-mouth from other coroners of people that they put forward. But I do encourage all members when you go back to your community, put a little bit of thought into people that you see, and encourage people to contact the chief coroner to apply to be a coroner. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Kautuk.

Mr. Kautuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you Minister for your response. (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the tabling of the Office of the Chief Coroner's 2025 Annual Report, which marks the first annual report from this office since the Office of the Chief Coroner's 2011 annual report.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the importance of this report in providing the government and Nunavummiut with valuable information concerning deaths investigated throughout our territory. The information can help identify concerning trends and inform the development of initiatives aimed at preventing similar deaths in the future.

Mr. Speaker, the report indicates that the Qikiqtaaluk region recorded the highest number of deaths investigated by the coroner's office in 2025, with 77 deaths, including 25 suicides.

Mr. Speaker, these findings are deeply concerning and highlight the importance of ensuring that information collected by the Office of the Chief Coroner is used to support prevention efforts.

Can the Minister indicate how his department is using the findings of the Office of the Chief Coroner's 2025 Annual Report to identify areas of concern and work with other departments to strengthen initiatives aimed at preventing avoidable deaths across Nunavut?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I thank the member for raising this very important issue. And I know Chief Coroner Cervantes has just recently started in her role, and I thank her, for one, for getting this annual report together.

As the Minister states, statistics and information is all we can go by with facts when we're looking at trying to address different issues, such as suicide, as the member is outlining.

Mr. Speaker, I can say that there has been a concerted effort, and with the Suicide Prevention Action Plan there was a number of different stakeholders and partners with different responsibilities to address. I know there's a lot of work done with the Department of Health, Department of Education, Department of Family Services, my Department of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, across the board we have to really take a serious look at how we go forward with this information and provide real positive programs and outlets that people can explore.

I think the Department of Health does a fantastic job of having mental health workers in the communities, our Department of Family Services with their social workers in the communities, teachers and staff support within the school system.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would encourage people that are struggling to ask for help. I think that's the first step that somebody who is struggling needs, whether it be a professional, a family member, a friend, just somebody.

There are avenues to provide assistance out there for all people, but I do look forward to continuing communication with the new Chief Coroner and looking at some different methodology that maybe she may be able to provide to myself and to my colleagues as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your second and final supplementary question, Mr. Kautuk.

Mr. Kautuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I would like to thank the Minister for his response. (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, the Office of the Chief Coroner's 2025 annual report provides 32 recommendations to help prevent similar deaths from occurring in the territory.

Mr. Speaker, recommendation 31 calls on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Government of Nunavut to continue developing weekly inter-agency meetings in all communities, where police and health care providers can coordinate their efforts to prevent suicides.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the importance of ensuring frontline service providers work collaboratively to identify individuals who may be at risk and provide timely and appropriate support.

Can the Minister provide an update on the implementation of recommendation 31 and can he indicate how many communities currently have meetings with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and health care providers to coordinate suicide prevention measures?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I don't have that level of detail of which communities that coordination has occurred in. But one component I do want to highlight that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has advanced that I think helps is implementation of this recommendation is that every community detachment now has their own specific orientation package where they do introduce new members to members of the community, which would include health staff, so that there's a level of comfort of collaboration working together already.

But Mr. Speaker, I'll have to get back to the member with the level of detail that the member's requesting. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Koonoo.

Oral Question 219-7(2): Relocating the Pond Inlet Airport

Mr. Koonoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I was campaigning, I indicated that I was going to make plans for the Pond Inlet airport. And it's something that I'm going to be working hard on. And today I have a question for the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure.

We have had ongoing plans for quite some time, even before the creation of Nunavut. And in 2000, I believe it was, on how we can make the improvements and we also talked about relocating the airstrip to another location as the present location is right in the middle of town where there's land that can be used for building more houses. The government indicated that there has to be some plans made.

In 2016, there was a correspondence or in the Hansard somebody tabled the Nunavut 20-year plan on what needs reorganization or reworking. From 2000 and on, can the minister indicate what that give us an update on the 20-year plan, because ten years have been gone already. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: I thank the member for the question. Mr. Speaker, I know this topic has come up a couple of times already. Mr. Speaker, with that 20 Year Plan that was done a little over ten years ago, we consider it a living document.

So as investments and improvements of different airports and air side infrastructure is completed, we continue to update that plan through regular assessments of different facilities across the territory to see if there's any shifts in priorities, Mr. Speaker.

So what I can say is that it's a living document, and as things progress or regress, we act accordingly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Mr. Koonoo.

Mr. Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I would like to thank the minister.

As the minister indicated it's an ongoing process and Pond Inlet is a very good destination for tourists and ships and so on, and the airlines are always full. There's also economic opportunities for the community, because of the beauty of the surrounding lands.

We now have a fisheries component in our community. Baffinland is going to be building an education facility in our community. I ask the question to the minister and I was told that there was no money available. But I'm also asking the Baffinland Mining Company and they indicated that they are going to help us in kind. Once the students are enrolled, they will be helping us in kind. The hamlet has also been involved in the whole process, and they also got support from Greenland, and they can help financially. Because they're heavily involved in the fisheries portion of it.

Is it possible to give your support and also for Pond Inlet to become the hub of the High Arctic? Once there's improvements, the military can also land to our community and we're very close to Greenland. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Mr. Speaker, I know this topic has come up a number of times over the many years that I've participated in precinct business over my 13 years of doing this. I think every MLA from Pond Inlet is working and encouraging for Pond Inlet to be that North Baffin hub.

Mr. Speaker, as airports and infrastructure improvements are made, these are the types of things we take into consideration to make things more accessible. We want to make sure that we're utilizing the infrastructure that we have to maximize its effectiveness.

Mr. Speaker, with regards to other partners coming to the table, I'd be open to looking at proposals that people bring forward. But Mr. Speaker, at this time I can't commit to something moving forward without knowing more information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your second and final supplementary question, Mr. Koonoo.

Mr. Koonoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to thank the minister.

We have been repeatedly been told that and even though there's no monies available, it has to say in the plans because it could improve the system. It could also lower the cost of food and increase tourism. We would like to see jets being able to come into our community. And it's been so many years since the members have stated, but never really took the time to take action. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And Mr. Speaker -- and again, I thank the member for continuing to raise this. And we are making investments in Pond Inlet. Some air side equipment shelters has just been approved for construction this summer.

In addition to that, there's an extra bay being included so that there's some cargo services could be included in addition to just equipment shelters.

So it's things like that that help stabilize or build increased services that an airport was able to function and able to deliver. So, I do look forward to further investments in the Pond Inlet air side infrastructure, and we can work to increase the efficiency of services provided at that airport. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Uqsuqtuuq, Mr. Porter.

Oral Question 220-7(2): Activities of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Mr. Porter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I was happy to hear the Minister make a statement in the House yesterday about Gjoa Haven's new power plant.

This is critical infrastructure that the community has needed for years.
Mr. Speaker, earlier today, the Qulliq Energy Corporation issued a Public Service Announcement indicating that there will be planned power outages throughout this coming weekend to, "safely connect the new power plant to the community's electrical distribution system. This is an important step in preparing the new power plant to begin supplying electricity to the community."

Mr. Speaker, this is good progress.

Can the Minister confirm when the new power plant is expected to be fully operational?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) and I thank the member for the question. And I visited Gjoa Haven at the end of September and toured the power plant, and I had the opportunity to meet with the hamlet council as well at council chambers, and to thank them for all of the work they've done to support each other in the community through those difficult outages in the spring. And so we commend everyone for their work during that challenging time.

So, the new power plant is in the final stages of construction and on the path to commissioning. So these planned outages this weekend are the next step in connecting the power plant to QEC's existing grid. And so the plant is expected to be fully operational by March 2027 at the latest. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister's statement that she delivered yesterday indicated that the design of Gjoa Haven's new power plant will, "allow for the integration of renewable energy sources in the future."

Mr. Speaker, this is good news.

Can the Minister clarify if the Qulliq Energy Corporation is considering the use of solar energy, wind energy or both types of energy?

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) and I thank the member for his question, because renewable energy is so important to us and our communities and our territory's pathway away from imported diesel.

Renewable energy projects are not led by Qulliq Energy Corporation at this time. Renewable energy projects go through our Independent Power Producer Program, and they're led by independent agencies, independent proponents who develop the project and then submit it to the Corporation under that program for application to connect to QEC grid infrastructure. And at this time, according to my list, as of September there hasn't been a submission from Gjoa Haven, but we would encourage anyone interested to apply for to Independent Power Producer Program. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter: (no interpretation)

Mr. Speaker, the Minister's Statement that she delivered yesterday indicated that a portion of the cost of the new power plant has been provided by the federal government.

Can the Minister confirm if the project is on budget and can she clarify the extent to which the cost of the new power plant will impact the power rates that are charged to customers in Gjoa Haven?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) and I thank the member for the follow-up question. The construction of the new power plant will not have any impact on the rates that the people of Gjoa Haven pay.

And in terms of the cost and the budget, I don't have that information at my fingertips but can return to the member with the information he requested. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Kuliktana.

Oral Question 221-7(2): Response to the Report of the Auditor General of Canada

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My questions today are for the responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

As the Minister will recall, she recently tabled an update on the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s response to the 2025 Report of the Auditor General of Canada on Public Housing In Nunavut.

During yesterday’s sitting of the House, the Minister made a statement concerning changes to the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s point rating system.

Her Statement indicated that, “assessment practices currently differ across regions and communities. The proposed system will establish common criteria so that applicants with similar needs are assessed more consistently, wherever they may live.”

Can the Minister describe some of the specific ways in which criteria under the proposed new point rating system will be different from criteria under the current point rating system?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Ms. Lyall.

Hon. Cecile Lyall: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question. It varies from community to community. Our point rating system, the weights of each of the items in there vary from community to community. So coming in and having a more standardized point rating system while also having a category within that system for the community's priorities so the community would still have that ability to choose the weight of one of their priority areas.

We are still maintaining points for overcrowding and adequacy of the unit. There are still areas for affordability. A new area that would be taken into consideration for some of our communities that may not have had this in the point rating system is the family's vulnerability and risk, so individuals who would be looking to move away from unsafe housing. So that was not something that we had across all communities. Some communities had that within their point rating system, but not all. And there would still be criteria in there for individuals at risk of becoming homeless or homeless.

So the system, it would -- it is a system that looks at Nunavut as a whole and would have that standardization through it, but still taking into consideration the priorities of that community chosen by the Local Housing Organization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Minister for her response.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the employees and members of the Board of Directors of the Kugluktuk Housing Association.

They perform important work that is often very challenging.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister's Statement indicated that, "Local Housing Organizations understand their communities. Their knowledge and judgment will continue to guide allocation decisions, with room to identify local priorities. The Nunavut Housing Corporation is preparing to test the proposed system with Local Housing Organizations to identify and address unintended effects before implementation and to ensure assessments use accurate applicant information."

Can the Minister clarify the extent to which Local Housing Organizations will be able to make unit allocation decisions without requiring the approval of the Nunavut Housing Corporation's headquarters or district offices?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Lyall.

Hon. Cecile Lyall: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for the question. We would still be maintaining the view that our Local Housing Organizations, they oversee these allocations. So, our Local Housing Organizations are the ones doing the allocations. The only time when a Local Housing Organization would need approval is when deviating from the system. So, if a decision is made outside of the regular system is when they would need to seek permission. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I thank the Minister for your response. I look forward to hearing feedback from my Local Housing Organization about the new system and sharing that feedback with the Minister.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister's Statement indicated that, "The new system is not yet in effect. Testing will not change applicants' current rankings or allocation status. During testing, the system will preserve applicants' original application and waiting-list dates, and their personal information will remain protected."

Can the Minister provide a clear timeline for the roll-out of the new system?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Lyall.

Hon. Cecile Lyall: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question. We are hoping to have full implementation of the new system early next year, with testing and training for all of our local housing organizations, staff and board members over the next few months. And once an assessment is done on the implementation of the new point rating system, we're hoping that can be fully implemented; and this would also happen in tandem with the introduction of Igluweb, our new cloud-based system, where it's linking in all of our housing organizations into one system instead of having 25 different systems. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. According to my list, member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Iqaluq.

Oral Question 222-7(2): Sanikiluaq Dialect

Mr. Iqaluq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and also to the people of Nunavut, good afternoon. And also I would like to thank my colleagues that have been paying attention to me asking how I'm doing for a couple of days I have not been in the House. So I would like to extend my appreciation to each and every one of you. (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker two of my colleagues brought up how is it important to preserve our dialect the other day. My question today are for the Acting Minister responsible for languages and they concern the preservation and promotion of the Sanikiluaq dialect.

Mr. Speaker, as the newly elected Member representing the constituency of Hudson Bay, I am a strong advocate for promoting, preserving and strengthening the use of the Sanikiluaq dialect.

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister is aware, on July 30, 2025, Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit issued a call for nominations for individuals interested in serving on its Board of Directors.

Mr. Speaker, the call out indicated that, "The … Minister of Languages, is seeking three individuals to serve on the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit Board of Directors - one expert in the North Baffin dialect, one from Sanikiluaq, and one expert in Inuinnaqtun."

Can the Minister confirm if the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit appointed a member to their Board of Directors that is fluent in the Sanikiluaq dialect?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Acting Minister of Languages, Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. I don't appear to have the information in the -- sorry, bear with me.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A call for nominations was issued in January 2026. The previous board members' terms expired on March 29, 2026. During the April 2 and May 27 cabinet meetings, seven new members were appointed for three-year terms. Unfortunately, the information that I have in front of me don't have the names of those individuals, but I'll be happy to get back to the member once I receive the actual names.

I can just say that Kathy Okpik and Mary Thompson were named as chair and vice-chair of the Board of Directors or in the process of being named, and we're waiting for a decision by Cabinet on that information. The Department of Culture and Heritage is actively supporting the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit in this process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Mr. Iqaluq.

Mr. Iqaluq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response. (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the important role that the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit plays in preserving, promoting and strengthening the use of the Inuit language and the various dialects across our territory.

Mr. Speaker, the Sanikiluaq dialect is an important part of our community's unique linguistic and cultural identity, and I believe it is essential that we continue to support efforts to preserve and pass down this knowledge to future generations.

Can the Minister provide an update today on what specific actions are being undertaken by her department and the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit to preserve and promote the Sanikiluaq dialect?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation*)*: Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for that question. The Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit is the language authority established by the *Inuktitut Protection Act* that serves to expand knowledge and expertise with respect to Inuktitut language, and makes decisions about its use, development and standardization.

As an organization that is establishing standardization of the Inuktitut language, there's opportunities within that dynamic to take into consideration various regions within Nunavut that are wanting to protect their dialect. So at this point in time there's a standardization operation and then wherever possible, then consideration is given to those specific, for example, Arviat (indescernable) and Sanikiluaq dialect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. And thank you as well. Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Iqaluq.

Mr. Iqaluq (interpretation):Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Minister, for your response. (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, I recently came across a news article in which Inuktitut teachers in Sanikiluaq express concerns regarding the decline in use of Inuktitut among younger generations.

Mr. Speaker, the article also highlighted concerns raised by local teachers that some of the Inuktitut learning materials provided by the Department of Education do not reflect the unique dialect spoken in Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the importance of ensuring that students have access to culturally and linguistically appropriate learning resources that reflect the dialect spoken in their own community.

Can the Minister indicate how his department is working, in collaboration with the Department of Education, to ensure that schools in Sanikiluaq have access to Inuktitut learning materials in the Sanikiluaq dialect?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Acting Minister of Languages, Ms. Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the member for the question. The department works closely with Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit as the language authority. Document terminology and dialects have provided funding to the Department of Education for language of instructions.

The department also has an Inuktitut Language Implementation Fund which supports local projects and local organizations that document and promote and teach their dialect in their community. So I would encourage the member's community to contact Culture and Heritage and ask them about the resources available to them to ensure that they can develop the resources they need to carry on with the Sanikiluaq dialect and other Inuktut-speaking dialects throughout the region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Oral Question 223-7(2): Arviat Tank Farm

Mr. Kablutsiak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the minister George Hickes. It's in regards to Arviat's tank farm.

In the community of Arviat, it's growing, becoming a larger -- one of the larger communities in Nunavut and the population is over 3,000. If the minister can indicate before I arrive here for the session, I noticed that the people who were working in the field (interpretation ends) horizontal fuel storage tanks. (interpretation) How many fuel storage tanks will be constructed in Arviat's tank farm? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'll have to check my notes to confirm, but I believe it was nine horizontal fuel tanks increasing the capacity by 90,000 litres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I also thank the Minister for his response. Last fall -- as the fall is approaching and it will be dark in wintertime,

last year at the tank farm the lights couldn't turn on. Every time it gets dark out there, there's hardly any lighting in that area. Can the minister indicate that this year that the lights at the tank farm will be corrected? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate the member's patience and somewhat understanding. I think, Mr. Speaker, when we're looking at building a new tank farm, we're -- how do I put it politely - we don't want to do a lot of maintenance and upkeep on a tank farm that we're going to be dismantling in the very near future. That being said, Mr. Speaker, we do have to maintain a healthy workspace for the workers there.

I know there's been issues with one of the pumps there as well that I've been trying to work with my officials to make sure that that is resolved on a longer term basis.

Mr. Speaker, just to correct my statement during the member's first question, there was six 90,000 litre tanks that were delivered to Arviat. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Final question, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to thank the Minister for his response for explaining it clearly.

In Arviat, the tank farm, the island pump is, there’s just only one island pump and sometimes they have to close it. Can the minister explain that the new tank farm, that there will be more than one island pump? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, with the site relocation for the Arviat Tank Farm, the design stalled out before it was complete. Now that the site has been selected, that planning and design has been reinitiated.

I would have to check with the design specs to see how many island pumps are anticipated to be part of the project, and I will look into that and get back to the member. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I recognize again Pangnirtung MLA, Johnny Mike.

Oral Question 224-7(2): Activities of the Petroleum Products Division

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Great that you are able to recognize me again. Thank you. I think one very important issue in an area where I would ask a question to the Minister.

Fuel, gas, diesel are very important in our communities. And I know very well back in April this year, the price of fuel came up, and it was mentioned or announced as of April 20, 2026 to September 7, 2026, the cost of fuel would be reduced by way of announcement in Nunavut. Recently the Canadian government's carbon tax was no longer applied. And we have concerns, naturally, with increase in inflation.

Perhaps the Minister can say here what plans there are in place regarding cost of fuel, whether it's gas or other petroleum product? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately it's the last day that the members will be able to ask me questions on this topic.

Mr. Speaker, as we're just finalizing our sealift delivery of fuel across the territory, we're just calculating our final numbers. Typically, it's around the middle of November that the previous Department of CGS and now Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, through our Petroleum Products Division, would be stating our prices for the winter. Typically it's just done once a year, but potentially twice.

So, Mr. Speaker, at this time I will say that I think all members are very much aware of the volatility of fuel pricing around the globe right now. And to date we've enjoyed the lowest prices of fuel across different fuel categories in Canada. Mr. Speaker, just for our gasoline alone, it's nearly 20 cents a litre than the next lowest jurisdiction in Canada as of mid-August.

So I would like to really publicly acknowledge the great work that our fuel purchasers at Petroleum Products Division do in purchasing fuel in a timely manner so that we can avoid significant fuel increases. But Mr. Speaker, with the global volatility of fuel and the current pricing -- and when we do finalize the numbers, I'll be able to give a clearer number. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, that's all I can say today. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you. And there was some expectations that changed, well, with the loss of Trump in mid-terms I think expectations for lowering the price there.

Mr. Speaker, sealift is at its tail-end in Nunavut. My question to the Minister is if he can describe what issues his department encountered this year with the annual fuel resupply to Pangnirtung, if it's diesel or gas? Perhaps the Minister can give a little more detail as to the (indiscernible) (interpretation ends). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I'm not aware of any significant issues with the fuel delivery in Pangnirtung this year. If there is something, the member can make me aware.

Mr. Speaker, we've delivered over 225 million litres of fuel around the territory. Mr. Speaker, unless I'm aware or made aware of an issue, I'm not aware of an issue at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your response, Minister. (interpretation ends)

You will recall a Bill was introduced during the 5th Legislative Assembly which proposed to change the current Petroleum Products Division into a new “Petroleum Products Commission.”

However, the Bill did not pass into law.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill proposed to change the Petroleum Product Division into an arm's length body similar to Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Can the Minister indicate whether or not new government plans to introduce this legislation during the life of this Assembly? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that question because when that bill did not pass, it triggered a lot of discussion behind the scenes. And when I became the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure with authority over the Petroleum Products Division, it's something I've been working on with my officials.

I think most of us here that have had any dealings directly with the Petroleum Products Division know that the way that it's structured isn't conducive to an efficient operation. I

know they're doing the best they can with the resources and the people they have there right now.

So I know I am looking with my officials at different type of structure models. I don't have a decision point at this time, and when I do so, I will bring it to my Cabinet colleagues and then ultimately to this House on what that structure would look like. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Moving on to item 7, Written Questions. Item 8, Returns to Written Questions. Item 9, Replies to Opening Address. Item 10, Petitions. Item 11, Responses to Petitions. Item 12, Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13, Tabling of Documents.

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister Hickes.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 102-7(2): 2023-2024 Community Transportation Initiatives Program

Tabled Document 103-7(2): 2024-2025 Petroleum Products Division Annual Report

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to table two reports today: the 2023-2024 Community Transportation Initiatives Program, and the 2024-2025 Annual Report of the Petroleum Products Division. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Tabled Document 104-7(2): List of Outstanding Statutory Tabling Requirements

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of documents. I have one document to table, and this concerns the List of Outstanding Statutory Tabling Requirements. Thank you.

Tabling of Documents. 14, Notice of Motions. Mr. Taqtu.

Item 14: Notices of Motion

Motion 6-7(2): Legislative Assembly Appointments and Revocations – Notices of Motion

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I give notice that on Monday, November 9, 2026, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, that the Legislative Assembly recommends that Fred Pedersen, Member for Cambridge Bay, be appointed to the Executive Council of Nunavut;

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Notice of Motion. Mr. Taqtu.

Motion 7-7(2): Extended Adjournment – Notices of Motion

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I give notice that on Monday, November 9, 2026, I will move the following motion:

I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes today's sitting, it shall be adjourned until February 25, 2027.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 15, Notice of Motion for First Reading. 16, Motions. Mr. Taqtu.

Item 16: Motions

Motion 6-7(2): Legislative Assembly Appointments and Revocations

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is asking to deal with his motion today. Any nays? Not hearing any. Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues.

WHEREAS section 60 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act provides that the Executive Council of Nunavut shall be composed of persons appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS section 17 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act provides that the Legislative Assembly may establish such committees to aid and advise it as it considers necessary;

AND WHEREAS section 42 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act provides for the election of a Deputy Speaker;

AND WHEREAS section 43 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act provides for the election of Deputy Chairpersons of the Committee of the Whole;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to recommend and make appointments and revocations;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, that the Legislative Assembly recommends that Fred Pedersen, Member for Cambridge Bay, be appointed to the Executive Council of Nunavut;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that Jamie Kablutsiak, Member for Arviat South, be appointed Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that Abraham Qammaniq, Member for Amittuq, be appointed a Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE I MOVE that Brian Koonoo, Member for -rununiq, be appointed to the Standing Committee on Legislation, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts and the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that the appointments of Fred Pedersen as Deputy Speaker, a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation, a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, a member of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development, a member of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges and an alternate member of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness be revoked.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried.

Motions. Mr. Taqtu.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is asking to deal with his motion today. Any nays? Hearing none, Mr. Taqtu.

Motion 7-7(2): Extended Adjournment

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes today's sitting, it shall be adjourned until February 25, 2027.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried.

Item 17, First Reading of Bills. 18, Second Reading of Bills. 19, Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters, Bill 5, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. Mr. Kablutsiak and Mr. Kuliktana will alternate as Chairs in the Committee Meeting.

Before we go to the Committee meeting, we will take a 20-minute break. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House breaks at 15:32; Committee commences at 15:58

Item 19: Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

Chairman (Kuliktana): I call the Committee meeting back to order. In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bills 5, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. What is the wish of the Committee, Mr. Taqtu?

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We wish to commence with the consideration of Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*; Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.3, 2025-2026*; Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*; Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026*; Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*; and Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you. Are we in agreement we first deal with Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 5 - An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: I would like to ask Minister Main, do you have any officials who would like to appear before the Committee?

Hon. John Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, yes.

Speaker: Does the Committee agree to let the Minister's officials appear before you?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort them in. For the record, Minister Main, please introduce your officials and proceed with your Opening Comments.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) To your left I have Dan Young, Deputy Minister of Finance; and to my left, your right, Eiryn Devereaux, Deputy Minister from Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chair. (interpretation ends)

I am here to present *Bill 5: An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*, which proposes to raise the authorized limit of the Public Stores Revolving Fund from $2 million to $5 million.

The *Revolving Funds Act* establishes the Public Stores Revolving Fund, which plays an important role in facilitating a centralized purchasing and distribution process, known as the “revolving stock”, that helps supply the departments and agencies with the equipment and office supplies needed for their day to day jobs.

The last time the authorized limit of the Public Stores Revolving Fund was increased was in 2019. Since then, our government has expanded access to revolving stock to include the Qulliq Energy Corporation, and soon the new Department of Mines, Natural Resources and Land will be added as well.

Unfortunately, another strain on the Revolving Fund is how much the cost of products has increased – for example, computers have become more expensive recently due to a 300% increase in Random Access Memory (RAM) costs.

This means the current authorized limit is insufficient to meet the needs of our government. Essential items ranging from office supplies to critical computer equipment, laptops, screens, and phones are now more expensive as the demand for them grows.

Increasing the authorized limit of the Public Stores Revolving Fund would allow the Government of Nunavut to place larger bulk orders for revolving stock items, which will directly lower the unit price of essential goods. This could stabilize inventory which will reduce irregular procurement, save money and streamline related information technology supports. This proposed change will also help ensure our government is equipped to seamlessly absorb new public servants in April 2027.

We appreciate the Committee's consideration of our request to increase this limit to $5 million. I am pleased to have officials from the Department of Finance and the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut here with me today. Together, we are prepared to answer any questions members may have regarding Bill 5.

(interpretation) Thank-you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Does the Chair of the Committee on Legislation have Opening Remarks? Please proceed, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair.

As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I wish to make some brief opening comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*.

The standing committee recognizes the overall purpose of the Bill, which the Minister described in his opening comments. The standing committee recognizes that the authorized limit of the Public Stores Revolving Fund was most recently increased in 2019. The standing committee encourages the department to review the authorized limits of the different revolving funds provided for in the legislation on a regular basis.

This concludes my opening comments.

Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Do members have any general comments before we proceed to a clause-by-clause review of the Bill? Mr. Mike?

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, welcome. In your Opening Comments before the Committee of the Whole, you indicated that there's a 300 percent increase for computers, for example. It has an increase of 300 percent. My question is: Why is it that there's a sudden increase in the price of those computers? Is it because of the complex situation of the computers, or if you could elaborate more on the 300 percent increase? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair. The 300 percent increase was discussed in my Opening Comments. And we're just using that as an example. And everything that is required by the governments have been steadily increasing, including the 300 percent increase in random access memory costs. That's just an example we used to describe what kind of limits there have been since 2019. And because of that, we're trying to raise the authorized limit from $2 million to $5 million.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you. When we buy computers, I only think of Oracle. Is it because of Oracle or is it something else? The Oracle has increased dramatically. Is it for other things? Could you elaborate, please?

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it's not Oracle. It is for different items other than Oracle. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you want the authorized limit to be changed from 2 million to 5 million, is that for the year? Or when are you going to be asking for an additional authorized limit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you. If the 5 million should be approved, we would have an easier time. And I can't tell you at this time when the next authorized limit will be raised. 5 million will be appropriate for possibly three to five years if it should become a challenge for if the 5 million limit is too small. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You also indicated that Qulliq Energy Corporation and the Department of Mines, Natural Resources and Lands, with those increases, would that 5 million be appropriate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We believe that the 5 million will be appropriate. And should we need an increase and should it be approved,

Transportation and Infrastructure Development will be able to purchase bulk computers, for example. Because usually when you buy in bulk, they decrease the cost, and we would like to be able to do bulk purchases in order to reduce the costs, because it's public money belonging to Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Do any of the members have any general comments before we proceed to a clause-by-clause review of the Bill? Seeing none. Please go to Bill 5 in your legislative binder for a clause-by-clause with the actual Bill itself. Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*, please go to page 1. Clause 1, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 5 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree Bill 5 can be placed with *Orders of the Day* for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like to thank the Minister and officials. Minister Main, do you have any brief closing comments?

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I would like to thank the members, and also the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure and the staff that purchase on behalf of the government for computers and office supplies, and for the day-to-day operations of the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Main. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials at the witness table. Thank you, member. We're going to take a brief break to switch witnesses for the next bill. I would ask members to remain in your seat. Thank you.

>>Committee recess at 16:14 and resumes at 16:14.

Bill 11 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.3, 2025 2026 – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (Mr. Kablutsiak): I would like to ask Minister Main, do you have any officials you would like to appear before -- for the record, Minister Main, please introduce your officials and proceed with your opening comments.

Hon. John Main: Thank you, Mr. Chair; still here. To my right, your left, Dan Young, Deputy Minister of Finance; and my left, your right, we have Eiryn Devereaux from Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, who's also Deputy Minister.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends)

I appear before you today to present Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.3, 2025-2026.*

Through this Bill, the Government is seeking to increase its overall 2025-26 operations and maintenance appropriation by $9.99 million for four departments – Justice, Education, Environment, and Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut.

As the Members are aware, we were here earlier this year when we sought $158.55 million to address the budget shortfall in five (5) departments. These amounts were based on estimates available from departments at the time. This adjustment reflects the final amounts based on actual spending in the year.

The Department of Justice requires $3.50 million to address a year end budget shortfall for cost overruns in the Corrections division. Nunavut’s correctional facilities operate on a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week basis. Unlike many government programs, Corrections cannot reduce service levels and must safely house all clients regardless of fluctuations in demand.

The Department of Education requires $5.10 million to offset higher than projected Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students disbursements and for increased salary costs relating to union agreements.

The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut requires $1 million in additional funding for higher-than-expected costs relating to compensation adjustments, utilities, materials and supplies, and final technology purchases.

The Department of Environment requires $394,000 to address various year-end adjustments.

Although costs of operations have continued to rise nationwide, Government of Nunavut departments are making considerable efforts internally in reprofiling their existing funds to address their needs.

This is the third and final 2025-26 operations and maintenance supplementary funding request that we will present for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

We are making considerable efforts in ensuring that each department has adequate funding to operate rather than depending on supplementary funding after budget has been approved.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Do members have any general comments before we proceed to Supplementary Appropriation Operations and Maintenance, Number 3, 2025-2026? Starting on page 4, Supplementary Appropriations Operations and Maintenance, number 3, 2025-2026, Department of Justice, Corrections Branch, not previously authorized, $3,500,000. Any questions? The Department of Justice $3,500,000, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Please go to page 5. Department of Education, School Operations Branch not previously authorized, $5,098,000. Any questions? The Department of Education $5,098,000, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Please go to page 6, Department of Environment, Program Management Branch, not previously authorized, $394,000. Any questions? The Department of Environment, $394,000, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Please go to page 7, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Infrastructure Branch, not previously authorized, $1 million. Any questions? The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, $1 million, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go to Bill 11 in your legislation binder for a clause-by-clause review with the actual Bill itself. Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.3, 2025-2026*, please go to page 1. Clause 1, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go to the schedule on page 2: Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2026. Vote 1, Operations and Maintenance, total supplementary appropriation, $9,992,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 11 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that Bill 11 can be placed on the *Orders of the Day* for third reading? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like to thank the Minister and the officials. Minister Main, do you have any brief closing comments?

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to the Committee. The Nunavut government's money is not play money, so it's real money, and it's owned by all of the people of Nunavut. Each government department works hard to use their finances wisely and to make sure that they don't have to spend more money.

All the Deputy Ministers are here. I would like to thank them. Mr. Devereaux, Ms. LeBlanc-Havard, Ms. Hainnu, Ms. Ellsworth are all here and available. I would like to thank them. And all of the staff that put this together in the Department of Finance, I thank them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Officials at the witness table. Thank you, members. We're going to take a brief break to switch out witnesses for the next bill. I would ask members to remain in your seats. Thank you.

Minister Main, since you have the same officials sitting right next to you, please proceed with your Opening Comments.

Bill 12 - Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027– Consideration in Committee

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We still have Dan Young, Deputy Minister of Finance; and my left, your right, Eiryn Devereaux, Deputy Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I appear before you today to present *Bill 12 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*.

Through this Bill, we are seeking $13.495 million in supplementary capital appropriations for 2026-2027 to adjust carryover funding that was approved earlier this year.

Capital carryovers are needed when departments did not fully spend the capital funds appropriated to them in a fiscal year but still require the authority to spend the approved funding in future years.

The Government of Nunavut’s appropriation process requires annual approvals. Therefore, this appropriation is needed so that departments have the authority to continue to deliver these much-needed capital projects in 2026-2027.

It is imperative to note that the Assembly has already approved these carryover projects and their funding through previous capital plans. This Bill does not seek additional money for the affected projects.

The initial carryover amount of $273.909 million was based on estimates. Now that the year-end process is complete, we are seeking the Assembly’s approval to adjust the carryover to $287.404 based on actual spending in the previous year. Through Bill 12, the

total 2026-27 Capital appropriation will increase from $647.126 million to $660.621 million.

If the Assembly does not approve these adjustments to our capital appropriation, any previously approved capital funding relating to the specific projects would lapse and we would either cancel the projects or defer working on them until appropriations are available again.

Because most of our capital projects are multi-year projects we should always expect some level of carryovers, especially given our northern environment with limited construction season.

The total capital supplementary requests are broken down as follows:

- A carryover reduction of $3.555 million for the Department of Community Services for projects covering a range of municipal and community infrastructure;
- A carryover reduction of $57,000 for the Department of Finance for enterprise resources planning system, known as Oracle, and digital services fund;
- A carryover increase of $6.816 million for the Department of Education for various projects including, the new high school in Taloyoak, Ataguttaaluk elementary school, the Sakku school major renovation/addition project, and repairs and renovations to several schools;
- A carryover increase of $7.524 million for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut to continue several projects including, the Rankin Inlet air terminal building and various airport improvement and air terminal buildings in several communities, the Rankin Inlet water treatment plant upgrade, Rankin Inlet wastewater treatment infrastructure, the Kivalliq – Baffin connector fibre project, Rankin Inlet's utilidor system, and other projects;
- A carryover increase of $1.156 million for the Department of Health, to continue with the Nunavut Long-term care facility in Cambridge Bay, Kivalliq and Arviat Health Centres repairs, Taloyoak Health centre fuel spill remediation, and the Nunavut recovery centre (Aqqusariaq); and
- A carryover increase of $1.611 million for the Department of Justice for the Kugluktuk Ilavut Center renovation.

(interpretation) Mr. Chair, I am available to address questions about the supplementary appropriation or our capital process generally. (interpretation ends) However, I do encourage members to save their questions on specific projects for the responsible ministers.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Do members have any general comments before we proceed to the *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*? Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Opening Comments I have a question on page 2 at the top paragraph. Most of the capital projects are multi-year projects. Should expect some level of carryovers, especially given our environment. Are we talking about constructing buildings? Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In terms of the Bill, the Housing Corporation is not part of this process or this specific Bill, but the Housing Corporation faces the same challenging conditions in terms of a limited construction season, the same as government departments that are looking to build projects. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the community of Pangnirtung, when we talk about building buildings, we call schools and other offices as buildings. I'm not asking questions in regards to Housing Corporation, but in Pangnirtung dialect, a building is an office, whether it's going to be a school or if it's going to be a garage, so these are all buildings. So that's why I was asking the question to be clear, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman (interpretation ends) I apologize for any misunderstanding. So looking at the Bill and the request, some of it is for buildings. Some of it is for other capital projects that are not necessarily buildings, such as fibre, subsidy fibre cabling, tank farms. So there's a variety of different types of projects. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): The carryover reduction of $57,000 for the Department of Finance, there's a reduction. If you can clarify, because we've been asking questions to Oral Questions. Oracle, sorry. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Yes, thank you. To the $57,000 reduction that's being proposed, it means that we've spent a bit more money than was anticipated. So the Oracle Project continues overseen by our Steering Committee, and so this project is ongoing. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. I believe we need to discuss this further in regards to digital services, and we also spoke about funding, over expenditures. There was over expenditures in regards to this for digital services for computers. It seems like there was an issue with that, and there was also (indiscernible) delays with these issues. I ask a question if the Minister can recall that every time there's a delay, for the delay how much -- I asked the question how much it costs for the delay, and there was no response to my question at that time. I was wondering if he has that response or answer to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) With regards to Oracle, there have been cost increases and budget increases since the project began. Right now, the project is within the new revised budget, and we certainly are trying to get the project completed within approved budgetary amounts, and we understand the importance of managing public dollars properly.

That being said, the Oracle is an important project for the whole government. It's going to make us more efficient, much less reliant on paper-based processes, and there's a lot of tools that will be unlocked through Oracle for the release to work. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to talk about this endlessly, but our government, if they don't know how much the delay costs, and on top of that you ask for supplementary appropriation to complete the delay. The contractors I believe were working on that. We still don't understand why it was delayed and how much it had cost for the delay.

I would appreciate it if we can be informed about that, because we are stretched for funding everywhere, and on top of that you apply for additional supplementary appropriation, and on top of that you request again for another supplementary appropriation. So for that we need more detailed information when they are requested, especially when I have to approve such requests, I believe that it would be appropriate. That's just a comment. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Mike. Do you have anything to add, Minister Main?

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I can certainly understand the member's desire for sufficient information to make these decisions around capital projects, including Oracle. In terms of the information that has been provided to members, part of the capital budget and the substantiation sheet specific to the Oracle project, I had previously committed to providing an update in terms of the timeline around release 2. So I already made that commitment that we would be following up as part of the capital estimates process or the consideration of that Bill.

If there's additional specific information that the member is interested in, I can certainly receive any requests and look to respond to them. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you Mr. Minister. The public, it's the public money, and the public has to be aware exactly if we're managing our funds, especially for capital appropriation. And the issue at hand right now, we have been informed for 2026 because of this issue.

You are requesting for supplementary appropriation for 2025 to improve the digital services for 2025, $7 million carryover capital because of Oracle. 2024, $18 million. It has been a carryover, but it's evident that it's been expended for 2023. The members had agreed to $10,449,000, and as well that was a carryover, although they explained over there.

But the delay, the reason for delay, I'm quite concerned about that reasoning for delay, how much delay it cost and how much the delay had cost and how much it costs. So I would like to get information on that, because the public might think that we're managing our funds properly. I just wanted to state that, because I'm concerned that we need to utilize the funding properly, and the Minister is stating that they will provide more detailed information. So we'll approve because we're -- as members of the Legislative Assembly we usually agree to the request. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I can certainly agree with the member's desire to see public funds managed properly. I can assure the member that the Department of Finance, as well as our colleague departments, are very concerned with this on an ongoing basis, and when expenditures are not managed properly or when projects do go over budget, there are consequences for those involved. And accordingly -- and that's true from the ministerial level on down. And so all of us have a big need to manage public dollars properly.

In terms of the history of the Oracle project, the member mentioned a number of previous appropriations and carryovers. We can compile a bit of a synopsis in terms of the timelines or major milestones that have happened over the last three years or so with Oracle, and commit to following up on that through you, Mr. Chair, to give members an overview or a picture of where we are today and how we've gotten here, if that would help. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): I have no more names. (interpretation ends) *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*. Department of Finance, Centrally Administered Funds Branch, not previously authorized, negative $57,000. Any questions? Total of the Department of Finance $57,000, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Please go to page 5. Department of Justice, Corrections Branch, not previously authorized, $1,611,000. Any questions? Total Department of Justice, $1,611,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Please go to page 6, Department of Education, Corporate Services Branch, not previously authorized, $6,816,000. Any questions? Total Department of Education $6,816,000, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Please go to page 7, Department of Health, Directorate Branch, not previously authorized, $1,156,000. Any questions? Total Department of Health, $1,156,000? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go to page 8, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, infrastructure Branch, not previously authorized, $6,007,000. Any questions? Thank you.

Please go to page 9, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Transportation Branch, not previously authorized, $1,061,000. Any questions? Thank you.

Information Management, Information Technology Branch, not previously authorized, $456,000. Any questions?

Total Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, $7,524,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Please go to page 10, Department of Community Services, Supporting Communities Branch, not previously authorized, negative $3,555,000. Any questions? Total Department of Community Services negative $3,555,000 Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go to page 12 in your Legislation binder for clause-by-clause review with the actual Bill itself. Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation Capital Act*, number 2, 2026-2027, please go to page 1. Clause 1, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go to the schedule on page 2: Supplementary amounts appropriated for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2027, vote 2 capital, total supplementary appropriation $13,495,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 12 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that Bill 12 can be placed on the *Orders of the Day* for third reading? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like to thank Minister Main and the officials. Minister Main, do you have any brief closing comments?

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, (interpretation ends) members of the Committee (indiscernible). This is important work in terms of capital projects across a number of departments, and by adjusting these carryover amounts, it ensures that the work can continue seamlessly into the next construction season. And I know that Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, as well as all the other departments involved are wanting to see things built for Nunavummiut for our communities, and we have such a huge need when it comes to infrastructure. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials at the witness table. Thank you, members. We're going to take a brief break to switch out witnesses for the next bill. I would ask members to remain in your seats. Thank you.

Bill 13 - Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026– Consideration in Committee

Chairman (Kuliktana): I would like to ask Minister Main, do you have any officials you would like to appear before the Committee?

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair. (interpretation ends) If you will allow.

Chairman: Does the Committee agree to let Minister's officials appear before you?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: For the record, Minister Main, please introduce your officials and continue with your Opening Comments.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair. (Interpretation ends) Much to my relief, Deputy Dan Young is still here, to my right, your left, Deputy Minister of Finance; and we have Matthieu Parker, who is president from Nunavut Housing Corporation on my left, on your right.

(interpretation)Chair, (interpretation ends) I am here to present Bill 13 – Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026.

Bill 13 authorizes the write-off and write-down of certain government assets, as follows:

- $341,895 for the write-off of twelve (12) public housing units in Rankin Inlet, Arviat, Pangnirtung and Qikiqtarjuaq were either destroyed by fire or damaged beyond economic repair; therefore, were demolished; and
- $1,084,737 for the write-down of one hundred and twenty-eight (128) housing units in various communities that were damaged by mold or fire, and will require extensive repairs

The Financial Administration Act (FAA) s.24 and the Financial Administration Manual require the Government of Nunavut to write-off assets when they can no longer provide any economic benefit to the Government. Write-downs are required to ensure the book value of tangible capital assets reflect changes in condition or valuation.

(interpretation) Chair, this concludes my opening comments. I would be pleased to take questions from members.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Does the Chair on Legislation have Opening Comments? Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair.

As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I would like to make some brief Opening Comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026.*

The standing committee recognizes the overall purpose of the Bill, which the Minister described in his opening comments. Individual Members may raise questions and concerns regarding specific aspects of the Bill during these proceedings.

The standing committee notes that a detailed discussion of the write-off process and relevant provisions of the *Financial Administration Act* took place during the September 2023 televised committee hearing on the 2021-2022 territorial public accounts. At that time, Government of Nunavut witnesses indicated that the Department of Finance would be considering amendments to the legislation in this area. The standing committee

continues to look forward to giving careful consideration to any such Bill that is introduced in the House.

This concludes my opening comments.

Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kablutsiak. Do members have any general comments before we proceed to clause-by-clause review of the Bill? Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I thank the Minister for Pangnirtung is included here or mentioned here. The former units, I would assume, that were damaged and we have public houses to be demolished, how many of those involve Pangnirtung that are no longer suitable for housing? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's one unit that would be removed in Pangnirtung. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Yes, it's always unfortunate when you see a home under Housing Corporation and have to be write-off, and we have many individuals who are waiting on waiting lists for a house. 2025-2026 we have that, and 2025-2026, if I recollect, the need for new housing will be 16. In view of the new units are not yet built from that date, it's not considered.

We have 16 to be added, and already we have one more taken out for 2025-2026. It doesn't consider to replace that particular unit in Pangnirtung? It's just a question for that. It's obvious those in public units when they have mold, they have to be moved to another unit within the community, and we have people affected already in that. How can we replace even if it's one that is taken out? Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Nunavut Housing Corporation has a Fire Replacement Fund where units that are no longer available or have to be demolished due to fire can be replaced, and it's a separate fund and it's not something that's within the scope of this Bill, but it is an existing mechanism within the Housing Corporation.

And I know that the Housing Corporation shares the sentiment around wanting to see assets added to their inventory, and the Housing Corporation understands the impacts of the housing crisis, and I know that they share that sentiment. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) The waitlist is over 3,000 and minus 12 right here. That's in addition to more than 3,000, (interpretation) those wait on the waiting list in Nunavut. I just wanted to reiterate that at this time. Thank you.

Chairman: Do members have any general comments? (No interpretation) Seeing none. Please go to Bill 13 in your Legislative binder for a clause-by-clause review with the actual Bill itself: Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026*. Please go to page 2. Schedule Part 1, Assets Written Off, Nunavut Housing Corporation, 12 tangible capital assets. Total amount to be by written off, $241,895. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go to page 1, clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go back to page 2. Part 2, Assets Written Down, Nunavut Housing Corporation, 128 tangible capital assets. Assents. Total amount to be written down, $1,084,737. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Please go to page 1, clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 13 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that Bill 13 can be placed on the *Orders of the Day* for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like to thank the Minister and officials. Minister Main, do you have any closing comments?

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) as well as your Committee for the consideration of this Bill, and I know that housing is a very important issue to everyone in our communities, and the Housing Corporation is working hard to address issues around mold in existing units, as well as manage the stock when fires do occur.

So this Bill helps to ensure that the reality at the community level is reflected in the government's and the Housing Corporation's books. And so I appreciate your support and I appreciate all the staff. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Main. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials at the witness table. Thank you, members. We're going to take a brief break to switch out witnesses for the next bill. I would ask members to remain in your seat. Thank you.

Bill 14 - An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act. – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: I would like to ask Minister Brewster, do you have any officials you would like to appear before the Committee?

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Chair. I do.

Chairman: Do the members agree to have the Minister's officials appear before you?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort them in. For the record, Minister Brewster, please introduce your officials and proceed with your Opening Comments.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Good afternoon, Chair, and thank you to the Committee for the opportunity to discuss Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*.

I would like to introduce the officials joining me today:

- Linnea Ingebrigtson, Acting Deputy Minister of Health, to my right your left;
- Carlin Twomey, Acting Director of Policy and Planning with the Department of Health; and in chambers also is
- Amy Short, Legislative Counsel with the Department of Justice.

Chair, Bill 14 supports the *Ikajuqtigiikta* mandate's priority of simplifying operations and increasing efficiency. It would reduce the administrative work required to establish a Board of Inquiry for each complaint and support a more timely disciplinary process.

Nunavut's Medical Profession Act sets out the qualifications required to practise medicine in the territory. The Act deals with the registration and licensing of medical doctors. It also provides processes for investigating complaints, addressing professional misconduct and responding to concerns about a practitioner's fitness to practise.

Since the updated Act came into force in June 2025, Health has identified administrative challenges with the Board of Inquiry process. Bill 14 responds to those challenges.

Under the current Act, a new Board of Inquiry must be appointed for each matter requiring an inquiry. That Board remains responsible for the matter until it is concluded.

Recruiting and appointing new members for each inquiry is administratively burdensome and delays investigations and complaint resolution.

Recruitment is further complicated by the current membership requirements. At least two members must be medical practitioners, including one licensed in Nunavut and one who is not licensed in Nunavut. Recruiting practitioners from outside the territory has been particularly difficult, and Health often needs to issue several public calls before receiving interest from qualified candidates.

Chair, Bill 14 would address these challenges by establishing a standing Board of Inquiry with at least three members. The Bill does not set a maximum number of members. Each member would be appointed for a three-year term.

The Board would continue to require at least two medical practitioners, including at least one licensed in Nunavut. The second practitioner could be licensed in Nunavut or outside the territory, removing the current requirement for one practitioner who is not licensed in Nunavut.

Health has found it difficult to recruit practitioners from outside the territory, often issuing several public calls before receiving interest from qualified candidates. Allowing both practitioners to be licensed in Nunavut would provide greater flexibility in recruiting Board members and help reduce delays in appointments.

When a complaint is referred to the Board's chairperson, the chairperson would select three Board members to form a hearing panel to inquire into the complaint.

The ability to appoint additional Board members provides a broader pool from which to form hearing panels. This would help maintain the required panel composition when

members are unavailable or have a conflict of interest. The Bill expressly prohibits a member from serving on a panel if doing so would place them in a conflict of interest.

Bill 14 also includes transitional provisions to maintain continuity for matters already underway.

If a Board has been appointed when the amendments come into force, it would continue dealing with its matter under the Act until the matter is concluded.

If an appointment has been requested but no Board has yet been appointed, that request would be treated as a referral to the chairperson of the new standing Board.

Chair, these amendments would reduce administrative burden, make it easier to recruit Board members and remove the need to appoint a new Board for each inquiry. This would support more timely investigations and complaint resolution, benefiting Nunavummiut.

Thank you, Chair. My officials and I welcome the committee's questions on Bill 14.

Chairman: Does the Chair of the Committee on Legislation have Opening Comments? Mr. Kablutsiak, please proceed.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair.

As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I wish to make some brief opening comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*.

The standing committee recognizes the overall purpose of the Bill, which the Minister described in her opening comments.

The standing committee recognizes that a number of territorial statutes concerning self-regulated professions provide for the establishment of boards of inquiry or similar bodies to investigate allegations of misconduct or other prescribed matters.

These include the *Chartered Professional Accountants Act*, the *Dental Profession Act*, the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*, the *Legal Profession Act*, the *Midwifery Profession Act*, the *Nunavut Teachers' Association Act*, the *Nursing Professions Act*, the *Optometry Act*, the *Pharmacy Professions Act*, the *Psychologists Act* and the *Veterinary Profession Act*.

The standing committee recognizes the challenges facing the department in appointing qualified members to boards of inquiry. The standing committee encourages the

department to development appointment processes that minimize the risk of conflict of interest on such bodies.

This concludes my opening comments.

Thank you.

Chairman: Do members have any general comments before we proceed a clause-by-clause review of the Bill? Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I would like to thank the Minister and your staff. (interpretation ends) Page 3, paragraph 3. You mention recruiting practical nurse from outside the territory has been particularly difficult. If that is the case, then can the Board of Inquiry be established? Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The answer is yes. Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike: I'm glad to hear that. With difficulties establishing that board. (interpretation) If you could elaborate further on the licensed Nunavut licensed practitioner; and also the second one, is there one licence out of the territory who would be included in the panel? They have the same licence, but it's only out of the territories. Did I understand that correctly? Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Main has left the building, and my feet aren't quite touching the floor because I didn't adjust this chair, so I hope I don't fall.

Thank you for the question. To be clear, a licensed medical practitioner that we're referring to now in this Act in particular is a licensed medical doctor who practices as a doctor.

One of the reasons that we hope to ensure that we have the option of having somebody who's licensed here and then somebody who can be licensed elsewhere is to have a little bit of diversity, and we want to make sure that as well there's some flexibility, because when people are practicing here, there's more opportunities for a potential conflict of interest. So if we have a little bit of a mix, then we can address that issue that way as well. I hope that answers your question, member. Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Ms. Angootealuk.

Ms. Angootealuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question I would like to ask, because I seem to understand it this way, if they wanted to send someone to court, they want to have more authority to put people to court? Like if someone was a patient and wasn't handled properly in hospital, I seem to understand it that way. So that's my question. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. If there was criminal activity, that would be referred to a criminal investigation. So it's not a court that we are referring to. We're referring to a board of inquiry, which is not a criminal inquiry. It's an inquiry into the conduct of a licensed medical practitioner that is only subject to the inquiry, which is quasi-judicial and not fully judicial is what we're focussing on. Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Any other general comments before we proceed clause-by-clause of the Bill? Seeing none. Please go to Bill 14 in your Legislative binder with clause-by-clause by yourself. Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*. Please go to page 1. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed. Clause 8. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 9. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 10. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 11. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 12. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 13. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 14 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that Bill 14 can be placed on *Orders of the Day* for third reading? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like to thank the Minister and officials. Minister Brewster, do you have brief closing comments?

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Chair. As always, I would like to take an opportunity to express my gratitude for our public servants, particularly those that work in the Department of Health, and today our colleagues at Justice that help us to come here and look really smart in front of you and everybody and get good work done. And thank you all to the Committee as well, and thank you, Chair.

>>Applause

Speaker: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials at the witness table. Thank you, members. We're going to take a brief break to switch witnesses for the next bill. I would ask members to remain in your chair. Thank you.

Bill 15 - An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: I would like to ask Minister Akeeagok, do you have officials you would like to appear before the Committee?

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do.

Chairman: Do members agree to let the Minister's officials appear before you?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort them in. For the record, Minister Akeeagok, please introduce your officials then proceed with your Opening Comments.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is the Deputy Minister, Rebecca Hainnu, and on my right is Lynn Matte, who is the Associate Deputy Minister.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be before you today to discuss Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*.

As members are aware, the Department of Education has been rolling out significant enhancements and increased funding for post-secondary students through the Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students Program .

Section 10(3)(b) of the Student Financial Assistance Act sets the loan limit for students at $150,000, which means thatt students cannot hold more than $150,000 of student loan debt at one time.

Chair, with new increased living allowance and housing loan amounts, some students are now nearing the $150,000 limit before completing their program. Four students are expected to reach this loan limit in the current academic year, with others likely affected in the future.

To support these students, the Department of Education is proposing to increase the loan limit from $150,000 to $300,000.

The proposed amendment to the Student Financial Assistance Act is only a temporary measure as part of the department's larger and long-term changes to the FANS program. In developing the new regulations, the department will complete an analysis of the per student limits for both grants and loans, as well as a review of loans remission rates.

Thank you, Chairman, and I welcome any questions members may have regarding the proposed amendments.

Qujannamiik.

Chairman: Does the Chair of the Committee on Legislation have Opening Comments? Please proceed, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair.

As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I wish to make some brief opening comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*.

The standing committee recognizes the overall purpose of the Bill, which the Minister described in his opening comments.

The standing committee notes that a new *Post-Secondary Student Support Act* was passed by the previous Legislative Assembly and received Assent on March 11, 2025.

However, it has not yet been brought into force.

Other statutes that were passed by previous Legislative Assemblies but which are not yet fully in force include the new *Early Learning and Child Care Act*, the new *Fuel Tax Act, the new Liquor Tax Act*, the new *Mental Health Act*, the new *Pharmacy Professions Act* and the new *Planning Act*.

This is an emerging issue of concern.

This concludes my opening comments.

Thank you.

Chairman: Do members have any general comments before we proceed to clause-by-clause review of the Bill? Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to the Minister and your officials. I just want to know, the 300,000 proposed loan limit for university or college students, so they will be able to get a loan up to $300,000. How many students will have to apply up to $300,000 and how many students receive financial assistance? Like, how many students are we talking about for the whole year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The students who take loans -- this is for students who take out loans, and there are 112 students who have taken out loans, and there are four students who are very close to reaching the loan limit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Attagutaluk.

Mr. Attagutaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question I would like to ask is because this is only for Nunavut students -- or my question is: Does this include students who go to universities outside of Nunavut as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's for students who go to any recognized school in the world. As long as the education institute is recognized, then they are eligible to apply for a loan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Angootealuk.

Ms. Angootealuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So my question. I believe the Nunavut Sivuniksavut Program gets funding from the FANS Program. Are they eligible to get a loan like this? Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's for any Inuit students to pay for some of their tuition, but the government pays most of their -- we give them funding through grants, and these are for Inuit students and that money is adequate.

Most of them don't take out loans, but they get grants from our department, the students that are taking the Nunavut Sivuniksavut Program that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Do members have any general comments? Seeing none. Please go to Bill 15 in your Legislative binder for a clause-by-clause with the actual Bill itself. Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*, please go to page 1. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 15 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that Bill 15 can be placed on the *Orders of the Day* for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like to thank the Minister and officials. Mr. Akeeagok, do you have any brief closing comments?

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you to all my colleagues for their diligent review, and the Chairman's report about policies being awaited. It's kind of difficult to do, I want everybody to know. And sometimes we pass the bills, but sometimes the regulations and other matters need to be worked on more later on, just so that the MLAs know. But I'm very grateful to my staff, my officials, and from the Justice Department as well has done some real good work for us, and it's great that this will be passed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials at the witness table. What is the wish of the Committee? Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Chair. I move a motion to report progress. Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Motion is carried. I will now arise to report progress.

>>Committee concludes at 17:31 and House reconvenes at 17:32

Speaker (interpretation): Item number 20, Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Kablutsiak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your Committee has been considering the following Bills: Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*; Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.3, 2025-2026*; Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*; Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026*; Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*; Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*.

I would like to report that the Bills are ready for third reading. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairman: There's a motion on the floor. Who's the seconder? Mr. Kautuk. All those in favour of the motion? Opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 21, Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Mr. Main.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 5 – An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act – Third Reading

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, that Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*, be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion, agreed? All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 5 has been read for the third time and ready for assent.

Third Reading of Bills, Minister of Finance, Mr. Main.

Bill 11 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2025 - 2026 – Third Reading

Hon. John Main: I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Baker Lake, that Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2025-2026* be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the motion? All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 11 has had third reading and ready for assent. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Mr. Main.

Bill 12 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026 - 2027 – Third Reading

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South, that Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*, be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the motion? All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 12 has had third reading and is ready for assent. Third Reading of Bills, Minister of Finance, Mr. Main.

Bill 13 – Write-Off of Assets, 2025 - 2026 – Third Reading

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026*, be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion? All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 13 has had third reading and ready for assent. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Health, Ms. Brewster.

Bill 14 – An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act – Third Reading

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the motion? All in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 14 has had its third reading and is ready for assent.

Item 21, Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Education, Minister Akeeagok.

Bill 15 – An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act – Third Reading

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Cambridge Bay, that Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion? Opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 15 has had its third reading and is ready for assent. Clerk, Deputy Clerk, if you can ascertain the Deputy Commissioner to the Legislative Assembly to assent to Bills. Thank you.

Assent to Bills

Deputy Commissioner (interpretation): Please be seated. Good afternoon. Please be seated, Legislative Assembly members. As Deputy Commissioner of Nunavut, I'm pleased to give assent to the following Bills:

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*;

Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028*;

Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.3, 2025-2026*;

Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*;

Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025-2026*;

Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*; and

Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*.

The cold of winter is balanced by the warmth of the holiday season. As you prepare to return to your constituency and your families, I wish you safe travels. That's it. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Before we conclude, I wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation during this week to our pages, who have ably assisted us in delivering papers. So I do want to recognize the pages:

- Natalie Akoak;
- Ohenaba Amponsah-Agyemang;
- Katya Brown
- Luc Gilbeault;
- Amaija Healey Akearok;
- Avaya Inooya;
- Maija McRac; and
- Frankie Vincent Wolfe.

As always, I also thank our interpreters for their tireless work.

We thank them all, and as always, I also thank our tireless workers, our interpreters for their tireless work for non-stop work and for providing us interpretation in English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun. And as well, always been available to do translations as well in English and Inuktitut. I appreciate you for your work.

And as well, as Member of South Baffin, I would like to extend my best wishes to all the residents of Kimmirut, and especially South Baffin, Kimmirut and Kinngait, and also all Nunavummiut as we approach the holiday season, and I wish you a happy new year.

Thank you, each and every one of you, for working hard for the two weeks of what we did. This House stands adjourned until Thursday, February 25, 2027. I'm sorry, I went ahead too much. Item 22, Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Clerk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thursday, February 25, 2027.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers’ Statements
3. Members’ Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions

5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Here we go again. This House stands adjourned until Thursday, February 25, 2027. Happy new year. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House concludes at 17:50*

APPENDIX

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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

Return to Oral Question

Asked by: **Mr. Kablutsiak, Member for Arviat South**

Asked of: **Hon. David Akeeagok, Minister of Nunavut Arctic College**

Number: **Question 165-7(2):**

Date: **October 27, 2026**

Subject: **Post Secondary Educational Institutions in Nunavut**

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to supplement an answer I gave during question period on October 27, 2026, concerning the Member for Arviat South's question about the Minister's Post Secondary Educational Institutions in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, The College shares a common interest in filling all its positions across the territory. Local hires play an important role in continued service delivery and in meeting our commitments to increasing Inuit employment.

The College has 16 positions in Arviat, with 8 filled and 8 vacant. Some of the external factors that have impacted on the filling of these positions include limited staff housing, lack of office space and program completions.

Of the 8 vacant positions:

- 1 position is going out for competition under the Nunavut Wide Hiring Policy to optimize filling the position.
- 3 positions are being prepared to go out for competition with no housing.
- 1 position recently went through competition and a successful candidate declined the position because there was no housing available.
- 1 position was filled on a transfer assignment that has recently ended and will be going out for competition.
- 2 positions identified as long-term vacancies are being reprofiled to meet additional operational needs of the College.

Earlier this year, Arviat concluded its offering of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program, and the program updated its organizational structure to align with current programming and other community needs. 5 term positions covered by 3rd party funding were deactivated as the result.

The College continues to work within the policies and procedures of the Human Resources Manual in its human resources efforts and looks forward to increasing its Inuit employment numbers in Arviat.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.