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Iqaluit

Speaker: The Honourable Kevin O'Brien, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Kevin O'Brien
(Arviat)

Ovide Alakannuark
(Akulliq)

Hunter Tootoo
(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Jack Anawak
(Rankin Inlet North)

*Minister of Culture, Language,
Elders and Youth*

Enoki Irqittuq
(Amittuq)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the
Whole*

Hon. Ed Picco
(Iqaluit East)

*Minister of Health and Social
Services; Minister Responsible for
the Nunavut Power Corporation;
Minister of Energy, Minister of
Homelessness and Immigration*

Hon. Manitoq Thompson
(Rankin Inlet South-Whale
Cove)

*Minister of Community
Government & Transportation*

Uriash Puqiqnak
(Nattilik)
Deputy Speaker

Hon. Paul Okalik
(Iqaluit West)

*Premier; Minister of Executive
and Intergovernmental Affairs;
Minister of Justice*

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk
(South Baffin)

*Minister of Sustainable
Development*

Glenn McLean
(Baker Lake)

Hon. Kelvin Ng
(Cambridge Bay)
*Deputy Premier; Minister of
Finance; Minister Responsible for
the Nunavut Housing
Corporation; Government House
Leader*

Donald Haviyok
(Kugluktuk)

Jobie Nutarak
(Tunnunig)

James Arvaluk
(Nanulik)

David Iqaqrialu
(Uqqummiut)
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the
Whole*

Hon. Peter Kattuk
(Hudson Bay)

*Minister of Public Works and
Services*

Hon. Peter Kilabuk
(Pangnirtung)

*Minister of Education; Minister
of Human Resources*

Rebekah Williams
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Hansard Production
Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday November 26, 2002**

Members Present:

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Hon. Jack Anawak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irgittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Hon. Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Honourable Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Hon. Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Rebekah Williams.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker: I would like to call on Mr. Havioyak to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Good afternoon. Ullukkut. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 090 - 1(6): 2002 CLEY Archaeology Season

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is responsible for the protection of Nunavut's culture and heritage.

One of the ways it ensures that Nunavut's heritage is protected is by conducting archaeological work throughout the territory. This past summer, the department was involved in a number of important initiatives with respect to archaeological research and site protection.

Under the direction of the Chief Archaeologist, the department conducted archaeological investigations in Igloolik, Pangnirtung, and in Qikiqtarjuaq.

In Igloolik, excavations were conducted over a two week period at a site that dates from the most ancient period of human occupation in Nunavut. Based on the results of radiocarbon testing the Igloolik site excavated this summer appears to have been inhabited about four thousand five hundred years ago. That's very good to hear.

In Qikiqtarjuaq, a burial site near the former whaling station at Kivitoo was inspected, followed by surveys conducted in Durban Harbour area. In Inuktitut it is called Qanirsuq. I should have looked at it further to see whether it has a name in Inuktitut.

In Pangnirtung, the department responded to a complaint from the community that quarrying activity had damaged an archaeological site. As a result of its investigation the department had work at that quarry temporarily suspended until such time as protective

measures could be in place. This cooperation between the Hamlet and the department means that the community is now able to use the quarry without further damaging the site.

Mr. Speaker, these are examples of work that was made possible as a result of the department's recently established archaeology program. The creation of this program demonstrates Nunavut's commitment to meet its responsibilities for the management of our archaeological resources and also to working with communities on heritage issues in a cooperative fashion. In each of these projects the work proceeded as a result of consultation with and assistance provided by communities. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of these communities to protect and promote Nunavut's archaeological heritage.

The department is currently planning new archaeological research to be conducted in 2003 and beyond, and looks forward to many opportunities for future collaboration with the communities that we serve in the protection of Nunavut's irreplaceable heritage resources. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Akesuk

Minister's Statement 091 - 1(6): Math and Science Awards Program Update

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, one of the key challenges we face in building a strong sustainable economy in Nunavut is the need for Inuit scientists who can blend Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit with formal education.

In April of this year my department introduced the High School Math and Science Awards Program. The program is intended to encourage and motivate high school students to pursue interests and careers in math, science and technology. The program recognizes exceptional performance by students in math and science with a cash award for Grade 8, 10 and 12 students.

(interpretation ends) Eligible students are well rounded individuals who perform exceptionally in math and science. They demonstrate some or all of the following attributes:

- A good level of understanding in science and math,
- Good work habits and school attendance,
- A genuine interest, motivation and dedication to learning math and science, and
- Significant growth or improvement in math and science.

(interpretation) For the 2001-2002 school year, a total of 66 students received awards. I would like to congratulate those students on their hard work and dedication to our future.

(interpretation ends) As I told Canada's Mines Ministers last year in Quebec City, "It is my hope that ten years from now many of the young scientists and engineers in Canada will be Nunavummiut." My confidence in the ability of our youth to meet that challenge continues to grow.

(interpretation) I would also like to thank Minister Kilabuk for the assistance he provided to my officials from the Department of Education and Regional School Services for their input in the development of the program, and to the teachers and principals for identifying the recipients. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Minister's Statement 092 - 1(6): Elders and Youth Facility Study

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth has conducted a study to assess the physical facilities devoted to elders and youth activities in communities throughout Nunavut.

The purpose of the study was to gauge the existing facilities and determine whether there is a need for new construction or renovation of existing space in each community. These facilities are important because they support the sharing of life experiences and knowledge between youth and elders.

The research revealed that young people and the elders were generally concerned with the loss of Inuit culture, and cited the need to develop programs and facilities where both groups can interact through games, crafts, storytelling, and music. While not every community has a designated elders or youth facility, most are able to provide common meeting space and recreational programming.

This study will provide us with the background to develop programs to meet the needs of communities.

The Standing Committee recently requested this information; therefore later today I will be tabling a summary of findings. The complete extensive report is available from the department in all official languages, and Members may contact my staff for copies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Are there any further Ministers' Statements? If not, then we will move on to Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 285 – 1(6): Cost of Incarceration

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.. I would like to make a brief Member's Statement about people going to court and people in the correctional facilities from different communities. Some of them go to southern institutions or to Yellowknife and the Baffin Correctional Centre.

Other people are taken care of by the people from Nunavut. I will want to find out how much it costs to provide correctional facilities for those individuals that are incarcerated in various communities such as Yellowknife, Iqaluit or in southern institutions. I just want to let the Minister of Justice know that I will be asking these questions later on this afternoon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 286 – 1(6): Funding for Organizations on IQ Projects

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.. I rise today to talk about people that work in Nunavut and the development that occurs here in Nunavut. People with their own businesses and various organizations that are here in Nunavut are not getting enough assistance from the Nunavut Government.

Those individuals try to assist the people of Nunavut but are not provided any funding by the Government of Nunavut. People such as the filmmakers in Igloolik who filmed *Atanarjuat*, as well as the elders trying to provide Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to the people of Nunavut.

There are a lot of those people in Nunavut that are in this situation. As the Government of Nunavut, I think we should be providing them with better assistance through funding.

The Government of Nunavut should be more sensitive to those people that are trying to promote their language and culture and they should provide more funding for various organizations as well.

They have to try and provide some assistance to those organizations. I believe that if we are going to promote Nunavut, we have to be able to try to make organizations and businesses stronger for the benefit of Nunavummiut by providing them with funding.

If we provide them with adequate funding, then we will be visible as the people of Nunavummiut to the rest of Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 287 – 1(6): Delivery of School Programs

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out on a situation that affects the delivery of school programs in Kugluktuk, and I am sure that it must be the case in other communities as well.

Last year, the Minister of Education answered my questions about funding for school programs by stating that a fixed amount of funding is allocated to District Education Authorities for their schools.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that the Government funding is limited and I understand that the Department in this case needs to fix limits so that it does not go into a deficit position. Mr. Speaker, I am filled with the feeling that the quality of education is put into a deficit position as a result of the lack of funding.

Our schools may have funding for Special Needs Programs, Language Programs, or Library Programs but we also need staff in place in order to be able to properly deliver those programs. For example, we need Special Needs Counsellors in our schools. We need Language Specialists who can help our youth learn to speak and use their Native Tongue.

We need people working in our Libraries. Those positions should be funded, filled and maintained on an ongoing basis. Unfortunately, there is never enough funding to do this.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage the Ministers of this Government to put their heads together and think of new ways to meet the needs of Nunavummiut even though there are limited funds.

I strongly urge this Government to look into creative solutions to fund our schooling needs. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 288 – 1(6): Funding for Hamlets

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in May of 2002, the Nunavut Association of Municipalities had a meeting in Ottawa and they talked about extremely important issues that affect the Hamlets in the Nunavut communities and their operating budgets.

There are a lot of communities that are not adequately funded. It is time that we deal with it and look at how we can generate revenues for the Hamlets in order to supplement the monies that they do receive.

There are a lot of Nunavut communities that have decrepit buildings. I think that they are operated in a totally different system. I will be directing those questions to the Minister of Finance at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Minister Ng.

Member's Statement 289 – 1(6): Pangnirtung Session, Meetings, and Events

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on Nov. 1st, we concluded our Session in Pangnirtung. During our sitting there we carried out our normal business; Supplementary Appropriations and a new Elections Act were passed.

Our committees held special hearings on the Education Act and a Special Committee on Languages carried out their hearings. In addition, we had the opportunity to watch the swearing-in of our new Deputy Commissioner, Lena Metuq.

There were numerous community events held, a feast, a dance, Halloween contests, the launch of an old photograph collection, a tour of a fishing trawler, and other meetings and events such as the formal signing of the FNT/GN Collective Agreement.

Most importantly Mr. Speaker, there was considerable access and the opportunity for Pangnirtung residents, particularly students, to see their Legislative Assembly in action. This opportunity is almost non-existent for residents outside of Iqaluit where the legislative assembly is based.

That same evening Mr. Speaker, CBC North Beat and Igalaq both aired a broadcast on the Pangnirtung session, and the theme of the Northbeat broadcast was that not all Pangnirtung residents were supportive of holding the session there.

On the North Beat broadcast one individual was interviewed expressing his opposition to the session.

On the Igalaq broadcast, there were two individuals interviewed and I'm told that both of them were also critical of holding out of town sessions. It was clear that both broadcasts were reporting the extra costs, better things to spend money on, etc.

It was also clear to me, Mr. Speaker that the interviews were being held outside the bank of Montreal here in Iqaluit, not in Pangnirtung as the lead of the story suggested. The individuals may have been Pangnirtung residents for all I know, Mr. Speaker, but I don't know that.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that there are pros and cons; supporters and opponents to the issue of out of town sessions, all of us as Members of the Legislative Assembly have had an opportunity to have many of those same discussions on the value and the cost of holding out of town sessions.

We all recognize, and I would say so do all Nunavummiut, we recognize that there are incremental costs and there are also incremental benefits associated with these out of town sessions.

Our caucus consciously made a decision to hold out of town sessions and maximize our exposure to individuals and organizations and communities, knowing there is a price in terms of incremental costs to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The CBC chose to interview and broadcast the views of individuals opposed to out of town sessions. I believe that CBC as a non-political public news reporting agency has a responsibility to report both sides of every story. In the broadcast on the Pangnirtung session it appears to me that they failed to do so. Could they not have found any residents to speak to the benefit or the significance of holding our session in Pangnirtung?

I believe that they could have easily done so. I know that in talking to a dozen residents while I was there, there was no doubt that our presence was supported and appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, the CBC North Beat reporter closed off her broadcast saying that with an election looming it was not likely the Nunavut Legislature would sit outside of the capital again.

Mr. Speaker, I'm on record for supporting out of town sessions and I will continue to do so. And, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to future caucus discussions of when and where to hold our next out of town sessions.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ng. Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 290 – 1(6): Hockey Game in Iqaluit

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in February, CBC TV may be hosting Hockey Night in Canada here in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, the preliminary plan is to have Don Cherry and Ron McLean here in Iqaluit for a hockey broadcast across Canada.

Mr. Speaker, Don Cherry would have been excited, he would have been ecstatic, amazed at the talent displayed by the members of this House. Mr. Speaker, with David Iqaqrialu in net and the power forward with the Montreal Canadians sweater on, Mr. Premier Paul

Okalik, Members of the Legislative Assembly put on a display of speed, skill, determination and aggressiveness rivalled only by the Philadelphia Flyers of the 1970's.

Mr. Speaker, I have to point this out however that the Iqaluit ladies' hockey team prevailed with finesse and speed. At one point, Mr. Speaker an extra 50 dollars, 50 dollars Mr. Speaker, was raised when Jessie Mike and Nadia Phelvetare took up the challenge, Mr. Speaker, took up a tremendous challenge, and were the first players to knock me off my skates and send me crashing to the ice.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I just cut a cheque for the ladies' hockey team and gave them the 50 dollars. No tip.

Mr. Speaker, Ron McLean, and Don Cherry were not present at the game; however, many Iqaluit residents were and turned out to watch the game. Several hundred dollars were raised for the Iqaluit ladies hockey team, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members and the staff who participated and a special thank you to the Iqaluit Ladies Hockey Team for the invitation to play and for being such good sports.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 291 – 1(6): Re-supply of Gas Contract

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak on an issue that is causing increasing concern in the Kivalliq region. We no doubt knew about the issue back in '95 and '96 when you spearheaded the issue in the Kivalliq against big business.

We're talking about the re-supply of the fuel contract in the Kivalliq. Just last week the Minister responsible for Public Works and Services announced the awarding of the contract for delivery of petroleum products for the Baffin and Kivalliq communities. At that time the Minister announced that the new contract will result in significant savings for the government.

Mr. Speaker, the word "savings" is usually a good one. It convinces all of us, including me. It implies that things will not cost more, they will cost less, and presumably the consumer will save more money.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that not all consumers have been considered in this supposed cost saving measure. In past years, NTCL had the fuel transportation contract for all three regions. In the western regions especially, the fact that the barge carrying the fuel would also transport the dry goods allowed the company to offer consumers, such as

retailers, construction companies, as well as private homeowners good rates on their dry goods that they get once a year and need once a year.

Under the new contract, the transportation of fuel and the transportation of dry goods will be separate. This may save the government money in fuel transportation costs, but Mr. Speaker, is it going to cost the consumer at the end of the line even more in Baker Lake?

Because this means that every construction contract is going to cost more as the transportation of material for construction costs more. This means that homeowners will need to take on a bigger mortgage to build their own home. And every household will face increased costs for supplies.

Mr. Speaker, I'm concerned that the savings the Minister spoke of are short term and short sighted. I am afraid that there are costs that have not been factored into the consideration in awarding this contract. I am deeply concerned that those costs will be transferred to the people of the Kivalliq region and Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot afford these kinds of savings and this afternoon Mr. Speaker, I will ask some questions to the Minister to guarantee my constituency and all the people of the Kivalliq that their dry cargo rates will not increase as a result of the awarding of this contract. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. McLean. Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statements 292 – 1(6): Concern for Elders of Nunavut

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a comment on the elders of Nunavut today. When we first started on April 1, 1999, the government had a goal and a vision to make sure that the elders are respected and well taken care of. And because of that, we set up a new department, called the Department of Culture, Language, Elders, and Youth. That was the main purpose of this government department.

What we have been hearing lately is that the elders are not being well taken care of and are not sure whether they have been represented at all. The government is part and parcel of that. We are not keeping an eye on our elders through the health care and home care of the elders in providing these services. We are now getting letters and one of them is a letter that I received which I will table under Tabling of Documents and I will also ask questions on this issue tomorrow.

We are all concerned about the elders, about the people who need home care and who can't take care of themselves. And there were also some comments about the elder's homes, not enough elder's homes, or facilities provided throughout Nunavut.

It's time that as some actually stated in April 01st, 1999, we respect and take care of our elders. I think it's time that we apply this within the government programs and services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Picco.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 247 – 1(6): Distribution of Paxcil in Nunavut

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.. Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question. As you recall Mr. McLean on November 19th, 2002 asked about distribution of Paxcil in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Paxcil is one of several kinds of anti-depression medications prescribed by physicians in Canada to relieve depression.

Mr. Speaker, doctors in Nunavut prescribe Paxcil. It is however, not routinely stocked in health centres.

Mr. Speaker, the information on Paxcil shows that there is minimal risk if any to the fetus and newborn. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Picco.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to introduce in the Gallery, on behalf of Nunavut Power, Assistant Operators in the Qikiqtaaluk Area of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the Assistant Operators can only work 10 to 40 hours a week, depending on the size of their community. And once I say their names I would ask that the person stand up.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. David Nakasuk from Pangnirtung.

>>*Applause*

Steve Weedmark from Cape Dorset.

>>*Applause*

Kevin Killiktee from Pond Inlet

>>Applause

Jason Akeeagok from Igloolik.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, the next guy is an old hockey buddy of mine. He used to play hockey with me in Hall Beach. A good friend of mine Mr. Vincent Malakie from Hall Beach.

>>Applause

Louisa Kunilusi from Qikiqtarjuaq

>>Applause

Cameron Bobinski from Kimmirut

>>Applause

Sam Issuqangittuk from Arctic Bay. I don't think Sam is here; nope.

Sally Palaster from Clyde River

>>Applause

Robert Cheese from Grise Fiord

>>Applause

Charlie Cookie from Sanikiluaq

>>Applause

And also the Operation Supervisor for Qikiqtarjuaq, Mr. Chris Cousins

>>Applause

And the Operations Superintendent from Qikiqtarjuaq, Garth Smith.

>>Applause

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize my new Constituency Assistant from Rankin Inlet - Lynn Rudd. Also Leah Inutiq my Executive Secretary. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not too often that I recognize visitors in the gallery but I would like to recognize one of my constituents. First of all I would like to say back in 1960's we used to go to school in Kujjuarapik and we would be gone for a long time.

Back in 1970, he went for a holiday to Sanikiluaq and up to now he's never gone back to Kujjuarapik, so he's still on holidays. Back in the 1970's in Sanikiluaq Charlie Cookie was recognized already.

When we were going to school in Kujjuarapik, a lot of times the schools did not want us to have long hair, so he used to cut our hair for us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not often that I too recognize my constituents because I'm from the high arctic. Robert Cheeth, who is from Grise Fiord and works at the Hamlet and he's very capable - from Grise Fiord.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to recognize Kevin Killikti from Pond Inlet, even though he was already recognized, I know another person from Grise Fiord, Robert.

During our life we hold different positions, we have different jobs, and he used to work with the Rangers in Yellowknife. During our shooting exercises, he used to take care of us, so Robert. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to recognize someone. One of my constituents, Louisa Kooneeliusie. Welcome to the gallery, and I

would like to state that these are all men and she's the only female, and she has a difficult job to do which I am very proud of, from Clyde River. I would like to welcome everybody to the gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize someone. If you watched hockey during the Arctic Winter Games, or during tournaments you probably have seen the person many times because he usually wears a goalie mask - David Nakashuk. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize Charlie Cookie from Upper 11 in Churchill days and Vincent Malaki. When his Kamiks would get too wet I used to tie up his kamiks. Vincent.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize from my constituency, Steve Marks, and Kevin Lebinski from Kimmirut. I would like to welcome them to the Gallery. Thank you.

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Moving on to Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 286-1(6): Cost of Pangnirtung Session

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Finance. In his Member's Statement he talked about the benefits and the costs of holding a session outside of Iqaluit. I would like to ask the Minister if he will be tabling the additional costs for the Government for holding the session in Pangnirtung. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Finance, Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you. A very timely question. Mr. Speaker, I was hoping to table it this afternoon. It is just in translation. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ng. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 287-1(6): Shipping Fuel Cost

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works and Services. I mentioned it in my Member's Statement, and it has been in the news recently. In past years NTCL was able to reduce the cost of shipping dry goods through an economy of scale by shipping fuel and dry cargo on the same vessels into the Kivalliq communities. NTCL stated that by doing this the dry cargo rates were being subsidized by the fuel.

Can the Minister tell me what affect the separate shipping of fuel and dry goods will have on the cost of shipping for consumers in the Kivalliq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) The question that he raises is a very good one. During the past years the fuel and dry goods were shipped together, and next year they will be shipped separately. The question that he is asking and my response is that I don't think this will have much of an impact on prices.

In the present contract, we are in the final stages so we are still finalizing it because it is not complete yet. I expect in answer to his question that there will not be too much of a difference in prices. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that is not the answer that I was looking for. Can the Minister assure me in this House today that consumers will not pay for the delivery of the fuel savings through the purchase of their dry goods? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will be looking for the cheapest means and we will be seeking those so that the cargo that will be shipped to the Keewatin will not be so expensive. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Mr. Speaker, the point that I am trying to get here, as I said earlier in my question, is that it used to be the fuel and the dry cargo travelled together on the same vessel. NTCL assured us that there was a cost savings because the fuel subsidized the dry cargo. Can the minister tell me if the cost of shipping dry cargo to the Kivalliq was considered during the RFP process for the fuel delivery? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are still in the finalizing stages and the question the member is asking I can't give him a definite answer at this time because we are still looking at the situation so I cannot answer his question at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when you put the RFP out, and I was the first one to say in this House that 19 million over three years is a significant cost savings. It's hard to justify criticizing the government for the cost savings involved in the fuel delivery.

But the issue here is that, when the building contracts are awarded in the Kivalliq costs are estimated based on the cost to supply, ship, and erect buildings.

This means that a contractor must determine in their price what the cost to ship building materials will be and pass that cost onto the government. Can the minister assure me government contracts for building will not increase for these reasons?

And what I'm getting to here is if we cost save 6 million a year or whatever million a year on the fuel delivery contract, it's no secret we just approved a 16 million dollar school for Arviat, a 17 or 18 million dollar health facility for Rankin Inlet, another 2 or 3 million contract for a project in Baker Lake, another project in Chesterfield Inlet. But to quote the tender, if we don't have the dry cargo rate established and they're not going to increase, then the government may be in hot water you know for another 2 or 3 million in extra freight, if the cost isn't protected before we settle on the dry cargo rate.

Does the minister understand that and can he confirm that to me?

It's not going to cost; you take it out of one hand and put it in the other. And the overall cost savings, it might cost us more. Can the minister commit to checking this out before he makes a decision? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I expect that this will be cheaper than the NTCL the dry goods that will be delivered to the Keewatin region and we will also look for the lowest contractors for construction.

So I don't have a big concern that it might be more expensive. So I don't expect that because we will be looking for the lowest contract responses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 288 – 1(6): Update on the Municipal Finance Review

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'll be asking the Minister of Finance. Can the minister of finance update this House on the status of the municipal finance legislation review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the member mentioned earlier, I thought he was going to ask the minister of finance. So I'm caught off guard. Can he repeat his question, please? Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Alakannuark, would you repeat the question and clarify it? Thank you.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister of Finance, update this House on the status of the municipal finance and legislation review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The question is directed to Minister Thompson. But maybe some of the question should go to the finance minister. I would suggest Ms. Thompson if you can attempt to answer the question.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes I understand the question of the member. It's the responsibility of my department. On the review of municipal finances we are near completion of the municipal finance review and it has been given to the mayors and hamlets in the communities.

What we want to do is get some understanding from the hamlet councils and for them to review it and it is still in their hands. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuaq.

Mr. Alakannuaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry I made a mistake about which minister I should direct it to and I apologise. When will the review be completed and when will the municipal financing be completed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The municipal finance review was given to the mayors in October. As a result the mayors, hamlet councils, and their staff are in the process of reviewing them at this time, and will give the government their views on the review.

Mr. Speaker, I'm not really sure when exactly that would be provided in this House at this time because it's in the hands of the municipal councils; or the hamlets and mayors

of communities. So when that is done I will be tabling it in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes I understand the minister's response.

Once that review is done by the municipal councils and it's given back to her department, will her department be able to give us the information in this House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What we're doing is reviewing the municipal financing that we give to the hamlets; we're not talking about giving money to the municipal councils. What we are doing is the review of their financing whether it needs strengthening and once those reviews have been done, I will be tabling it in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 289 - 1(6): Female Incarceration Facility

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice about the female correctional facilities. What kinds of facilities do they have at this time for females while they are awaiting their trials here in Iqaluit? Thank you.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been continuing with what we have been using since the GNWT. When we have females incarcerated, what we do is we are following what we used during the GNWT. I am sure that we have to find a better system for taking care of the female inmates that are waiting to go to court. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for his response. The Minister stated that he will be looking for a better system for females that are on remand.

Can the Minister tell us, the Minister stated that they keep them at a correctional facility, what kind of place do they hold them in? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What we do when they are remand they wait at the RCMP cells because they do not have any room at the Baffin Correctional Centre as that is allotted for male inmates. So we provide RCMP cells when they are awaiting their trial.

It is good that there are not that many females that are on remand, but we will have to look at this in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I thank the Minister for his response. He stated that they have to stay at the RCMP cells. For instance if I am waiting to go to court and I am at the RCMP cell, and if it happens that they have people that are intoxicated in the same cell, is that the kind of person that I would have to room with?

The males have a better facility, but the females have to be in the cells. They must be together with the people that are intoxicated. Is that the case? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They have a separate cell that they go to. The people that are intoxicated are in a different cell than the ones that are in remand; they are in a separate one.

I am not exactly sure at this time whether they are in the same room on occasion as the people that are intoxicated. We have been using this system since the GNWT days. I mentioned that I would have to look for a better system for females that are on remand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this has to be resolved and the females given inadequate space while they are on remand. Can the minister inform us that when the females are on remand are they allowed to be visited by their relatives? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, they can have visits by their families while they are being held in the cells, while they are on remand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 290 - 1(6): Cost of Incarceration in Various Facilities

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Justice.

Can the minister provide us with how much it would cost the Nunavut Government to take inmates to Yellowknife, the BCC or southern institutions?

Perhaps he could give us a little bit of information about how expensive it is to have those inmates in various institutions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, there are various costs, different costs but I can't really say exactly how much it is right now. If the BCC is too full as well as the inmates from further west, we send them to the Yellowknife correctional centre. This allows them to be closer to their communities in Nunavut.

It may be about 170 dollars per day for an individual if we take them to the southern correctional facility; I think it's about 140 dollars a day at BCC and in the communities it's about 120 dollars and we also provide some extra for them if they need to get some assistance.

And what we do extra is give them education and in Iqaluit, at the BCC, we don't have the figures added, we have not added the figures yet as to the numbers on the inmates presently being held at BCC. After we collect the number for inmates that we hold here in Baffin I will provide it to the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister just gave us some costs for each of the facilities. In smaller communities such as in Pond Inlet, they have somebody providing for those in remand until their fate is decided by a criminal court.

Once convicted, at what point would the decision be made to determine who would go to what facility? Depending on the sentence passed, can inmates be held in a community? I'm not exactly sure how they go about determining that. Can the minister inform us about that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What they do is first of all, the Department of Justice finds out whether the inmate will be able to be put in the outpost programs. Then they assess that individual first to make sure they're not a danger to the public before they take them to the outpost camp. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The minister stated that it's cheaper to keep inmates at the outpost program. How come it's cheapest? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What we do is we do a study on the operations of each facility and we don't have any control over the outpost camps except to provide them with operating funds.

So we do not have anything to do with the costs in the outpost camps at this time. What we do is we look at the operations of the outpost camps for the inmates in the communities and we provide them with assistance. We also provide extras for providing them with skidoos and other equipment so they can go out on the land. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. From what I understand there are some costs that are out of your hands. Who is responsible for setting their rates and who pays for the costs within Nunavut? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize. I was talking about the Yellowknife costs, Ontario, and places outside the jurisdiction of Nunavut. We do have an agreement with the communities outside of our jurisdiction.

But if we look at Iqaluit for example, the owner and the employees, the fishing facility and the utilities and so on, we would have to add those costs up for the members.

Only then can I respond to your questions. But in regards to the outpost program, as I stated earlier, we do provide services and other essential equipment to keep up this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Are there any further oral questions? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 291 – (6): Funding Programs

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance.

Will the Minister of Finance bring forward a report on all expenses for programs? For example, how the arts programs are funded, things such as IBC and the production of the Atanarjuat movie. How do you fund these types of programs? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure about the Member's question in respect to tabling of expenses. There is a consolidated financial statement that will be tabled once it is finalized with the Office of the Auditor General.

If he is referring to the issue of a Film Tax Credit which possibly he may have been, that is more along the lines of a Sustainable Development issue where they are trying to put together a program right now in respect of a potential film tax credit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: To ensure that you get your question answered Mr. Iqaqrialu; did you want to clarify your question? Which Minister, which topic?

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I can ask all the Minister's the same question because I think that there is interconnection between the government departments.

The only reason I directed my question to the Minister of Finance is because he's responsible for the government's finances. I hope that's clear. I am asking him why the Arts Programs and the Film Industry is under funded by the Government of Nunavut.

What I would like to know is if people out there are asking for financial support and contributions are they given the proper support? Each government department should be able to drop off a report and your department make it into one consolidated report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe the Member is probably alluding to the broader issue of government spending priorities and programs. I think that's what the whole main estimates exercise process is in respect of reviewing all the programs of every department individually. Whether there's a Standing Committee process or more formally, as the Committee of the Whole and articulating what those needs are.

The Standing Committee makes recommendations and we try to address those recommendations in the form of additional resources if at all possible. But I think it's recognized that we have a limited amount of resources. We'd like to do more but we can only do so much with the resources available to us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was a good response. Have there been requests for funding from different organizations who try to promote the culture and language of the Inuit or of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would say that there have been applications to every government department and to every minister that's in charge of a program in respect to requests for funding for different programs, different initiatives. Because of the fact that that's how we deliver a lot of our programs through grants and contributions in respect to trying to meet some of those initiatives that are put forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your response. The organizations who request funding from the Government, do they get the proper support or do they receive what they are requesting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as you know there are always more applications for programs than there are funds available to support all those applications. So it's a matter of if the proposal fits the criteria for the program first of all, and if not, secondly I guess if the amount of funding requested is available and if not then we try to assist those organizations or applicants by looking at other avenues. Whether it is through different Federal jurisdictions or departments, or other departments within our own Government, we try to help them.

It is not always the case that we are able to provide what is requested. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 292 – 1(6): Awarding of Contract and Cost Savings

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Premier. The Public Works Minister has stated through his Minister's Statement that there will be approximately 19 million dollars saved in a three year span.

Yes, the Government is going to be saving that amount. If we look at the dry goods or the transportation of dry goods, they usually are ordered by individuals or retail outlets. As the Minister had stated earlier, there would be a savings of 19 million dollars over a three year span.

If they had to use more for the transportation of oil or fuel to the Keewatin region, are you going to be informing us about the increase in the price for the transportation of fuel, prior to its implementation? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot respond to your question at this point because I don't know whether there is going to be a decrease or an increase.

There will be another review and we will be consulting with ship-owners, transporters, and so on, and of course we will be looking at other ways of cutting costs; we will be asking the private companies and only then will we find out.

We have now found a contractor who can give us substantial savings. That is going to be our practice. We will definitely look for any cost saving measures for the transportation of fuel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. NTCL, if they were not the cheapest transporters, and if you did find a company that could provide the services for a cheaper price, using truckers in Montreal for example, and transporting to the Keewatin, then we would have no more supplies from Winnipeg for the delivery of dry goods.

What about the MOU that was signed between the Nunavut Government and the Government of Manitoba? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The agreement is still in place today. As a Government we have to provide the best prices for the best dollar. Living in Nunavut is extremely costly and we have to take every measure to look at how we can decrease the costs. It does not matter where or who provides the services.

We are looking at building a road from Manitoba to the Keewatin, so we will not need to use ships to transport our goods. We have a very good working relationship with the Government of Manitoba. You probably know about global warming, we are working with other jurisdictions and it's going to stay the same.

But as a government we have to provide the best service for the best interests of our clients. We have to meet the needs of the people of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are numerous Keewatin and Inuit businesses that are provided services from Manitoba businesses; it's very well established to date.

This is just an example, if we ship the products from Montreal to Churchill, and because we're not going to be using NTCL anymore, what kind of support will the private businesses be given in the Keewatin region so that the increases are not too big a hit on them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will seek the lowest cost to private businesses, as we always endeavour to.

We will continue to offer as many options as possible so that we can get cheaper prices, whether it be through Manitoba, or through Montreal. Whoever has the cheapest price will be contracted by the government. Just like any private businesses, we look for cost savings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Question 293-1(6): Statistics on Inmate Outpost Camps

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice. A while ago during his statement, he said that those who are incarcerated are put into correctional institutes, as well as in the outpost camps to serve their time.

I would like to find out how many outpost camps have a contract for inmates being sent out on the land.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have responded to a similar question and it's still about the same; we would like to see it increased, especially to the outpost camps who have inmates or who are looking after inmates. I can't tell you exactly how many are taken care of by outpost camp operators. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I could ask you in one region you might have a better idea. Using Kitikmeot as an example, how many operators do you have in that region in the outpost camps? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot respond to this particular question at this time. We can revisit it tomorrow in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 294 – 1(6): In-patient Detoxification Facility in Kivalliq

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister of Health regarding his statement or commitment of having some type of in-patient detoxification services in Nunavut.

Does the Minister know to this day how many they are going to set up in Nunavut?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in an answer in this House earlier in this session, on the detoxification, we talked about detoxification and we clarified it.

Detoxification is a program that is run by this department, Mr. Speaker. We would run that program in one of our small, non-decentralized communities, where we have the opportunity for having a resident, where we actually have people in-house to do the detoxification program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A non-decentralized community. Are we talking about one facility for all of Nunavut?

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know that Mr. McLean read the Mental Health Strategy that has been presented in this House, with the price tag of 2.2 million dollars. In the Strategy we talked about limited detox.

When we talk about limited detox, we have provided for example, in the new psychiatric facility to open up, we hope to have maybe at least one or two beds available for 24 hour, 7 day a week care for someone who is going through an addictions program or where they are being detoxified.

Mr. Speaker, we would also hope to have that type of program in a resident setting, where you are working with a person and/or their families when you are trying to do detoxification, as we have discussed before in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently in the Kivalliq, people have to travel to Thompson, which is another environment that they have to be cured in. I think that causes a small problem though it does help.

Would the Minister consider opening an outpatient service, or an inpatient service in one of the larger Kivalliq communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, one of the options that is available to us with the completion of the new Health Centre in Rankin Inlet, is to have an available bed where we would be able to run a limited detoxification program. That is why we have said this detox is a program and not specifically a facility.

We would hope to be able offer the same program in Cambridge Bay in that regional facility, as well as I said earlier, here in Iqaluit, a psychiatric facility, and have a detox program run out of a residence setting in one of the non-decentralized communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 295 – 1(6): Status of Program Review

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier. Last year and a half or so, the buzzword of this Government was Program Review. It is a word that has changed and disappeared in the last little while.

I'd like to ask the premier if he could update this House as to the status of the program review by the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that we've been tied up in actually carrying out the program review.

So, it's been fairly quiet. The first phase I believe has been completed in terms of gathering information within our government departments and we have practically completed the external part of our review.

We will now be commencing asking our constituents and the MLA's themselves what they think about the programs we're providing with questionnaires and questions.

Hopefully starting next month we will be travelling to the communities and hearing from the people and perhaps some focus groups on the best ways of delivering programs for them in Nunavut. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, can the premier indicate when any results of these consultations and where they're at to date will be made available to the members of this assembly to have their input? And as well, are we going to get questionnaires? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. There are two questions for you, Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Yeah, there won't be any more supplementaries, I hope. For a change, I think we'll get to ask questions of the MLA's.

So I think it'd be nice to change that role. Yes, that is part of the review. The work that will happen is the MLA's will be asked along with other groups in Nunavut, in particular Inuit organizations and teachers, what we can do better as a government.

We're hopeful that we can complete a portion of this review in the New Year, early in the New Year so that we can perhaps react to some of them. We're hoping that we can react significantly to a portion of them in our next budget. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to receiving that questionnaire and maybe we'll have an opportunity to put some additional questions into that as well.

The department as we all know, when you're looking at yourself and evaluating yourself as a department, you won't always get as objective view as possible as you'd like on there.

I'm sure that there may be a lot of questions that the members or constituents or other people may have about what they'd like to see asked as well, and put forward.

So, I'm just wondering if we will have an opportunity to do that as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. I believe, yes, that would not be a problem and in addition all members have a role in this legislature and every time we try and produce something we're often reminded of the shortcomings.

So I believe the members do a very effective job in reminding us that what else we can do better. So, I must applaud the members for their continual suggestions on how we can improve the government services for their constituents along with us. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 296 – 1(6): Feasibility Study of Coastline in Qikiqtarjuaq

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation. In my constituency of Qikiqtarjuaq in the fall they get big waves and last year I raised a question on this because they're getting very close to the houses.

I'm wondering if there have been any feasibility studies as to how we can improve so that there won't be any damages to the houses from the waves that they get in the fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitek Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last year the community was going to be consulted about that topic he's talking about. But I will get more information on this today and I will inform him as to the status of the feasibility study that was to be done. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank her that she will check into this. Just this fall the waves were quite big and even the houses were being reached. Before there used to be a trail along the shore and it is completely gone. So this is an emergency case and we need to deal with this as soon as possible before any housing units are damaged. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Manitek Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will be working closely with the hamlet council in regards to this right away. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Question 297 – 1(6): Status of Inuit Employment Statistics

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Human Resources.

A year ago he tabled "Towards a Representative Public Service". These were statistics on employment within the Government of Nunavut. Why have they stopped tabling such documents? Do they plan to do another set of statistics on the Government of Nunavut employment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, as a department we will continue to provide the House with the status of employment for both the Inuit employment and also overall department numbers for the government of Nunavut.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When do you expect to table this document? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know my department has been working on putting some numbers together, so I will need to talk to my staff and give a little bit of time as to when I'll be able to present it to this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 298 – 1(6): Consideration Dry Cargo Rates – Fuel Contract

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for Public Works.

Earlier my colleague from Qamanittuaq was asking about what factors they looked at in determining the fuel contracts and trying to get a guarantee out of the minister that the freight rate won't change over there.

Hearing the responses that I heard, basically my colleague was trying to find out if these things were taken into consideration when the decision was made. This is the same issue that I raised last year when the price of fuel went up.

When we did the department the minister indicated they did an in-depth look into it and looked at everything and that's the best thing to do. It still never really let us know what the impact of this decision that they made would have on other components. At that time there were students and low-income people with fixed incomes, they assured us that everything was looked at.

I still didn't hear an answer and I would like to ask the Minister, were the dry cargo rates and how they may be affected something that was looked at and taken into consideration prior to the decision being made? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question in regards to the dry cargo, the contract that we are going to have; at this time we haven't worked out

the finer details. In the new year, once the contract has been finalized, I believe we'll release it in March.

We will announce a contractor at that time. But to now we haven't finalized the content of the contract. I expect with the freight, I don't see a major problem at this stage and I don't expect that there will be major problems because I think it will remain about the same. So I don't expect any major changes, Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for projecting into the future and what he anticipates or doesn't expect. My question was, were the dry cargo freight rates and the possibility of them changing as a result of the awarding of the fuel contract taken into consideration?

Was that taken into consideration prior to the awarding of the fuel delivery contract and it's nothing to do with the dry cargo contract that they are looking at now; I am asking, was this something that the department looked at to factor in as a result of the decision in awarding the fuel delivery contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The dry cargo and fuel contract will be separate and what I have stated is that I don't expect that the dry cargo would cost more than the present one.

I realise we have to take care of the people of the Kivalliq region and I have stated many times that I would like to make sure that the people of Nunavut are treated fairly. When we decided for separate petroleum and dry cargo contract we didn't anticipate any higher prices for the dry cargo. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister if he could answer yes or no that the awarding of the fuel delivery contract is separate from the dry goods contract as it relates to the current supplier. Was that something that was taken into consideration prior to the decision that was made by this government? Was that a factor? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, we have considered that and we expect that it will not cost more to bring dry cargo into the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess from all of that, out of all my questions the answer is yes, this is something that the government looked at. Would the minister commit to providing an analysis and information that they looked at to come up with that expectation to the members of this house? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have considered that, once we separated the petroleum and the dry cargo, transportation and we have taken that into consideration, it will not raise any prices for those communities. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Members will note that question period is now over. Moving on to item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can we go back to item 5 of orders of the day? Mr. Speaker I would like unanimous consent to do that. Thank you.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed Mr. Nutarak.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an individual from Pond Inlet, Elijah Esuk.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize one of my constituents and he's been working at the RCMP for quite some time. I would like to recognize Sandy Akavak. He has always worked with people at the correctional centre. Thank you. Sandy Akavak.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize Sandy Akavak, he has been an RCMP in Pangnirtung for quite a while, also he's my older brother in law. Thank you, Mr. Speaker; and Mr. Elijah Esuk.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

Bill 19 – Budget Measures Implementation Act – Committee Report 06 – 1(6)

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad that I was paying attention, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to report that Bill 19, Budget Measures Implementation Act has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services and the Bill is ready for consideration in the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek and ask for consent to waive Rule 68(5) and have Bill 6 moved to the Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. For the record it is Bill 19. There is a request to waive Rule 68(5) on Bill 19 so it can be immediately referred to the Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Bill 19 is referred to Committee of the Whole for today.

Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Anawak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 058 – 1(6): Elders and Youth Facility

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table information for the facilities that are provided for the elders and the youth. It is in Inuktitut and English. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Tabling of Documents. Mr. Arvaluk.

Tabled Document 059 – 1(6): Letter to Minister Thompson Re: Long Term Care Facility Required in Rankin

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a document which is a letter from the Kivalliq region and it is in regards to caring for the elders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Tabling of Documents. Minister Ng.

Tabled Document 060 – 1(6): Incremental Costs to the GN for the Legislative Assembly Session Held in Pangnirtung 2002

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish table the following document, “The Incremental Costs for the Government of Nunavut for the Legislative Assembly Session held in Pangnirtung”. It is under the amount of 14 thousand 505.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Okalik.

Tabled Document 061 – 1(6): Victims Assistance Annual Report 2000-2002

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document, “Victim’s Assistance - Annual Report from the year 2000-2002”. Ma'na, Uqaqti.

Tabled Document 062 – 1(6): Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut April, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Are there any further Tabling of Documents? If not, I have one to table. If I can take a question from Mr. Iqaqrialu, I can table a document. Members, in accordance with Section 23 of the Official Languages Act, I am tabling the Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut, covering the period of April 1st, 2001 to March 31st, 2002. Thank you.

Item 14. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Mr. McLean.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 013 – 1(6): Extended Adjournment

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad that I am paying attention too. I give notice that on November 28th, I will move the following Motion. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that notwithstanding Rule 24, that when the House concludes its present sitting in Iqaluit, it shall be adjourned until March fourth, 2003.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. McLean. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Ms. Thompson.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 23 – An Act to Amend the Cities, Towns and Villages Act - Notice

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, November 28th, 2002, I shall move that Bill 23, An Act to Amend the Cities, Towns, and Villages Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 13. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Ms. Thompson.

Bill 24 – An Act to Amend the Hamlets Act - Notice

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, November 28, 2002, I shall move that Bill 24, An Act to Amend the Hamlets Act, be read for the first times. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Premier Okalik.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 22 – An Act to Amend the Securities Act – Second Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 22, An Act to Amend the Securities Act, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Securities Act is to adopt terminology for the registration of security dealers and advisories that is consistent with other jurisdictions. This will enable implementation of a national registration database for dealers and advisors to apply and receive confirmation of their registration status through the internet. The amendments also address potential conflict between certain provisions of the Securities Act and of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, once the latter comes fully into force.

The amendments will improve the efficiency of the securities registry, clarify the registration status of securities dealers and advisors, and promote a more coordinated approach with individuals who are registered in more than one province or territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the principle of the Bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 22 has had second reading and accordingly the Bill stands referred to a committee.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters; Bill 13, Bill 17, Bill 18, Bill 19 and Minister's Statement 72-1(6) with Mr. Iqittuq in the Chair. Before we proceed to Committee of the Whole we will take a short 20 minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 15.33 p.m. and resumed at 15.59 p.m.

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

Chairperson (Mr. Iqittuq) (interpretation): Thank you. The committee will now come to order. During the committee of the whole, we will be dealing with Bill 13, 17, 18, Ministers' Statement, 72-1(6) and Bill 19.

What is the wish of the committee? Ms. Williams

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to do a review of Bill 18. To begin with we would like to deal with the Nunavut Housing Corporation and from there we would like to deal with the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Agreed? Is the Minister available now? Mr. Ng. Sergeant-at-arms if you can escort the minister and his officials to the witness table.

Thank you. Perhaps Mr. Minister if you can introduce your officials again.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: To my right is Pam Hine, the president of Nunavut Housing Corporation. To my left is Mr. David Akoak, vice-president and in the gallery, Mr. Chris D'Arcy, Director of Policy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. When we last dealt with the Nunavut Housing Corporation we were dealing with questions, we were under questions. Any questions from the members? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that many questions but at the beginning of our discussions, I stated there has been a review on the Housing Needs Study. Pond Inlet was identified as one of the communities and I would like to thank the Housing Corporation for prioritizing Pond Inlet as one of the communities. Although we still need more housing I would like to thank the department for prioritizing Pond Inlet in their study. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): My question was at that time, I know that there is going to be more housing built in the decentralized communities; but for my community of

Clyde River we have a shortage of housing. There is some row housing that has been brought to my community but they don't have very much space with two small bedrooms. Because they are so small we might encounter some problems and my question to the minister is because they brought in those row-housing units can the Housing Corporation perhaps build three bedroom houses in a row-housing style? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we work with the local housing authorities to see what their preference is for consideration of units. We try to build whatever we can afford to build and based on what those local housing authority needs are. But we can't always meet their expectations, as there are higher costs that are involved because of requests for larger units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the minister saying that he will not be providing any more housing of any sort to Clyde River? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: No, that's not correct Mr. Chairman. Right now we are planning, as I said in my opening comments, for at least two units in every community with the exception of Resolute Bay. That's still in the works with 2003 Capital. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will they be building two houses in each community? I just want to ask the Minister if they are going to be providing duplexes for those communities that he stated will be receiving housing.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, for the 2003 capital program that is the plan. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This year I think there's four times the amount of money in the capital budget as last year. Perhaps this will help out, but up to 2004 and for the rest of the years are there any plans in place to build more housing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure about the member's questions, but in the 2003 capital for public housing we are trying to two units, two for every community. On top of that I mentioned before the issue of staff housing, which is to build some staff condominiums, in the majority of decentralized communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realise that the decentralized communities will be getting more houses but for smaller communities such as my constituency there is a lack of housing.

Are there any plans in place for 2004 to build houses in smaller communities? Because they have to have housing, adequate housing for the residents and we don't want to see any problems arise in the communities, such as health hazards or overcrowding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're trying to do the best we can for the delivery of public housing units and staff housing based on the resources available to us. I can't speak about 2004, because the final allocations, budgetary wise for all government departments and the Housing Corporation haven't been finalised yet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Government has created the Nunavut Housing Corporation; is there any funding that you request from the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you may recall the former minister of housing did access with corporation officials, investments for additional public housing requirements that was put into the capital, approximately 5 million dollars. But it's an ongoing issue that continues to be brought forward more frequently.

I think we're happy about the fact that at the recent meeting of the aboriginal ministers here in Iqaluit about two weeks ago, that the Federal Minister of DIAND, Mr. Nault, acknowledged the issue of housing needs and put it on the agenda for aboriginal ministers to discuss at their next annual meetings, next year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will keep the question as brief as possible. It's complementary to my colleague's question.

I think the majority of the Nunavut communities have a severe housing shortage. Usually, what happens in overcrowded situations is that there are health hazards and social problems.

If we are going to be building two additional units in each community, have you considered the possibility of increasing those allocations to three or four in the upcoming years? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We try to build as many as we can given our resources, as I had indicated. If there is more money appropriated to the Housing Corporation then we will have that opportunity.

I think that there has been significant investment to the Housing Corporation, to public housing, since the 2000-2001 year. We know that we could always use more, but I think that given the limited resources that is fulfilling some of the needs, albeit that is not as much as we would like. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think that you understood my question. If we are going to be building two houses per community, and since it is impossible to increase the number of allocations, is it possible to build houses that have three or four bedrooms? That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe the Member is right. I am not exactly getting his line of questioning. We can build whatever we can afford to build I guess would be the answer. And the plan is to build duplexes in every community for 2003. If there are expectations over and above that, then we would have to consider how we would fund that if at all possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any other questions? Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): I am sorry that I am late. (interpretation ends) Are we still on general? I want to ask further.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Okay, I will carry on. Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq. Maybe I will try to use this as an example, where a community has a waiting list. It can be clear if I use an example, I guess.

If I have a waiting list in Kugluktuk and let's say 100 people are on the waiting list, I wanted a two or three bedroom, and in Pangnirtung they have 30 on the list. Still, here in the Capital you are putting two houses in each community.

I am just wondering how you arrived at that? Let us say, for example, if one community has a larger waiting list than the other does, how do you come up with the formula? Maybe you can answer that question for me. Koana.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Members may recall that in the past the Minister did try to bring in a public housing program based on needs. That was defined, whether it was waiting lists, or needs based on per person, or the average occupancy per house. It left some communities without an allocation of units.

The decision was made this time to try to provide, consistent with this current year, to try to provide some housing to every community recognizing that there are some communities who have larger needs than others do.

So it's time to, I guess, balance that out by doing something for every community instead of none for some and more for others. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. And I would, I didn't recognize David and your other staff.

(interpretation ends) I understand that you're trying to get housing across Nunavut, but if there was a greater need, like I said I used Pangnirtung for example and Kugluktuk, we see there were some differences.

Let's look at the future. Let's say you have right now two on two but let's say that we have a greater need in that community, can we look at something like increasing one community, let's say three houses for that community and one for the other. I'm just using this for an example.

I'm just trying to figure out how these things are done here, how you come up with numbers like this. It's clear what you said but is it possible that we can move the numbers for them. Koana.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we can pretty well do anything you want I guess based on statistics that you have available. If the member wants us to consider doing something based on needs, we're willing to do that.

But you have to recognize that there's going to be some communities that are going to get more housing than others and some are going to get zero and so that's why we put forward this formula based on what we think.

So, as I indicated earlier, making sure that every community has some units with the exception of Resolute because of the extenuating circumstances. That will be taken into consideration in future year's allocations.

And versus basing it on some priorities, you know waiting lists, or average occupancies or whatever the case may be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Koanaqtit. It's clear; I understand where you're coming from. I just wanted to make sure that I got this issue. I just wanted to raise this concern that came from my community. I understand your question. Koana, for that.

I might be going too far and maybe I'll wait until I get to the next question. Koanaqtit, Uqaqi.

Chairperson (interpretation): We're in general questions. We haven't started with the question on specific pages. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just going back to something the minister mentioned earlier and I would like to comment. I think it's good to see at least something happening and we all know that it's not enough of the needs not only here in Iqaluit but everywhere in every community.

The committee isn't coming anywhere close to meeting the needs that are out there, but at least there's something going in there and I look forward to years when there are more than two going in there.

My question, I guess, is the minister had indicated earlier that they're putting the duplexes into the communities and I'm just wondering if the communities, the local housing organizations have some input into that.

Or is it something that you know, it's becoming something that that's what every community needs. Or they couldn't basically help them into the type of units that went into their communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: The local housing authorities have had significant input towards what they wanted in the communities. The fact is we're finding in the current capital year that all tenders have come in consistently over budget and that is a trend throughout Nunavut not just for Housing Corporation tenders.

So I mean that's one of the mitigating factors that I guess we have to take into consideration. That's why the proposals now are costing based on duplexes for the next fiscal year. If the communities are adamant that they want detached units then that may impact on delivery of the number of units for that community.

They may have to be put off until future years if the economies of scale aren't there. And I know that this question was raised by Mr. McLean and others about the capital construction cost, some contractors are saying it's cheaper to build the detached units or just as cheap for the detached units versus a duplex or multiplex unit, which may be legitimate in some cases and in some instances.

The main difference in the costing isn't the actual construction and materials, the main difference is the land cost, because we do know that the duplex, the multiplex unit, you can get more efficiencies from land.

Some of the equity leases, development costs, that the municipalities are charging back which we pay for our public housing units add significantly to the overall cost of delivery of our public housing, so they're all costs in the program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess you raised the issue; you talked about land costs and things that when I was a member of the housing task force. That was one of the issues that were raised. Housing is subsidizing a number of other areas, subsidizing municipalities by paying for the land, which was something that was formerly paid by MACA.

At that time I think it was all transferred over and dumped onto the municipalities prior to division. Another thing that housing subsidizes is the Power Corporation. All the social housing units paid the full government rate for their unit, and not that we don't enjoy it, the residential rate that homeowners get, also the water and sewer, the different services that are supplied to a social housing unit.

There is a government rate and there is a residential rate, and again the government rate is what the LHOs are getting charged for, for providing those services to their unit. Has the department looked at, and I understand they are being pulled back and it goes back in time; there is a reason why that was done.

At that time government was funded, I think it was seventy-five cents on the dollar for housing and only fifty cents on the dollar for municipal and other areas. So it was more beneficial to make your social housing costs as high as possible because anything that

you can justify putting in there, you got more money from the federal government. But our formula is not like that any more.

Now it's quite evident that we can't afford, we can't keep up, and I'm trying to get the departments looking at, you know, I think the time has come where we need to know our housing dollars have to go to housing and not to these hidden subsidies that are out there.

Another large one that I didn't mention earlier was income support. It costs almost seventeen hundred dollars a month to maintain a social housing unit and income support can only charge thirty two dollars a month for a tenant that's in a social housing unit. So the Housing Corporation is subsidizing income support to the tune of almost sixteen hundred dollars a month and housing said they can't afford to do that any more.

Are there any plans that the corporation mentioned looking after to try and ensure that our housing dollars are spent on housing and not into these other hidden subsidies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, yes there have been all sorts of discussions and actually some progress made on various issues. On the issues Mr. Tootoo raises, on the new rent scale that is coming into effect with income support, there have been changes there. The Housing Corporation has been working with the Department of Education on those changes on the income support side of the equation. There have been some discussions with Community Government & Transportation officials in respect to the land development costs etc.

I don't have all the details here and if he wants more the member or the other members want more we can provide a briefing on that at some later time when I can get one of my officials here to get to some of the details of that if that's what's requested. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if someone could provide that information it would be great because I know that's not really a part of the Capital budget.

We need more houses. We need more units on the ground and where the limited resources are out there and that's my point, we have to find a way of allowing this to proceed with more than two units or one duplex in a community and I think that's important.

We need to look at that. I guess my other question in general right now is...I'll save my other question till we get into the actual page by page. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just another matter to follow-up on Mr. Tootoo's question. We'll have to recognize that even if we identify where those other costs are that are subsidized in other departments right now, we are paying a larger portion of our pot than we should be and I use income support as an example. We have had some discussions on that.

The fact remains though; the money still has to come from the GN. Sorry, Mr. Chairman, the money still has to come from the GN whether it's through income support or through Community Government & Transportation or the Housing Corporation.

So really, those costs still have to be paid. So, even if the Housing Corporation is the benefactor of additional money from income support for example and it is passed on to the local housing authority for operating costs of public housing, social housing, additional resources for income support still has to be found internally to deal with that.

So, it's just moving money around more so it's not new revenue. Although it would help from strictly the Housing Corporation perspective, we have to look at things more globally.

Even though there have been discussions and some progress in some of the areas, I would expect that on the program review side of things that is being led by EIA right now, that some of those things will be pointed out and some recommendations will be made on how to possibly figure things out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just thought of another question. I totally understand where the minister is coming from but I guess my comment is over and over again we've heard the Federal Government saying that they don't want to touch social housing. They don't want to get into social housing and I guess you know having that slammed in our face over and over again, we need to try and find other ways to so that the Federal Government would or could provide funding that could fall under different areas that could be used to address housing needs.

If these things were put under the control of the municipalities maybe extra funding could be thrown into the formula for community government.

You know the old saying there is more than one way to skin a cat. We already know that they are going to say no to social housing. Has the Housing Corporation, the Minister and his officials looked at other ways by moving those costs to other areas? A way of doing it to go back to their federal counterparts and say okay look this is, we know you don't want to go into social housing, there's another way that you could do it.

Because I think if we took a picture of what our needs and conditions are in Nunavut right now to Ottawa or anywhere else it would be unacceptable, it would be horrendous.

I think they need to be reminded of that and they have an obligation to help us with our housing here in Nunavut. If they don't want to do it in the social housing way, let's go to them with some other options and ways that will be acceptable for them to provide funding for a new set of plans along those lines or anything like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the member does bring up some good points. I think he indicated earlier that it's on the table, on the agenda for aboriginal ministers to deal with, with one federal minister responsible for Nunavut; certainly the DIAND Minister is a positive sign. I think that's a major step that wasn't there before that meeting that took place in Iqaluit a couple of weeks ago.

On a regular basis those officials have different forums and different boards advocating our interests, whether it's a head of the Housing Renewal Association, we have direct representation on that, and several provincial/territorial working groups on Housing Advocacy; the most important of which is the Rural and Remote Non Market Working Group.

We have representation on the National Housing Research Committee. I think it comes down to continually advocating our position till we get to the point of hopefully some resolution in one form or another, in the form investment or recognition of our needs there.

There are also plans for another meeting of Ministers responsible for Housing early in the New Year, with a new federal minister. Of course we will be attending that once it's confirmed and once we've secured our position as well.

It's happening, it's probably not bringing up results we'd like to see today, but we're hoping again to see some results in the future. Let's not forget the overall broader fiscal review that's being undertaken with Federal Finance that we're trying to put through to outline some of our issues and needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure where we're at, but I would like to ask, I would like to welcome them for appearing before us again.

The units that I talked about, all they have is a sink and stove, washer and dryer, I'm not sure what they are called, and they say they are three bedrooms but there's nothing, there's no room for tables.

Mr. D'Arcy knows which ones I'm talking about, because he worked in Arctic Bay. Building those I think cost about the same as the nice looking three bedroom homes. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the Member did have some concern about staff housing for some of her constituents in Arctic Bay. We did work with the landlord in trying to resolve some of those issues.

I can say that, as Members know, we are working on a new staff housing rental policy that will take into consideration housing conditions, housing size, etc., in trying to get to a fair rental assessment for our tenants, for our staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: I was not even thinking about staff housing, but thank you for the comments. My question was that the units that the Housing Corporation has, they have no counter space, but they have a sink, a stove, washing machine and a dryer. There is no counter space and no place to put the tables. And then you have your TV right beside your washing machine.

I am talking about these units. I am sure that Mr. D'Arcy knows what I am talking about because he used to work on them in Arctic Bay when he was working up there.

Do people with those units, you must spend a lot of money because they keep renovating them. They are called three bedrooms but you have no place to even eat. Do people still pay the same rent as the two year old units that are three bedrooms? Where you could have a washing machine and a dryer in a separate room? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad I answered questions on staff housing before she raised them. On the issue of those units, I think that I am aware of what the Member is asking a question about. Some of the older units were smaller than the regular size. In the past there has not been any recognition of the size of units; it has been based on income.

With the new rent scale that will be coming into effect on January 1st for public housing, it does recognize housing conditions, housing size. So if it is an older unit, there will be credits deducted from the base rent, if it is a smaller unit, etc.

Those factors will be taken into consideration with the new rent scale. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that two of my constituent communities are going to get duplex units. I am sure that the local Housing Associations in the communities have been communicating with the Housing Corporation.

As far as the area around the house, those units are nice units if you are a single person. Maybe you don't go hunting. If you have a snowmobile and you have sealskin stretchers, where do you put them? You have no place to put them because you have no outside area, except your front door. There are some steps and that's all.

I guess my question is because they cost a lot of money, are these popular units? I think that my colleague Mr. Iqaqrialu has been talking about the same units. Do people like these units? And if you are a hunter, and do a lot of skins, I don't think they are practical for up here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is hard to say if people like the units that they are in. I would say that by and large, people would probably be happy if they have a roof over their heads given the demands out there, the competition for public housing.

I would also say that probably a lot more better designs could have taken place in some of our houses. There is no doubt about that. In our current community consultations we will also be looking for input into possible design changes for future housing to make it reflect Nunavut's needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one last question. When people are contracted to do renovations on these units or any units in the communities they usually drywall inside the unit and the house becomes smaller once they are done with it. I know that contractors are not cheap but they make the units smaller than they were before.

Is there any way that they can do something so that the units are not getting smaller every time when they do retrofits on them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it will depend on what renovations were taking place. If it is interior retrofit then obviously they will have to remove the existing interior and put in a new one and whatever else would be required around that.

So I mean, obviously for the smaller units if you're losing space, it does become a problem but you know we would try to maximize the efficiency to make sure that if you didn't have to lose the space you wouldn't. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Catching up on some capital that wasn't spent in Sustainable. Thank you, minister for clarifying it for me and I expect to see those projects completed next year.

On the cost of the duplexes, when we looked at them three years ago there were around 380 and now I see the budgeted figures, 506.

Can you explain to us the land costs and other issues? I made some reference to piles on houses and the cost of them and how that may significantly increase the cost of units and we're getting to the point where duplexes are costing us over \$500 thousand dollars and I think it's getting to be too much.

Because I know for a fact that some access units, three bedroom access units can be constructed in community for less than \$250 thousand dollars a unit. What I'm saying is I know that other communities are probably higher but when you build and access units you put on four screw jacks and those are very energy efficient and well built little units. I just want you to start maybe looking at the cost of construction of these duplexes in some communities because I know some in my community probably prefer a couple of three bedroom access units over one duplex of 500 thousand dollars because families are getting bigger.

It's just something that I wish you would look at and you know maybe if the costs are the same, maybe give the local housing association a choice. Whether it's a two bedroom duplex or two three bedroom access units or a five bedroom house or something like that so all the plans are there for the access units and the duplexes.

I'm losing my train of thought here but I'm getting back to the duplexes and the three bedroom access units but we should maybe look at giving the local housing association a choice on what they want to construct in their community.

And I agree with my colleague Mr. Tootoo, most of the time and sometimes we beg to differ on important issues but on this one I agree with Mr. Tootoo, but the way that housing is allocated now is fair.

Whether you look at what community has a shortage of houses over the other community, I don't think that's fair at this point because communities are growing at different rates. I think we're 3000 units short in Nunavut and that's what we need over the next 5 or 6 years.

I would encourage you to give every community a house or a duplex and not penalize the community because of past differences because like I say every community is growing and Arviat for one is growing faster than any other. But make sure that the capital is spread out evenly and I like this program where every community is growing, Arviat for

one is growing faster than any community is, but make sure that the capital is spread out evenly, I like this program where everybody gets a duplex.

And I know it's fair to everybody, I don't want to see anyone not get something because I think that sends a wrong message to the communities that have housing needs. Overall every community in Nunavut even Iqaluit has a housing shortage, so continue to allocate housing they way you are, that's all I'm saying.

The cost of duplexes started to increase and I see a trend here, that you know are we going to be spending five, six hundred thousand for a couple of duplexes only to build a couple of units. Would you look into that? That is my only question. Mr. Chairman that's it. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Yes, as I indicated earlier, we do try to take a local housing authority's request as to what they want for units into consideration, provided that the budgetary allocation is not a problem. But once it gets over that, we have to make tough decisions along with the local housing authorities on what can be delivered.

And in the case of Baker Lake where it feels like a competitive construction market over there, we certainly move the savings from that community to another one that needs it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Are you done. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We all know that we are in a housing crisis. We have to build over 3,000 units just to catch up.

When there's a crisis in the government, when there's a crisis in the world anywhere then the government takes over. We know looking at the prices it's very expensive; 500 to 600 thousand.

Can't the department, can't the government look maybe in various places like overseas or how they can make units, multi units, which will be cheaper. We know how much wood we'll need to make duplexes, so one single unit, or two units where they are duplexes, they cost 253 thousand each.

There's insulation and all the materials and if you add them together there's no way they'll add up to 253 thousand. It's the labour and the land, the freight, but the wood itself to build the building won't cost that much.

I would like to ask if they have looked anywhere else to see if they can obtain units for less costs, let's say all the units were exactly the same, and if you build exactly the same houses in every community to make it cheaper. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes there are several designs that we use and are reviewed on a regular basis to see if there's any adjustment requirements. Similar to what I was saying in response to Ms. Williams' question or in respect of whether or not our responses are adequate or not be would be reviewed in consultations with communities and the Housing Authorities to see what is required. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Have you also looked at other countries and other jurisdictions that could build cheaper housing than 506 thousand dollars?

Yellowknife has a Styrofoam kind of design now, have you looked at that. What other modern designs are in southern Canada or United States? Because we know for two units 506,000 is not acceptable.

Two by fours are going to cost how much? Or the furnace, etc. etc.? You know what the contents of the buildings are. The transportation, the land, the steel piles, etc., makes it very, very expensive. There must be a cheaper way. Have you looked at the building codes, if they can be lowered for residential purposes if individual Nunavummiut want to build their own or if you're planning to build cheaper public housing? Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we haven't, I would say too aggressively looked at other options that the member has put forward and we recognize that it's two facets I guess of our public housing program.

One obviously is to provide the housing as much as possible. The other is there is some economic spin off from that, certainly for the construction. There are spin offs for the contractors and generally smaller operators in some of our communities, in trying to support NNI and the business in the communities based in Nunavut, a lot of which work on some of the public housing and housing authority contracts that are let on an annual basis.

From that perspective, I mean, there haven't been a lot of other options looked at and as well, I guess that's it, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Mr. Chairman, I understand and support local contractors, which is hard, you know, barely nil; there's some local contractors in some communities, majority of them are not local contractors. I would support them for economic purposes, but we are in crisis; we are in a housing crisis.

The shortage of three thousand houses in Nunavut is a crisis and we will have to recognize as a government you have to intervene to correct the situation.

We have not aggressively intervened as a government after the review by the committee, the special committee on housing; we haven't really taken any aggressive steps to fast track and deal with the problem, the crisis. Mr. Chairman, I guess what I'm saying is that two things are happening. The detriment is to the quiet people, the old people, the elderly who are chronically ill, who are not being assisted very well by the health department, these are the quiet victims.

The homeless people, overcrowded families barely survive, are also the quiet victims. And we as a government have to recognize that. I think just because they're quiet doesn't mean there's no problem there.

I would ask the minister if he would take a more aggressive approach to recognizing and dealing with the housing crisis. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would be willing to do that, recognizing though particularly in respect to the business sector, and the NNI policy. If we're to look at some dramatic changes in our contracting procedures or procurement procedures, in respect of the materials for public housing, there would be some political implications to that. Similar to what's been raised in respect of resupply for our fuel products that has taken place and been dealt with over recent days and weeks. So I will take that under advisement and see what options are available.

On the other matter earlier Mr. Chairman, the member also raised the issue about national building codes whether they could be lowered or not. The national building codes are safety standards but if there is a move to try to work around that, I guess the issue would be for us to make sure that the integrity of the units being built is still met. That the life expectancy for those units is not compromised, and those factors would have to be taken into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question for now, for general questions, is that we have not been able to design a house for Nunavut respecting the cultural activities in the house.

Ms. Williams mentioned about a hunter or a hunter's wife, that there is no consideration in design to accommodate them. Have you considered promoting architect training for Nunavummiut as you did with the law school and financial accounting programs and nursing? Have you considered training architects for Nunavummiut so that they can

become architects or engineers in Nunavut and knowing how we live at the same time?
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, we haven't gotten specifically to that issue of architectural support for possible training and those interested in that field. I think we would work with education, Arctic College if there was a demand out there.

I think the first focus for us right now, as I indicated earlier, is to try to get the communities' input into some of the designs and work with that. First recognizing that something like what Mr. Arvaluk is raising about having actual architects certified and go on an individual interest in going through that process is a bit of a, would require a bit of time and investment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: That seemed to be my last question but not having considered that area, does the Housing Corporation have a committee or design committee on the, I don't know what they call this. There is a design; you have this preliminary design, the kind of house that you would build for Nunavummiut. These feasibility type of things; I think Mr. Picco has a beautiful name for it for Chesterfield Inlet when you have a rough sketch as to what kind of house that would be before you take it to the architect or engineer or electrician etc., so that houses can be better utilized by the occupants.

Right now, there are quite a few houses in Iqaluit, when I go in there none of them suit me, it doesn't suit my activities in the house. My son built an Ulu there and I cannot do the sealskins. They do nothing except watch and sleep. I think that our attitude towards the design has to change. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member does raise some good points there. It was indicated earlier we did adopt all the designs that came over on April 1st, 1999. There have been some small modifications on simple things, such as the allowance for cold porches in some of the newer buildings.

There is an ongoing review for existing designs. We will have some made-in-Nunavut solution, hopefully in the immediate future. I don't think I am any different from any Members around this House.

We have all been in houses where you have somebody working on their snow machines or parts inside, or somebody skinning inside or whatever that case that they are working on or cutting up their meat. They do this because of the fact that there is no access or availability in other places outside of the house. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Is that it? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we get to page 12-6, I will be asking a question, so I will wait until we get to that page. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister stated that they work with the District Housing Authorities. Do you work with them regarding how to build a foundation in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, I am not sure what the Member is referring to. The foundations of public housing units are usually part of the Tender that the Housing Corporation puts out, and not the Housing Authority necessarily. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I am talking about piles. That is the question that I have, whether you work with the Housing Authorities on how the piles will be sent? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, a lot would depend on the land that is available for use whether or not you go to piles or go to a gravel pad, and blocking. It depends obviously on the situation of the land. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The Minister stated that there is just a limited amount of money to build houses. He must know the cost of one pile and how much it would cost to drill one pile into the ground.

Has the Housing Corporation been thinking about a cheaper way of putting piles such as drilling them? It has already got the drill in it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, depending on what the decision is on the foundation, if it is for piles in the Tender put out for the contract for the foundation for the house. The results come in. It is hard to determine a cheaper way of

doing that, without undertaking it ourselves. This is what we have not considered. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I am a homeowner; we have owned this house for over ten years. I have piles that are drilled into the ground and I wanted to find out if there is a cheaper way instead of using piles that we can have an alternative way of doing it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. It would depend on the circumstances of the land, the terrain, the layout of the land before decisions are made on the actual foundation for a unit. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I said that it would be my last question, but there are various kinds of buildings that are built in Pond Inlet, either using piles or other methods.

Whenever there is a shifting of a house, either different kinds of foundations for houses in Pond Inlet and I would like the Minister to consider whether he can find alternatives to using piles. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Following the question of my colleague, would the Minister's department consider using other ways instead of using piles when they are building houses? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They will use whatever is cost effective in order to do the job to make sure there is a stable foundation for the unit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In my two communities, they don't seem to be looking for a cheaper alternative. What they do is use those pilings the majority of the time; perhaps they could try to get a cheaper way instead of using piles. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, we will try to find the most economical way. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): I have no other names on my list. We'll go to 12-6, Nunavut Housing Corporation, total headquarters region, Baffin, 638 thousand. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's 600 thousand annually that's put aside for fire damage replacement. From what I can see here, you use the full amount annually, I guess I didn't understand. Do you have enough there? Do you use the whole amount annually? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we generally use the amount, for this current year for example, requirements were 483 thousand 700. So there is a bit left over. Hopefully you won't require it, but there is space for the Housing Corporation. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's 600 thousand dollars. It says fire damage replacement. Does that mean that you don't have insurance for fire damage? Is that why you have money set aside for fire damage replacement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for single-family dwellings; we don't carry insurance for those because it's too cost prohibitive. We do insure for the multi-family dwellings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Does that mean that the tenants or the occupants are aware that they don't have insurance and that they should insure their personal property? If the subsidized house is not insured, if personal effects are damaged, does that mean that they get support or financial help from the government if there was such a case like that in Coral Harbour? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we don't cover tenants. They're responsible, all tenants no matter if it's with us, public housing, with us in respect to staff housing or out in the private market; they are responsible for their own tenant insurance.

Our insurance coverage is on the building itself and that's pretty much it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think with all the private homeowners we do know that when you're going to be insuring your personal effects or personal property it's quite expensive and you have to pay annual fees.

Whenever possible you purchase furniture and they can't buy insurance for their personal effects. Have you informed those tenants that if your house has fire damage and if your personal effects catch on fire you are going to lose everything because it's not insured? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): I don't know whether I'm getting out of line but I'm on 12-6.

I'm not quite sure whether I've got it but I think it's the M&I retrofit and the GN funds. The Inuktitut does not quite make sense but from what I could grasp, it is in regards to the maintenance and improvement of housing and retrofitting of units.

It's in regards to building, bringing the units up to code.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, yes it is.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that different from what we used to call a retrofit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, that correct. It's maintenance and improvement is the M&I. It is to retrofit the older units and bring them up to standard. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? That's it. Nunavut Housing Corporation, headquarters, total headquarters region, 638 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Baffin region, and going over to the next page, 12-9 total Baffin region, 9 million 923 thousand. Agreed? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): I have a question under the Qikiqtaaluk region and I don't know whether it's in here or not.

But I have a question, regarding the relocation of the houses from Nanisivik to Arctic Bay, in regards to the feasibility study of that project. Has the feasibility study been completed yet or would it be better if I ask this question another time? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman there isn't a final report on that feasibility study yet and we're expecting it shortly and this isn't the funding for Arctic Bay in respect to those units now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Let's stick to the subject. Oki.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're talking about capital projects but I don't know maybe you could help me. When these units are moved to Arctic Bay they will need piling done. That costs a lot of money. Is it accounted for here? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I want to make it clear right now, there is no recommendation on moving those units yet; the feasibility studies will undertake to make recommendations on whether or not it is cost effective to relocate the housing from Nanisivik to Arctic Bay.

Once that decision is made, if there are requirements to bring them up to standards for the actual move itself or other renovations that may take place, provided it is cost effective then that pool comes forward in another request at a later time.

The current budget is for existing housing in Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Qikiqtaaluk region, 1 million, 260 thousand for home ownership. Under Baffin various, home ownership programs, is that going to be made available to all Qikiqtaaluk? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That particular one is just for the Qikiqtaaluk district office. There is also the same allocation in amounts in the other district offices. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it's just for the Baffin area, but my question is would any Baffin community be able to access and use these homeowner programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Arvaluk

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why mobile equipment? Is that a truck, 175 thousand dollars. Why do we need that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is the yearly contribution that goes to the local Housing Authorities to replace their inventories that they use for their maintenance based on the eight year replacement cycle. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Why are they not pre-assigned to the communities that have gone up to eight years? Is that hard to determine? Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if you look in the details of the Capital, they actually are. It says mobile equipment under each community in the proportional amounts for that community. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 12-8, and any other pages, Mr. Chairman, that the Maintenance and Improvements you have Government of Nunavut funds. And you also have units from the Housing Corporation.

What is the difference in that? You give the Housing Corporation 2 million, 285 thousand from the Government of Nunavut funds. Why do you identify this differently, the Government of Nunavut funds and the Housing Corporation? Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry that they had not switched over when you started your questioning, so I did not catch the first part. So I am not sure what the question is. Maybe if the member would not mind repeating it. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let us look at 12-8, the Qikiqtaaluk region on the bottom, Clyde River. That is a bad example. Let us look at Cape Dorset. You have public housing, two units for 506 thousand. You also have right above that Maintenance and Improvements/Retrofit-Government of Nunavut funds.

What is the difference between those two? Do they not come from the same budget process that you dealt with in the FMB? Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as far as I know, the public housing, the new public housing units M and I Retrofits/Government of Nunavut funds are a portion. There is cost sharing with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation for another portion which is almost equal. It is almost a 50/50 cost sharing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Where does Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation appear? For example for Cape Dorset the M and I Retrofits/Government of Nunavut funds \$214 thousand.

What you are saying is that actually retrofits costs us \$428 thousand. Is that what you are saying here? Mr. Chairman, Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the Member is right. The reason why the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation portion is not in there is because Finance took it out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. But the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation is going to give their contribution to the Government of Nunavut for that and how are you going to record it? Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will speak to the Finance Minister on that issue. Just to let Members know.

Mr. Chairman, it is because of the fact that money is not actually voted through the Assembly, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation contribution and because the Housing Corporation is not actually a Government Department as well as the contribution comes directly to us. That is why it is not represented in the Government of Nunavut portion of the estimate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, the public housing, two units, Cape Dorset, \$506 thousand dollars is 100% GN funds, whereas the retrofit one is 50/50 with CMHC and the GN. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member's correct, yes. The GN funds for the public housing is 100% for Cape Dorset, actually the amount of CMHC money is 175 thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Cape Dorset it is 175 thousand dollars and the GN portion is 214 thousand dollars. Is this right to all the M&I expenditures throughout this budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, it varies depending on the needs of the retrofit program. Like for example, in Arctic Bay, the one before Cape Dorset, the CMHC portion is \$371 thousand dollars which is quite a bit more than our contribution so it's based on what they'll pay for in the scope of the work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The last one. If we cannot see the CMHC portion because it varies, you cannot really calculate it if you are a regular member. Can we at least know the total contribution of the CMHC to the Housing Corporation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of our total of 4.64 million dollars the CMHC portion is 4.31 million dollars. But certainly we'd be willing to provide a schedule on the CMHC portion broken out for members on this particular item if that is what the member wants. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Page 12-6. 8 million, \$9 million total. Qikiqtaaluk. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 12.9 that you have there, the home ownership programs is \$1.26 million dollars, it's up \$250 thousand dollars from last year, I'd just like to ask the minister what homeownership programs are being offered through the corporation with the funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For homeownership there is the Nunavut down payment assistance program. There are also various home repair programs. I'm not sure if you're interested in those. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the NDAP, was all the funding that was allocated towards it last year all used? Were there amounts that were not used or were there more applications than there was funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it was all used and there were more applications than there was funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, under that NDAP program, I understand that either \$15 thousand or \$25 thousand dollars an individual may qualify for depending on whether they are buying an existing home or a newly constructed home. Is that open to everybody or are there limits to who can apply for that program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Well its open to everybody but there are criteria to make individuals eligible and some of those criteria I guess you probably asked about this is that an

individual has to be at least 19 years of age or older. They can't have rental arrears with the local housing authority.

They must have approved financing through conventional markets or financial institutes. Closing date of sale must be 30 days, within 60 days of the mortgage approval and also the married and common law applicants are deemed to be joined applicants.

Any income levels here cannot exceed \$125,000. Both of sum of the, I'm sorry, another one, they have to have lived in Nunavut for 2 years and they cannot own a home within the last five years.

So those are probably some further eligibility requirements for this program. Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the minister had indicated that there is an income limit of \$125 thousand. I just want to clarify if that is an individual applicant's income or is that total household income that they look at there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That would be the income of the applicant, whoever's applying, plus the spouse. Thank you, Chairman. But it wouldn't necessarily include income from other household dependants just primarily the two that would be signing off on the mortgage. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering why it wouldn't consider all of the household income for the unit because I know that I talked to people that have been frustrated, and are maybe just a little bit over, what is it, you know, if you're over the \$125 thousand, that's it?

But maybe if the minister could clarify why it would just look at the applicant? If there's other household income besides what the applicant and the spouse or whatever might be making why that isn't taken into consideration in looking at the household income?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's because by convention financiers for mortgages look at the income of the primary income earners, that's the spouse of that household, in determining mortgage accessibility or approval. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, when you think that if there was other income in that household other than what the applicants were claiming as employment income, then wouldn't the minister consider that person in household income? If it's all going to the house you know, it doesn't matter where it's coming from.

So the household income, and I assume that that's how rent is assessed on social housing you know, right now too, it's the total household income. It doesn't matter who it's coming from it's whoever's in there that the income is counted for, as part of the total household income.

So, I'm just wondering, it seems to be a discrepancy there. I'd like to ask the minister to clarify that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is a bit appropriate for some programs for different criteria and I would say that we are reviewing all the criteria for all the programs and I think that's no secret.

I mean we've said that right from the start that what we're trying to do is to apply to them all. I mean if the member wants to include other suggestions that would include income of all individuals residing in the household we could look at that.

But it would certainly, certainly it would eliminate more than open up more potential applicants because your income levels would be rising in the household and you have a maximum of eligibility so there's less individuals or families that would be eligible for the program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think that if you looked at that, I would think that by including all the income towards the house, maybe with their other income that's in that household they don't require the assistance offered by the corporation. That's what I'm getting at; you know you indicated earlier that there were applicants that were turned down because of insufficient funding.

Or maybe not everyone. If you didn't look at the total household income, there may have been applicants there that didn't necessarily need assistance. Their total household income would be over, and therefore they wouldn't qualify for the program and that would mean to me, if your income household goes over, you don't need that help from the corporation.

You know you can go out and do that on your own and it could be made available to people who do need it. I guess if that's a loop hole in the program right now, maybe

that's one that you could look at closing and make sure that we are maximizing the use of the dollars that we have that are getting to the people that really need it.

I know there are a lot of people out there that would love to get it, but for some reason there's not enough money, they can't. So is that something the minister can commit to looking at and also if they can review any incidents where that may have happened, just to give us an idea of what the cost could have been or how many more people we could have helped as a result. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman we've been looking at all sorts of things, the policies I guess, and I think it's important to remember that for the down payment assistance program you get it once in your lifetime supposedly. At least from the Nunavut Housing Corporation; but again we're certainly willing to look at that and see if there are any loopholes.

In every program there are loopholes, nothing designed is perfect and that's why we revise policies. Yes we would be willing to look at that if that's a concern the member raises.

As far as going back and reviewing them, it's difficult now given you know we base that criteria based on mortgage approval from financial institutions and I indicated earlier they do all the reference checks and assessment verifications, we base our decision based on their work, confirming those type of factors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I'm glad to hear the minister would look at that and I think that is something that should be looked at to again maximise their money where it's really needed and not necessarily where it's not needed.

The minister also mentioned that they go through based on what the client comes forward with; I guess with a pre-approval from financial institutions. Is there any cross reference there to ensure that the income that the applicant has put forward on their application saying, not necessarily the income but information that they put down on the application, is the same information as the bank or the financial institution uses in approving mortgages? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the corporation staff does carry out the due diligence in trying to confirm the status of the applicants and also in respect to their income for verifications on their income level. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I forgot to make one other comment earlier and that is, as good as the corporation is, everyone's human and there are loop holes out there, as good as the program may be. Only by going through it and finding them and experiencing them is where you find them. Then they close them and change the program. So it's good to hear the minister indicate that they're willing to do that.

But on his last comment, do they look at whether the total income that the bank or financial institution is basing their approval on is the same as total income that the applicants puts on their applications? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Mr. Chairman, and also to add in the actual applications for the down payment assistance program there is a declaration that the applicant makes that if anything is found to be untrue there is an allowance for us to go back to recover any assistance that may have been provided to the applicant. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Is that it? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's all open now; I'm interested in Mr. Tootoo's question. Okay if you have only the applicant's spouse but not spouse, so is that, my English is not all that good you know, mouse and mice.

Those two are applicants. The other income earners in the household are excluded because they would not become owners of that house. Is that the reason why? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's the primary reason because nobody would know if one of those other individuals that aren't the owners, I mean their circumstances change. They could be there today and then move out tomorrow or they could be going to school and they moved. There are different factors that have to be taken into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I needed a rest. Going back to the income limit on NDAP. Is the corporation looking at taking into account family size? I know that is something that was raised during the task force meetings; \$125 thousand for a couple with no children is different from \$125 thousand dollars for a couple with three children. I know that there are rumours, incidents where you pretty much need to have both parents or both partners working. They need that dual income to survive and in a lot of cases you

know it's not a lot; it doesn't take as much to go over that income threshold but I guess two questions.

One is, does the corporation look at adapting that amount to have some kind of a sliding scale to look at family size? So that people who do have children, even though they make over \$125 thousand dollars theoretically you know they should be able to afford a mortgage but they can't because of the high costs of living up here that I know you yourself had indicated was tremendously high in your fiscal updates. Is that something that the Corporation would look at doing?

The second part of that, I guess, the \$125 thousand dollars here in Iqaluit is different from \$125 thousand dollars in other communities. I am just wondering if that is taken into account? Is that index kind of like a Northern Allowance or a little bit more or less in different communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes is the answer to both those questions. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: When, Mr. Chairman, can we expect to see these changes? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Members may recall in a letter I offered to brief the Members in January of the proposed changes that are coming forward. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else, Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry that I thought that briefing was more on the rent scale and not on the homeownership program. So that is not that same thing that is applied there, I think that that would be great.

I know of an instance, I don't know all the details of it here, where a family moved into a house under the impression that they are going to be receiving the NDAP, I don't know that in an event where someone was declined and met this new criteria, would they be automatically looked at again? Or would they have to re-apply for that program again? Or will the Corporation go back to these people that applied and they would now be eligible? Would they let them know that they are or that they have to re-apply? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They would have to re-apply given that their financial situation may have changed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The ceiling of \$125 thousand, I would like to ask more questions on that. If I was making \$124 thousand, would I be eligible? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, you are not eligible if you make more than that. It is where the threshold is right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Is that for all of Nunavut's communities? Is it for all of the Nunavut communities, that 125 thousand dollar ceiling?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: For that end of the program, yes it is, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I tried to apply just to find out whether I was eligible. They told me that I have to make less than \$125 thousand. The Minister can probably inform me why I was not eligible. I think that a lot of people are thinking about various programs or different programs. If I was to apply, and if I make less than \$125 thousand, then who would approve me? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would be the District Housing Corporation Office. There are other eligibility criteria that you would have to meet before you would be eligible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I wonder if the minister can consult with me, why I was not eligible, privately later on. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: It would probably be more preferable than going over the details in the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Perhaps maybe he could find out whether it's different in every community. There was somebody who went to the communities to give us some information on those various programs that we can access like if I was making less than \$100 thousand or something like that. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, there are different ceilings with the other home repair programs if that's what the member is referring to. The repair program or the senior citizens' repair program and that's based on community needs and income thresholds to operate in each community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Maybe I understood it but the minister stated that whenever a person in the community tries for some housing program they're given all kinds of barriers.

Perhaps this could be part of the review and give them a better understanding and better information that there are various programs that could be accessed by the people out there especially the people in the communities, because we have a lack of housing in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. I agree.

Chairperson (interpretation): I have no more hands. Qikiqtaaluk Region. 12-7-8-9. Total Baffin Region. \$9 million, 923 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Kivalliq Region. 12-10 and 12-11. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Under 12-11, looking at Whale Cove, we were talking about duplexes earlier on today. Is that one duplex or two duplexes? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): 12-11. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: The 507, for Whale Cove. Is that the question? It's just a rounding, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng, the member didn't hear your response.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's just rounding off the total allocations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Mr. Chairman, I asked does it mean two units; two duplexes or one duplex? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One duplex. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the homeownership program, is this done proportionate to the population of Baffin, Kitikmeot, etc? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will you consider at a later date, I don't know if this is done in supplementary or if it's done internally within the Housing Corporation, to allocate or re-allocate some of the funds towards the mid-year when you may need more in Kivalliq, less in Baffin or visa-versa? Do you have that flexibility on the base you need? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we can do that.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Total Kivalliq Region. 12-11. \$5 million, 632 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. 12-12. Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region. \$4 million, 92 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Going back to 12-4. I'm sorry. We're in 12-13. Total Grants and Contributions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you ran out, on the Home ownership program again, if you ran out of \$555 thousand dollars for Kitikmeot would you deny an applicant outright or would you tell the applicant that there may be some saving in Kivalliq or Baffin that can you wait two more weeks or something along that line?

What would you advise the homeowner for assistance or the down payment program?
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, thank you. That's a good question. We would advise them to wait for a short time frame to see if we could reallocate to meet their needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total Grants and Contributions. \$20 million, 285 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Going back to page 12-4. Nunavut Housing Corporation, Total Capital Expenditures. \$20 million, 285 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Capital Estimates for Nunavut Housing Corporation. Agreed. Total. Capital Expenditures.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister and your staff for attending at the witness table today. Thank you. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you. Just for members' information here, Finance does not miss too much. In respect to the issue of CMHC contributions, their portion is listed in detail on the appendix. I'll pass it on to the Finance Department. Thank you, my officials and thanks to the Committee Members.

Chairperson (interpretation): What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I would like to report progress.

Chairperson (interpretation): Agreed? Opposed? Carried. Can we ascertain the presence of the Speaker at this time? All in favour? Opposed. You can go and get the Speaker.

Speaker: Returning to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman.

Item 20: Report of Committee of the Whole

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 18 and I would like to report the Bill is still under consideration. And Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a Motion on the floor. Is there a seconder for the Motion? Mr. Haviyok.

The Motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The Motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The meeting of the Regular Caucus is at Natsiq this evening at 6:15. The meeting of Ajauqtiit Standing Committee will be tomorrow morning at 9:00 in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders for the day for Wednesday, November 27, 2002,

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. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabled 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

- Bill 20

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 13
- Bill 17
- Bill 18
- Bill 19
- Minister's Statement 72-1 (6)

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Members, before we adjourn for the day, earlier today I tabled an Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner. According to the terms of reference of the Standing Committee, of the Legislative Assembly, this report is referred to the Standing Committee for review.

This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, November 27, 2002 at 1:30.

Sergeant- at-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 18.03 p.m.*

