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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Akulliq)

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(Iqaluit Centre)

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(Rankin Inlet North)
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(Nattilik)
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(Cambridge Bay)
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday March 4, 2003

Members Present:

Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Ireqittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Hon. Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Rebekah Williams, Mr. Jack Anawak.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Deputy Speaker (Mr. Puqiqnak): I will say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon Members, Mr. Premier and visitors, welcome. Before we begin I would like to make an announcement. I'm sure that the Members have noticed the display set up in the foyer. It is an exhibit called "Behind These Doors", which features photographs and artifacts from Canada's 14 Assembly and Parliament buildings.

The exhibit was put together by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario and has now travelled to every province and territory in Canada.

I would like to extend our thanks to Karyn Leonard and Jennifer McClendon from the Public Relations branch of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario for helping to arrange the exhibit's time in Nunavut. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Sustainable Development. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 110 – 1(6): Minister Absent

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to let the Members know that Minister Peter Kilabuk will not be here today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Minister's Statement 111 – 1(6): March is Nutrition Month

Hon. Ed. Picco: Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back the Members to the fair capital of Iqaluit, the capital of Nunavut and I hope you enjoy your stay.

Mr. Speaker, March is nutrition month. Promoting good nutrition is one of the priorities of my department. Over the past year we have supported many programs designed to encourage healthy eating from an early age.

Mr. Speaker, for example, my department works with partners like the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada, where we support community-based programs in Canadian Prenatal Nutrition program and the Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative.

Mr. Speaker, another example of partnerships is with the Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and the Environment of McGill University. Mr. Speaker, this program provides 71 front-line health workers with training over the internet on ways to use the Nunavut Food Guide as a teaching tool.

Mr. Speaker, nutrition is of vital importance to our health and well-being. In Nunavut, as we know nutrition has played an important part in the lives and culture of Inuit for generations. Country foods such as seal, Arctic char and caribou continue to be the healthiest choices for Nunavummiut.

Furthermore, nutrition also plays a key role in preventing the onset of diseases such as Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and various types of cancer. Recent research estimates that by combining healthy eating and a healthy lifestyle, it can prevent an alarming 90 percent of Type 2 diabetes that are found in the world.

Mr. Speaker, for this reason it gives me a great pleasure to ask in particular all Nunavummiut to join me in celebrating March 2003 as National Nutrition Month in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Finance. Minister Ng.

Minister's Statement 112 – 1(6): Nunavut Housing Corporation Baffin District Office Relocation Update

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to provide Members of this Assembly with an update on the relocation of the Nunavut Housing Corporation's Baffin District Office.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to report that, at the end of February, the Baffin District Office was successfully relocated from Iqaluit to the decentralized community of Cape Dorset. This relocation initiative was identified as a priority Phase III of the Government of Nunavut's decentralization agenda. Personal effects and office freight were quickly and efficiently transported, ensuring a minimum of disruption to normal business activities.

Mr. Speaker, a dedicated team of housing professionals is now settling into their homes and offices in Cape Dorset, and will continue to provide the high level of expertise and community support from Baffin District personnel. Currently, 16 of 19 positions are staffed, and the Nunavut Housing Corporation will work closely with the Department of Human Resources to fill the remaining vacancies as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, with offices in Iqaluit, Arviat, Cambridge Bay, and now Cape Dorset, the Nunavut Housing Corporation employs Nunavummiut from every region in the territory and offers programs and services in close cooperation with local partners.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to congratulate the Baffin District office staff, veteran and new, and in fact all of our staff, for their dedication to housing service excellence and for helping to make the Government of Nunavut's vision of decentralization a reality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Sustainable Development. Minister Akesuk.

Minister's Statement 113 – 1(6): March 8th – International Women's Day

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, I want to call Members' attention to March 8th, International Women's Day.

This day was established in 1977 by the United Nations to give us an opportunity to reflect on the progress made in women's equality and to look at the challenges that still remain.

(interpretation ends) This year, Canadians will celebrate International Women's Week from Sunday, March 2 to Saturday, March 8, 2003. The theme will be: *World-Wide Women: Surfing the Digital Revolution!* This is to highlight how the internet has improved women's access to information, building networks between women of different political, cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

On March 8th, we can stand beside the women of Nunavut to commemorate this day of importance to women's groups around the world, and to recognize the shared goals of equality, justice, peace and development. I am distributing a pin for each of you to wear this week to show your support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. Moving onto Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 345 – 1(6): Treating Patients in Communities

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome my colleagues back to Iqaluit for the Session. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my condolences to the people of Igloolik to the families who have lost their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, in one of my communities they have a problem. The patients that go out for medical treatment have been having some problems while being transported to the medical facilities, whether you are physically sick, or whether you have a mental illness, we do not want that kind of treatment for the people, but it cannot be helped. The only reason why you can be cured is by visiting the medical professionals outside of our community.

In Igloolik the people that have been getting sick lately have not had any medical attention. For instance, if an individual is sick and he goes to sleep, and then he wakes up sick, and then they phone the nursing station, it takes them four days, after they phone, to finally get an appointment when it should be treated as an emergency.

This happened quite a while back and it got rectified for a little bit, but now it is the same old routine. So at question period, I will be asking the Minister responsible in this regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Members' Statements. The Member for Nanulik. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 346 – 1(6): Chesterfield Inlet – St. Theresa Care Facility Operation

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this issue is in regards to St. Teresa's Home that is in Chesterfield Inlet. It was operated by the Missionaries for quite a long time, for as long as I can remember. I think that it was two years that the Missionaries did not want to operate St. Teresa's Home anymore.

At this point it was going to be closed by Fire Marshall, under the Fire Marshall's order. At that time we made a decision to build a new home. I am very pleased to announce now that the St. Teresa's Home will be built.

On behalf of the people of Chesterfield Inlet, and Mark Ipirq, who is the Chair, and the Board and the staff, I would like to commend them for their efforts in having this become a reality. I would also like to thank Minister Picco and Minister Kattuk in Public Works, for working on the St. Teresa's Home, and I hear that this Facility will be operated by the Government. The Home employs approximately 20 employees and on behalf of the people of Chesterfield Inlet, I thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Members' Statement. The Member for Kugluktuk. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 347 – 1(6): Posting RCMP Officers for Longer Periods

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very glad to be here. I just want to make a short comment; I am very pleased to be able to be here today.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of Kugluktuk have been working hard to provide a better life for our youth. My community has been doing their best to provide opportunities for youth to stay in school and to stay out of trouble.

Mr. Speaker, one of our success stories has been the Kugluktuk High School Athletics Association has been involved in supporting the activities of Kugluktuk Grizzlies and any activities that they can use. Our youth would greatly benefit from these activities.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the association has recently approached me with a concern. In Kugluktuk, our RCMP Officers play a valuable role in the system with the community events and providing positive role models for youth. However, Mr. Speaker, they are concerned that the RCMP policies do not allow its officers to remain in the community for a sufficient period of time.

They want to see officers remain in the community for more than a couple of years. They want to see them stay long enough for them to forge strong bonds with the community. Mr. Speaker, the Association has collected over 240 signatures on a petition urging the RCMP to allow two particular officers to remain posted within the community.

Mr. Speaker, I will be forwarding this petition to our Federal Member of Parliament. I would like conclude my statement Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you. Thank you my fellow colleagues. I also urge the Government and the Department of Justice to urge the RCMP to make every effort to allow the RCMP who are posted in our community to remain long enough in order that they can make a real difference in the life of our youth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to remind the Members that they have two and a half minutes so keep an eye on your clocks. We would like the order of business to go as smoothly as possible. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North. Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 348 – 1(6): Youth Conference in Rankin Inlet

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if this is well known in Nunavut, but in Rankin Inlet and Arviat they know that there is a youth conference going on in Rankin Inlet and I had a chance to attend it.

I was extremely pleased with Jackson Lindell who is the Chair of the Youth Association who has done wonders at a very young age for the youth of Nunavut. At that time when I was talking to the youth, I was extremely surprised that they were very young.

I know some of them and I saw them as children, I talked to my sister and I told her that they looked extremely young and she told me that some of them were about twenty years old. I saw them as children and then my sister told me maybe you are getting old.

But, as I stated earlier, I was very proud of the youth who attended that conference and the topics that they covered this past weekend. We were told that there were four suicides over this week. Maybe we are not affected as they are not our close relatives, but there have been four suicides over the weekend and that was shocking to hear.

I think that it is up to us as a Government to involve the children and the youth in suicide prevention, and to involve the youth in the decision making process. I believe that if there is peer support it would be for the better for the youth and there would be less suicide.

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

Speaker (interpretation): The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. As political figures, we worked extremely hard to create this Territory. One of them was to better the lives of the youth and to decrease the number of suicides that are committed.

I think the solution is to involve the people out there and the youth in the decision making process. I do not believe that if we keep silent about the issue of suicide that there would be less. It is going to be an ongoing problem, and we have to work harder in order to give more support to the people that we represent.

We take it as a daily event now when we hear about suicide. If my wife and I had a lot of children, we would be shocked and devastated if four of our children committed suicide.

These four individuals have immediate family members. And on behalf of those people, we have to work harder and take new initiatives, but I feel that there are solutions.

(Interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to make sure that I get the point across. We are not going to make it go away by ignoring the issue of suicide. The only way that we can do it is if we work together with the young people, the elders, and ourselves using the help of our constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. The Member for Uquqummiut. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 349 – 1(6): Discussions of Suicide in the House

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased that we are back. I would also like to say that with the issues that we are going to be dealing with for the month of March is going to have an effect on us all.

In regards to the issue of suicide, the Government has to do something. We have to look at solutions; we have to look at the communities and what they can do. What can we do to decrease the numbers of suicide?

Is there something that we can do as a Government to help the communities? We, as Nunavummiut, have to come to some peace. We have to hurdle those problems that created us. We have to overcome the problems that we encountered in the past. Forgive it and start going forward. We have to take out that anger and make peace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Members' Statements. Member for Baffin South. Mr. Akesuk.

Member's Statement 350 – 1(6): Canada Winter Games

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also extend my condolences to the people of Cape Dorset and to the immediate family members who lost their loved one.

Just recently, there was an athletic event called the Canada Winter Games and they are still going. We have individuals from Cape Dorset who are participating as athletes and one of them was the flag bearer at the opening of the Canada Winter Games.

It is something that we are very proud of. They were David Joanasie and Mathewsie Ashevak; I congratulate them for continuing with their progression in their sport. We hope to see more and more participants. There are approximately 200 to 400 athletes from the other provinces and territories there and Nunavut had 28 athletes.

I am sure that it will provide some benefits to the youth of Nunavummiut with the exposure that we are experiencing and we hope to see more youth participating in those sporting activities provided that we show our support.

As I stated earlier, it is up to us to give them the support politically and figuratively to increase the number of participants because I am sure that it will be very beneficial to the people of Nunavut. I would like to extend my congratulations to David Joanasie and Mathewsie Ashevak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akasuk. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit Center. Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 351 – 1(6): Government of Nunavut Leadership Team

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and welcome back to all of the Members. As Mr. Picco pointed out, welcome to our Capital City of Iqaluit, to the capital of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, it was four years ago tomorrow, when we first came together in the Cadet Hall here in Iqaluit to have our first Leadership Forum.

At that time, Nunavut was a few weeks away and we were a few weeks away from formally being our own Territory. I am certain that all Members who were there, all of us and all of the members of the audience and all of the people that were listening across Nunavut can remember the excitement and the pride that we all felt on that historic date.

Mr. Speaker, nearly 1500 days have passed since we selected our first Leadership Team. Mr. Speaker, I want to emphasize the word team. As Members know and the people across Nunavut know, I have not always agreed with the decisions that our Government has made.

As a regular Member of this House, it is my privilege and my duty, and my job to speak out vocally on issues that are of concern to me and my constituents. However, I do believe that it is vital that those Members of the Legislative Assembly elected to make up our Executive Council speak publicly with a single voice.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot let ourselves be in a situation where our Government's position on certain and at times, controversial issues, is unclear. We cannot have a Leadership

Team whose members go off in different directions. We cannot have a government like that.

Mr. Speaker, nobody said that public office was going to be easy and I believe we need to respect the principal of unity and democracy and I believe that the least we can expect from our Government and our constituents can expect is that it speaks to us and to them with a single voice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Orders of the Day. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay. Minister Ng.

Member's Statement 352 – 1(6): Congratulations to Cambridge Bay Basketball Participants

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On February 21-23rd, two basketball teams from Cambridge Bay, a senior men's and junior women's team, travelled to Yellowknife to participate in the annual Cager Tournament that they have.

It's the biggest tournament that they hold and a lot of teams from all over the Northwest Territories participate. Nunavut was represented by Cambridge Bay. I would like to at this time congratulate and commend the young men and ladies from Cambridge Bay that participated in that tournament.

I would also like to add, particularly for the young ladies, the junior women's, proved to be successful in that they won the overall championship. So I think it did us proud that they represented us well during that tournament. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit East. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 353 – 1(6): Hockey Day in Canada Events

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last month, Iqaluit and Nunavut had the great pleasure of hosting CBC T.V. Hockey Day in Canada. Mr. Speaker, Hockey Night celebrities, Mr. Don Cherry and Mr. Ron McLean were joined by well known hockey alumni Ken Dryden, Mike Gardner, Wendell Clark, Paul Henderson, and of course, Mr. Speaker, my favourite former NHL star, the Chicago Black Hawks, I know Mr. Irqittuq, from Amittuq loves this guy, number 28, Steve Larmer.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to say that we were very pleased to have Jordon Tootoo's parents, Barney and Rose Tootoo here also during that week. Mr. Speaker, hockey clinics were held with the NHL players and our young people.

A charity auction and dinner was held and the hockey stars visited all the Iqaluit schools. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the NHL Hockey Players Association, several sets of hockey equipment were also donated to Nunavut communities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank CBC and a special thanks to Mr. Glenn Higgins, president of the Iqaluit Amateur Hockey Association, Mr. Mike Courtney and Mr. Ben Kovic and the Amateur Hockey Association for the excellent work that they put into the visit.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to point out that the T.V. broadcast was also simulcast into the Bell Centre in Montreal where the Joamie School Choir had an opportunity to sing Oh Canada in Inuktitut, which was seen nationally across the country of Canada.

This was a good profile for Nunavut and it demonstrated our pride and the love of our national sport here at home in Canada's newest jurisdiction. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to add that on the National Hockey League Players Association, the players that came up, Mr. Larmer, Mr. Gardner et al, were very down to earth people.

They had an opportunity to visit some homes. I had a chance to drive Mr. Dryden around and at one point, my son Pakak was getting dressed at the dressing room and he's seven years old, and I was saying come on Pak, hurry up, and Mr. Dryden came over to me and said, Mr. Picco, you must really be a big hockey fan to name your son after a puck.

And I said no his name is Pakak, look at his helmet, we call him Pak for short. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Members who also signed their names and auctioned off two Nunavut Legislative Assembly hockey sweaters that went for two thousand dollars for charities here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize some individuals as I finally have some constituency residents to recognize. First of all, Steve Audlakiak; he is the one who initiated the diving program in Qikiqtarjuaq.

And on my right, James Arreak, from my community of Clyde River. He is a business entrepreneur who was one of the first ones to start a business in our community. And another Audlakiak beside him, but I just cannot remember his first name. I would like to recognize and welcome them to the Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the Gallery. Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two residents from Arctic Bay who were here for a Search and Rescue course. Niorie Iqalukjuaq, he has been the Mayor of Arctic Bay and also he has been a councillor in our Hamlet Council and he works for Housing. As well, on his right is my nephew, Joelie Qammaniq from Arctic Bay, who also works for the Hamlet Council.

I am sure that you have heard about the North Baffin Dog team races. These two Inuit were the initiators of the race and they are still working hard at it, so I would like to welcome them to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to welcome to the Gallery a couple of people. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome the Reverend Daniel Aupaluk. Mr. Speaker, I was at a wedding Saturday night where Daniel officiated and did a very good job. And if you have an opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to be at Church on Sundays when Daniel is giving a sermon, like he did last week, I think that it would bring you back to Church on a regular basis.

Daniel has been very active in the community here in Iqaluit. He has done an excellent job for the Church, but also for the people of Iqaluit. I want to thank Daniel for a job well done.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not welcome Mr. James Arreak to the Assembly; a former MLA, business person, a very good hunter, and a guy who has given, at times, tons of very good advice to yours truly.

And sitting next to James is Jaypeetee Audlakiak. Jay used to live in Hall Beach many years when I lived in Hall Beach and I know that he is a good guy on the land. I think that he might be back in Qikiqtarjuaq now.

Maybe he is living back in Broughton, but I would like to say welcome to Jay to the Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to Nunavut's Legislature. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a person from Pond Inlet here on a Search and Rescue Course, or to be an instructor for the Search and Rescue course.

One of them from Pond Inlet is here, David Arnatsiaq. He is also a member of Search and Rescue and also a diver. Lucien Ukaliannuk, I know him as an individual. I think that he lives in Iqaluit and I would like to recognize him, because I have never had the opportunity to recognize him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to our Legislature. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Irgittuq.

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, you pronounce our names properly and Mr. Nutarak is finally Mr. Nutarak. First of all, I would like to recognize Marco Ukaliannuk, who is sitting behind me from Igloodik.

He used to live in Igloodik, but I think he is living in Iqaluit now. And further I wish to recognize my friend, Jacobie Audlakiak, who Mr. Picco thought was from Qikiqtarjuaq, we arrived from Hall Beach yesterday and he is from the same community where I am from and he is here for a course. I would like to welcome him to the Legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Even though they have been recognized, I too would like to recognize them as well. Daniel Aupaluk, when I was growing up, he used to visit our household and he is still very receptive. I thank him for his continuing hospitality and steadfastness.

And Lucien Ukalianuk, he is my father figure. This is because we have proper names, our last names run with each other so he calls me son, and because I do not have a father, I also call him dad.

When I was quite young, the first time I got a job, he was in support of my selection and in my capacity as his employee. He still supports me to this day. So I would really like to thank him at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to welcome everyone to the Legislative Assembly and I know Mr. Aupaluk because he lived in Taloyoak before. I would like to welcome each and everyone of the people who were recognized.

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. I would like to recognize Valerie Puqignak, my daughter, a Page and I would like to welcome her.

>> *Applause*

Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 349 – 1(6): RCMP Postings

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister responsible for Justice. First I wish to recognize the hard work and contributions of the police and that we are very grateful for them.

I know the RCMP move to different communities every so often, but it is really hard to see how they're going to help our communities because they tend to move to different communities every few years.

It is kind of hard for people to help the policemen in our communities because just when we are getting to know them, they are moved somewhere else. Perhaps we can talk to Ottawa, that perhaps if the police stayed longer in our communities then they could help support our young people.

I would like to ask the Minister, what could you do to get the policemen to stay in the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although I'm the Minister of the Department of Justice, I completely concur with my colleague and I will definitely talk to the RCMP about this issue. They operate through the Federal Government and their policies are also operated through there as well.

So, I agree with my colleague and we would like to make sure that we have full staff of RCMP officers within the regions and that the communities support them so I would like to state that I concur with that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Okalik. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Minister Okalik for your support of this issue. The police officers we have in Kugluktuk, our people are just starting to know them, but they are being transferred to another community in Nunavut.

I would like to see the Minister deal with this matter in all urgency so that we can be informed as to what is happening with our request to keep our officers in Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will work on this as soon as possible but I don't know for sure if I will have any say in it because as I said earlier, the RCMP manages own their affairs and the Federal Government is responsible for the RCMP in the Nunavut area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, again. I understand your response because it is hard at times to respond to an urgent matter like this, it is difficult to deal with these issues of transferral of officers.

I would like to urge the Minister to respond to this before the Officers move to another community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will look into this and I am aware of the issue that you are talking about. The Attorney General of Canada will be travelling to Nunavut to begin discussing this issue with me. I will bring that up to his attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Okalik. Member for Amittuq. Mr. Iqittuq.

Question 350 – 1(6): Number of Nurses Needed by Population in Communities

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, I was going to be bringing up a question to the Department of Health and Social Services. I think it was last year or the year before when I raised a question about the nurses within the communities and the population ratio that is used to allocate positions within communities.

We call them Isuarsaijiit in Amittuq, the nurses that work in the Health Centers. If there is a population of 1,500 in your community, is it true that they require at least five nurses for that many people or do they need more nurses? I believe that this can be answered right away, although I note that the Minister is speaking to his staff at this time.

And since we are on the subject, I wanted to raise this question. And I would like to know about the ratio and the number of nurses per community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: First of all, I want to say that the Member has been very proactive in bringing forward concerns, especially health concerns, to myself, personally and to the Department of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, there was a problem, I heard the Member's Statement, there was a problem in Igloolik, we were down to three nurses and that was causing the delay with the referrals and patients' services.

Right now, Mr. Speaker, we are up to a full complement of five nurses in Igloolik and the Member was correct. One of the things we are undergoing right now is the review of what the staffing needs are per community.

And one way of doing that is to look at it by population. The good news in Igloolik is that we have a full complement of nurses in place and that we will be able to facilitate a quicker turn around for people who want to see the nursing staff. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister saying that we will get two additional nurses within our community in the very near future? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that we were down to three nurses in Igloolik. We are now back up to a full complement of nurses in Igloolik, that is five. Five nurses at the Health Center there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are you going to be sending two more nurses to our community in the near future? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the community of Igloolik and the size, based on current projections Mr. Speaker, five is the full complement of nursing staff in the community.

However, there may be some movement with the budget that will be presented in the House which may give me the opportunity of looking at other positions. As the member knows, we're also putting extra psychiatric nurses in communities to deal with some of the issues that have been discussed already today in Members' statements.

That will add to the complement of staff in particular communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Final supplementary. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister stated earlier, that there's only three nurses in the community when there should be five, now he is saying that the number of nurses within the community is now adequate.

As I stated earlier, according to the number of nurses that we have, they have such a heavy work load that it has come to a point where it is urgent that we get additional nurses within our community.

As I would say in English, it is very urgent at this point. I think there are only three nurses that we have in our community right now. As you stated, we have a full complement of five nurses. Are you planning on sending two more then? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding again, Mr. Speaker, the Member raised this issue with me, was that we were having problems in Igloolik, with the staffing. We only had three nurses in Igloolik, and the Member is correct, the work load in Igloolik is very high.

I have had discussions with the lead people within the department on Human Resources to look at the opportunity for increased staffing. As of today, Mr. Speaker, and of the last couple of weeks, there are five positions now in Igloolik.

There were three, the Member is correct. We had increased that by two. There are now five. If I want to increase this more, I have to look at other issues on the ground in Igloolik; do I have housing for them and so on.

So, Mr. Speaker, right now, we're up to a full complement of nurses in Igloolik, the number is five. And that has been inflated over the last couple of weeks. So, that is my understanding as of today.

Mr. Speaker, what we would like to do as a department, is to increase the number of staff again, but that is reflected in the budgetary submission of the department, how much money you have to allocate for various positions and so on.

So, the Member is correct, there are five nurses, a full complement in Igloolik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member responsible for Nanulik, Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 351 – 1(6): Number of People Compensated for Bad Gas

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the Department of Finance.

Although we will be talking about bad fuel in Cape Dorset, we're patient on that subject. My question is, we get calls and letters to date in my constituency and I would like to find out how many more people are still awaiting compensation for the bad fuel we had just a little while ago. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Finance, Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there's been a total of approximately 2,200 claims that have been submitted. Of those claims, 76 percent of them have been finalized.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I should note that of those 2,200, 1,950 were prior to the deadline. So there were approximately 250 that came in just by the deadline; so of the ones that came in prior to the deadline, 85 percent of those claims that have been finalized. So there was a small amount that had been outstanding.

If there is any individual in any Constituency or they feel that their claim has not been addressed in a timely fashion, so if there was any submitted prior to December 31st, please let me know, because I understand that the bulk of those have been paid out now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to December 31st, the people who had requested returns for bad gas some have not received their refund. So of this certain percentage that has not received the funds that they have requested, when do you think that they will receive the money? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it should be a matter of weeks. There were some last payables required in some communities; I don't have the specifics on which ones. If that were the case, like I said if there was a significant backlog then we will certainly move to address that as expediently as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Can the Minister inform me, because of the people who have requested to be compensated have been waiting for a long time. They have to continue on with having machinery, such as ski-doo's and outboard motors; can the Minister inform us when you will be compensating those people who have been waiting for a long time? Will it be in the springtime, or in the summer? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I had indicated, eighty-five percent of those who have submitted claims prior to December 31st, have been paid in full in respect of compensation for their damages. For the remaining fifteen percent, it should be a matter of weeks as far as finalizing those legitimate claims that have been approved.

So if there are individuals who are out there, that the Member or any Members are aware of who have not received their payments, for whatever reasons, then certainly please bring it up to my attention, and then I will have my officials address that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Last supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has the Government, at least the Department of Finance, the responsibility or obligation to respond to the claimant, whether it is being approved or rejected? Do they have a way of ensuring that the claimant has been responded to, one way or the other? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we do through officials that are administering the program. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Orders of the Day. Oral Questions. The Member for Quttiktuq. Ms. Williams.

Question 352 – 1(6): Labour Standards Act Amendment

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

Mr. Speaker, as the Members are aware there has been an amendment to the Labour Standards Act, such as the Maternity Leave. There was an extension of Maternity Leave benefits for women. I think that it was a thirty-seven week extension for the Maternity Leave.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, it was announced in the Federal Budget last month, started new Compassionate Family Care Lease Benefit under the Federal Employment

Insurance Act will take effect on January 4th, 2004. This will cover permanent employees governed by the Government, governed by the Canada Labour Codes.

Mr. Speaker, individuals will be able to apply for this benefit and be entitled to six weeks of Employment Insurance Compassionate Family Care Leave Benefit to care for gravely ill or dying child, parent or spouse.

Mr. Speaker, my question for the Minister is has this Department looked at amending our Labour Standards Act this year to ensure that Nunavummiut will be able to take advantage of this new benefit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Justice, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is the Federal Legislation and we will have to adhere to it as it affects the people of Nunavut and the rest of Canada. As is usually the case in legislation such as this, we will carry out this program in areas of benefit to Nunavummiut. And as such, we will exercise our obligations to be open and receptive. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tunnunig. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 353 – 1(6): March is Nutrition Month

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister responsible for Health and Social Services mentioned that in his Minister's Statement about March being Nutrition month, and will deal with Nutrition issues Nunavut-wide. I want to ask if it will be promoted and pursued not just for the month of March. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Health and Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, March is Nutrition Month across Canada and the statement that we gave today was just giving an indication of some of the good work that is occurring in Nunavut with Nutrition.

The Member is correct; nutrition information is dawned everyday across Nunavut, 365 days of the year, I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that the Nunavut Food Guide, which is unique that we unveiled in this House last year is being used now as a teaching tool across Canada. And I think that is something that we here in Nunavut should be very proud of.

So, the issue of Nutrition is an ongoing thing on a day-to-day basis. The month of March is a National Month of Recognition of Nutrition issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I know that if you do not eat nutritious foods, you get sick much more easily. It is part of healthy living. The Minister made a statement about Type 2 diabetes and that people get diabetes throughout the year.

I just wondered could the Minister try to provide some good nutrition education not just in a month of March, but throughout the year by giving messages such as the examples that he gives during his Minister Statements.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the Member's support on issues around nutrition. That's one of the things that we've talked about before in this House. There are a lot of preventable diseases that are affecting Nunavummiut.

For example, tobacco causes cancer. We know that we're seeing more and more Nunavummiut die and have cancer that can be prevented. Mr. Speaker, 42 people attended a Prenatal Nutrition Program here in Iqaluit from 15 communities across Nunavut to learn more about nutrition.

Those people are actually back in their communities everyday dealing with and helping with issues around prenatal nutrition. Mr. Speaker, on the area of diabetes, we know that type 2 diabetes is caused by a life style when we eat more processed foods; we become couch potatoes as it were. We watch too much TV. We're not getting out and exercising and so on.

And so, those types of messages need to be expanded. I think right now for example, on TV, you will see commercials, Mr. Speaker, talking about issues around type 2 diabetes and how life style changes can help prevent that type of disease.

So, it's an ongoing thing and the Member is correct, it should be happening 365 days a year and that's what we aim to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In his Ministers' statement, he talked about country food such as seal, Arctic char and caribou. Are there other good nutritional country foods that are out there besides those that he listed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was starting to say igunaq, but for me, I've never found igunaq to be something that is an acquired taste for myself. But any type of country food Mr. Speaker; country food is not processed.

That means it doesn't go to a process through factories. It doesn't have salt added, MSG. Mr. Speaker, any type of country food whether it be ptarmigan, rabbit, caribou, seal, muktaaq, it doesn't matter Mr. Speaker; we maintain the Canadian Food Guide.

Also, it illustrates, as well as the Nunavut Food Guide, nutrition is recommended and has for several years, that the best types of food we can make available to ourselves is country food, whether that be land based country food or sea based country food.

So I would suggest to the Member that it runs the whole gamut from berries to muktaaq to igunaq, to caribou and so on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 354 – 1(6): Use of Agency Nurses Increased or Decreased

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, as Members probably recall, about a year and a half ago, I was questioning the Minister on the use of agency nurses by the Department of Health and Social Services.

On December 4th, I received a response from the Minister, a very good response that indicated that so far, in the first three quarters of that year, the department has spent almost \$2.3 million dollars for agency nurses in that fiscal year, 2001/2002.

I'd like to ask the Minister now if the department has increased, decreased or maintained the same level of usage of these agency nurses throughout Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, one of the major cost drivers of the deficit situation that the Department of Health and Social Services finds itself in on an annual basis is the usage of casual or agency nurses.

Those costs have increased. Mr. Speaker, what we have tried to do in cooperation with this House in 2000, as you can remember, Mr. Speaker, I tabled a Naujaat Report, consisting of twenty-three recommendations on the recruitment and the retention of nursing staff.

One of those issues was to start having our own Nursing Program, and to have our home grown talent, and so on. That is continuing, but it is going to be several years before those people can come into the workplace.

So we have had to continue to use agency nurses. We have decreased the number of agency nurses. We have been more successful, Mr. Speaker, over the last few months, in the recruitment of more indeterminate and term nurses.

So we are not in the position where we have to use as many agency nurses, which is one of the major driver costs for the health department in our deficit situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Picco. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am a little confused. The Minister had indicated the cost has increased, but the numbers have decreased. I believe that this is what he had indicated in his response.

I would like to ask the Minister has the number of agency nurses that the department is contracting and the estimated costs of those contracts for last year increased? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is just for clarification. I was trying to say that when you hire agency nurses, you pay a higher price for the agency nurses. You are paying a higher rate per hour. You also have to fly them in and fly them out. The indeterminate nurse gives you some continuity in the community.

We have put in place, as you know, a retention bonus that has had some success. We are trying to decrease the number of agency nurses that we are using. The Member used the number of \$2.3 million dollars, which is a correct number.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have the number of Agency Nurses, indeterminate, casual, and term nurses with me. However, I can make that information available to the Member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I look forward to seeing those results, those statistics. Hopefully, as the Minister had indicated that their signing bonus program has been somewhat successful. We can hope to see those numbers go down.

In regards to the signing bonus that the Minister is talking about, saying that it is somewhat successful, can the Minister indicate how many nurses have taken advantage of that signing bonus?

Whether some have, and some have not? If some are not, are we getting an indication from them as the reasons why they are not willing to sign up for that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when I tabled the Naujaat Report, on the recommendations on the recruitment and retention, which was supported by this House, and indeed by the Standing Committee on Health, it was to look at creative ways to think outside of the box as to where we can actually get out there and get indeterminate staff.

The Member is correct. We have been successful in that we have had more indeterminate staff sign up to work in Nunavut as a direct result of the signing bonus program that we have in place. The signing bonus goes to a nurse who has committed to work for the Government of Nunavut for a period of two years or more.

Mr. Speaker, the majority of our hires, the Member is correct again, have been indeterminate, and term positions. Mr. Speaker, the actual numbers I do not have with me today; but, I will have them for the Member and if necessary for the House to table, if that was the request. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Last supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I just want to clarify for the Minister that I think that it would be good to have that information before the House, to assist us in evaluating how successful that program has been, and the resources that we have allocated towards them.

I would like to ask the Minister if he has any idea, if he can give us any indication as to when he can provide us with that information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have in the past provided that information to the House, have said it in the Oral Questions in the past. Mr. Speaker, all I need to do is have it updated for this current session.

I believe the last time I reviewed it was in November, so I could have that over the next couple of days available to the Member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uquqmmiut. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 355 – 1(6): Plans for Diesel Fuel Study

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works. When I was in my community, I looked at the home heating fuel and I would like to ask the Minister if there is going to be any studies done to see if the diesel fuel in my community is of good quality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Public Works and Services, Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I am sorry. The Department of Public Works and Services have not been informed directly about the problems. But we have heard through the media about one community to date. Although we do not wish to see a problem arise like last year in your community, but we did see, I am sure the media does too, that there are some problems.

We are starting to get reports and we will deal with it and see if the diesel fuel is of good quality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): There have been fires in some of the Nunavut communities and there was a fire that broke out in our community and that brings up the question of whether the heating fuel is of good quality, because we are starting to see more and more fires due to furnace problems.

Is it possible for your Department to do a study on it before we hear of any other problems through the media or the communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There will be a study done and there was also a concern recently in Cape Dorset regarding a missing additive. Those are the only two communities that we have heard from that have problems.

If any other communities are having problems, please feel free to inform my Department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response. I will give you a further update on what is happening in our community. The bad gas that we had before did not smell good, and the diesel that we have now does not smell that good either. It seems as if you could die from just smelling it.

Speaker: Mr. Arvaluk

Question 356 – 1(6): Medical Boarding Home in Winnipeg

Mr. Arvaluk: I want to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services; the Vice President for the Keewatin Inuit Association went down to Winnipeg to see the Medical Boarding Home. I would like to ask the Minister if he had a meeting with the KIA Vice President or if he had any discussions on the issue of the Medical Boarding Home and from this Management of the Board that they do have down there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health and Social Services. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I have not heard from that person down there with Mr. Miluktuk. On the issue of the boarding home, I did hear the news story on the radio and I cannot say that we apologized to Mr. Milortuk for any inconvenience that he has experienced.

I would add, Mr. Speaker those concerns about the Winnipeg Boarding Home, have been raised in this Assembly and as the Member knows, we are in the process in about six to ten weeks, we will be opening a brand new facility, which will I believe, take care of some of the issues surrounding the Winnipeg Boarding Home. We have opened up a new boarding home in Edmonton.

Mr. Speaker, we have also added to the new boarding home in Ottawa. We are looking at the opportunities in Yellowknife and here in Iqaluit. It is an ongoing issue with the boarding homes and again, I have not been contacted directly by Donat Milortuk.

But again, on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Services we apologize again for any inconvenience that he experienced and I would be looking forward to seeing something probably in writing from the KIA on the issue around the Winnipeg Boarding Home.

And again, we would hope that that those would rectified in the coming weeks as we move forward with the opening of the new facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister telling me that before the new boarding homes are opened, there is nothing he can do to instruct the contractor to have the staff providing better treatment to the patients? Is he saying that that cannot be done now? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is not what I said, Mr. Speaker, I was asked if I had been contacted directly, have I had a meeting with Mr. Miluktuk on the

issue. I responded, I have not, I have not received any official notification on the allegations that I heard on the radio.

I would entertain, you know, any information forthcoming and I apologized on behalf of the department for those issues.

I have not seen anything clarifying exactly other than what I have heard from the radio on the concerns that were raised. I have said, Mr. Speaker, in the House in the past as well as just now that the issue surrounding the Winnipeg Boarding Home have come forward and that is one of the reasons why we have been moving expeditiously to have the new home opened.

And that would also include looking at some of the staffing issues that the Member has raised. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Supplementary. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the Minister is contacted by the KIA on the observation of treatment of the patients in boarding homes, will he put in an interim measure to ensure that these patients are properly treated while they are staying in the boarding home? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, let me clarify first of all, that all patients who travel to and from Nunavut to a boarding home, whether it be here in Iqaluit, in the Northwest Territories, in Alberta or Ontario, or Manitoba, where we run boarding homes, Mr. Speaker, the patient care, their safety and their wellbeing has to be first and foremost.

If there are indications or allegations of procedures or occurrences that have not met those specifications, if I could have those in writing, explaining when, the dates and so on, then we will act on it.

In this case Mr. Speaker, all I have heard to date in the office is what I heard on the radio, the concerns being raised by the vice president of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. I have not received communication in writing yet or even a phone call from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association explaining what actually occurred.

So, until that's done, until that time, we would want to be able to be informed about the allegations and look into it to make sure that it doesn't occur again. And I want to assure Nunavummiut that if there's something that is happening, if they haven't been treated properly or fairly, then they can communicate that directly to the Minister, the Minister's staff and we will take care of it; we will look into it.

And Mr. Speaker, I want to also add, that we do from time to time have concerns raised about people staying in boarding homes. It's not something new or unique and that's why we're able to look at them.

Again with some of the Members, we had an opportunity to review the Yellowknife Boarding Home a couple of weeks ago, as well as the one in Edmonton because of some of those concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Last supplementary. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's already my last supplementary question, but the time is not moving very much.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, last year when this issue came up, the Minister stated that he has placed a Health and Social Services staff member to monitor the activities or possible mistreatment.

Mr. Tootoo accused the boarding home of reheating the previous meals, food stuff, etc. When he heard the news, the department did not call up the staff in Winnipeg and find out what was going on rather than trying to get confirmation from the KIA? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the concerns that were raised previously in the House which pertain to the Winnipeg Boarding Home directly, where for instance, Mr. McLean, had raised an issue for example of rodents, of mice being present in the facility.

Mr. Speaker, there were concerns with a drug deal that had supposedly occurred very close to the facility itself. There were concerns with some alcohol and so on. Mr. Speaker, the allegations or the information that was on the radio last week, again, I have not received something officially on that.

Every time I hear something on the radio Mr. Speaker, you review it and look into it. I can say to you that there has been some work done on behalf and for the department in regards to the Winnipeg Boarding Home.

The Member is correct, there may be employees working for the government involved in that boarding home. We are aware of some of the instances that are occurring. Specifically I was asked by the Member if I had been contacted or if I had received any information directly from the KIA or the vice-president.

I responded that I have not. Like I said before, I entertained that opportunity to review those allegations and then do a formal review of the situation and the instance that has been focussed on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Iqittuq.

Question 357 – 1(6): Procedures and Services for Remanded Prisoners in Communities

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think he will try to answer this as well. Mr. Speaker, a problem keeps arising with the justice process and we have to try to resolve these problems we are facing.

These issues arose prior to us becoming a government and it will continue to present a problem, but here in Nunavut we have to deal with these issues. I will be posing some questions to the Minister of Justice on this matter.

It has been a problem from let us see, since approximately 1997, 1998 perhaps, the individuals facing charges in the court system in the communities, what is the procedure when they are sent outside of the community to another without access to the Correctional Centre?

There are more and more individuals who are being sent to Hall Beach, probably to other communities as well. When they are sent outside, especially to outpost camps, what is the procedure? It seems that they are just dropped off to the community and nothing else is done.

I know for a fact of a situation where a person who was supposed to be staying with relatives was kicked out and no longer had a place to stay and I found that person at the store with no place to go, although that person has relatives in town. Those types of situations require more logistical planning. Has there been any type of planning in this regard? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): I am trying to be patient here. Minister responsible for Justice. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the first that I have heard of this. I have not heard of this before and I would not like to see this followed anywhere within Nunavut. There are procedures and regulations that have to be followed prior to a person being sent outside of their communities.

They are housed in individual homes and before that, they inspect the homes and their operations. This is prior to the individual being sent out. I would not like to see this happen anywhere and every time we hear about complaints, we look into them and if they need to be rectified then we will try to rectify the problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your last Supplementary, Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, this incident happened and I am surprised that the government is not aware of this situation. This has been ongoing for many years. It is because Inuit have patiently tried to correct the situation but the communities have many similar cases and incidents that have not been dealt with.

When you are going to be sending an individual to Yellowknife or Ottawa, how well are you going to watch the remand prisoner? That is the context that I am trying to use, what with this situation existing for many years, and it being the first time that this government has heard of this.

There are all sorts of problems that are cropping up, especially with the lack of proper facilities. As I stated before, this situation has happened before, it is happening today and it will continue to happen.

Mr. Speaker, I heard that the Minister was going to ask for a review, perhaps he can have it start right in Hall Beach as to how many cases there are and what the situation is today.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have never heard about this incident. We can look into this operation and get back to the Member later. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): What is the situation with the remand prisoners? What is the process for their travel outside of a community?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Minister for Justice. Hon. Paul Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): We do inspections of the people, the homes where the person will be staying and where they have asked for assistance, and then we try to meet their requests especially where we have to meet regulations.

We also offer training and when we are told of untoward things occurring, we will conduct a review of the operation and then close them down if there is no alternative.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Okalik. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The premier stated that they conduct reviews of the places prior to placement. In regards to this person in question, I

will not name names here, but the situation was that they had this person who wanted to baby sit their kids and he was allowed to baby sit.

This is how ignorant we are about these people, the person was later found out to not be allowed in the presence of children under the age of fourteen as that person was an abuser. They were not supposed to be alone with any children. That is how scary a situation can become. Is this what the premier means by researching a placement home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. When we are finally told about these kinds of incidents and problems, we can then begin our review and if there was anything untoward that happened, then we can rectify the situation.

In regards to this particular situation that the Member is alluding to, I have never heard about it and I appreciate the Member for bringing this to me. It is only when I have been told about these situations that I can look for solutions to this issue.

From what I can gather, this situation occurred a number of years ago; perhaps if the Member had notified us earlier, we would have been able to deal with the situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Center. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 358 – 1(6): Heating Fuel Concerns and Reports

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products. Mr. Speaker, recently and as Minister Ng just finished indicating earlier on in the House, they are getting to the end of compensation from the bad gas that was delivered throughout Nunavut.

And, the last couple of weeks there have been reports in the media of bad heating fuel in certain communities. I would like to ask the Minister is his Department doing anything as a result of the report to look into and determine if there is an issue that we need to worry about with regards to the heating fuel? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Public Works and Services. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to his question, one community to date has reported experiencing bad home heating fuel and that there were questions about their heating fuel and that is only one community that has reported that kind of issue or incident.

At this time, we are not too sure what the real cause of the problem is with the heating fuel. There was only one community that has reported so far. I can't respond to the questions at this time about this; however there are tests being done.

My colleague, Mr. Irqittuq, had asked that question, if the communities have concerns about their heating fuel, please do not hesitate to report that to our department.

I said the same thing to Mr. Iqaqrialu, so please report it right away. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I recall the Minister's response to Mr. Iqaqrialu's questions earlier.

I guess in light of the predicament that this government found itself in with the bad gas, with this coming out, is the department doing anything to look into it or is it just going to sit and wait for people to complain to the department that they have problems with their fuel? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member for Cape Dorset informed me a little while ago that there is testing being done on heating fuel at this time.

My department is doing their best to try to look into the reports that we have been receiving. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So, Mr. Speaker, then can I assume that I understand the Minister correctly that the department is just sitting and waiting for, I understand that the, community of Cape Dorset is getting some tests done on their heating fuel but that the department is doing nothing except just waiting to get the results back from a community that has concerns and that they aren't doing anything to take a look at the potential problem itself. Is that what he's indicating? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I'm saying is that we haven't really received any results of the tests that are being done in Cape Dorset.

So, we can't really say or do anything unless we find out the results of the tests. We will deal with it once we find out what is wrong with the fuel.

What we're doing is that we're waiting for the results. We will deal with it once we find out what's wrong with it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions, question period is now over. Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 005 – 1(6): Request for Proposals

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my written question is for the Minister Responsible for Public Works and Services, Mr. Kattuk.

As Members are aware, one of the issues that were raised in the past in the House and with the Auditor General is on openness and transparency of the government. Also the government to provide a listing of contracts and RFPs that have been awarded.

Mr. Speaker, my written question to the Minister responsible for administering the NNI policy is:

- A. What entities submitted proposals in response to each of the following Government of Nunavut RFPs?
- B. What entities were awarded contracts pursuant to each of the following Government of Nunavut RFPs?
- C. What is the value of the contracts awarded to each of the following RFPs?

Mr. Speaker, I'll read a few of them, and then I'll ask that the rest of them be tabled as read. There's quite a lengthy list of RFPs that have been issued.

The first department is the Department of Sustainable Development. The title of the RFP is:

- Translation of Seventeen Environmental Guidelines from English to Inuktitut.
- The Development of Interpreters Theme and Resource Files for the proposed Kivalliq Visitor Centre.
- Interpretive Trails and Signage Plan for a Historic site in Ijiriliq Territorial Park in Rankin Inlet.
- The Development and Delivery, Senior Wildlife Officer Development Workshops throughout Nunavut.
- The Soper Heritage River Ten-Year Review Kimmirut, Nunavut.

The Department of Community Government and Transportation:

- The Nunavut Air Terminal Buildings Conduct CEAA Environmental Assessment Screening and Related Training

- Community Aerodrome Radio Station (CARS) Services – Qikiqtarjuaq Airport, Nunavut.
- Community Aerodrome Radio Station (CARS) Services – Pangnirtung Airport, Nunavut.
- Hall Beach Airport Maintenance and Operations
- Air Terminal Building Design, Coral Harbour, Gjoa Haven, Pond Inlet
- Develop “Restricted to Nunavut Driver’s Manual” and Tests, Nunavut
- Deep Sea Port and All Weather Road Study Kimmirut, Nunavut

For the Department of Education:

- Employment Services Training – Labour Market Development Agreement
- Bookkeeping Services District Education Authorities Qikiqtani School Operations

Mr. Speaker, I will quit there, and ask that the rest of them be considered, entered into the record as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

- Program Review Focus Group

Department of Health and Social Services

- Pediatric Dentistry Services for Baffin Region RFP number Health and Social Services 134665-113102
- Hospital Pharmacy Support Services, Baffin Region RFP number HSS 013103-134718
- Operation of: Children’s Group Homes – Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet, Nunavut Adult Group Homes – Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet, Nunavut
- Operation of an Adult Group Home located in Iqaluit, Nunavut
- Operation of an Adult Group Home located in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut
- Operation of a Children’s Group Home located in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut
- Operation of a Children’s Group Home located in Iqaluit, Nunavut
- Committees of Council – Board Training for Nunavut Region, RFP number HSS 134665-113102
- Committees of Council – Board Training for Nunavut Region, RFP number HSS 134655-113102
- Diabetes Social Marketing Video Nunavut Diabetes 1309
- Primary Health Care Transition: Multi-year Proposal Development for Nunavut RFP # Primary 2208

Nunavut Housing Corporation

- Relocation of Residential Housing Units Nanisivik, Nunavut

Department of Public Works and Services

- Eastern Arctic Resupply of Dry Cargo
- Bulk Fuel Facilities Upgrade/Code Compliance – Resolute Bay

Department of Human Resources

- GN Communications Strategy RFP
- Employee Orientation CD ROM for Government of Nunavut Employees
- Relocation of GN Employees Household Effects Baffin, Kivalliq, and Kitikmeot Regions, Nunavut
- Employment Systems Review, Nunavut

Department of Justice

- Evaluation of the Nunavut Community Constable Program and the Inuit Policing Program

Nunavut Development Corporation

- Marketing Study – Cambridge Bay Fish and Meat Processing Plant

Nunavut Tourism Association

- Update NunavutTourism.com website
- Northwest Passage Legacy Project

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to ask if the Members agree that the Written Questions be entered into the record as read? Thank you.

Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 7. Written Questions. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Minister Picco.

Item 8: Returns to Written Questions

Return to Written Question 002 – 1(6): Medical Records for Miners from Rankin Inlet Nickel Mine

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was asked by Mr. McLean on November the 20th, 2002, about the records for the miners at the Rankin Inlet Mine Number 002(16).

Mr. Speaker, in regards to leukemia, it is now determined through research that this illness now points towards a viral cause. Mr. Speaker, in response to part one of the question posed by Mr. McLean, no list of miners for the 1950's, and the 1960's exists in the Government of Nunavut Department of Health and Social Services. However, you may wish to contact the Chief of Mine Safety for the Workers Compensation Board.

In regards to part two of the questions and based on investigation and research into the question, here is the following response, Mr. Speaker. If a miner sought care from the local Health Centre then their Health records would be maintained. Those records from this period are now archived.

It is the Rankin Inlet's Nickel Mine who had the responsibility of routine monitoring of Health Records for these miners. Please note that the records made during this period are unlike the current standards of today.

If records existed, it is viable that an audit or a study of the chart could be possible and carried out to evaluate the occurrences of cancer. It would be impossible to audit all miners' charts if they existed. Furthermore the exercise of pinpointing cancer rates or any other related illnesses could be improbable.

The correlation of illnesses for the mine would not be an exact determination due to other possible risk factors in a person's life. For example, smoking, drinking, and poor diet, etc. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Return to Written Questions 004 – 1(6): Vacant GN Positions in Regional Decentralized Centres and Communities

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the Return to Written Question 004-1(6). Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to 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. Irqittuq.

Item 12: Report of Committee on the Review of Bills

Report 010 – 1(6): Bill 23-An Act to Amend the Cities, Towns and Villages Act

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 23, an Act to Amend the Cities, Towns and Villages Act has been reviewed by Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development and that the Bill as amended is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(5) and have Bill 23 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member is asking for unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(5) and have Bill 23 and 24 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Irqittuq.

Report 011 – 1(6): Bill 24-An Act to Amend the Hamlet Act

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 24, an Act to Amend the Hamlet Act, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development and that the bill as amended is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68 (5) and have Bill 24 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. All in favour?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 12: Reports of the Committees on Review of Bills. Reports of the Committee on Review of Bills. Item 13: Tabling of Documents. Mr. Okalik.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 074 – 1(6): GN Response to the SC on Government Operations and Services Review of Annual Report (2000/2001)

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following documents; the government response to the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services Review of the Annual Report 2000-2001 of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Item 13: Tabling of Documents. Mr. Akesuk.

Tabled Document 075 – 1(6): GN Response to SC on the March 2002 Review of the 2000-2001 Annual Report of the Language Commissioner

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: I wish to table the following document. The Government of Nunavut's response to the Standing Committees, March 2002 Review of the 2000-2001 Annual Report on the Language Commissioner of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akesuk. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Clerk.

Tabled Document 076 – 1(6): Response to Petition 005 – 1(6): Swimming Pool – Repulse Bay

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the Response to Petition 005-1 (6). Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Item 13. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 14: Notices of Motions**Motion 015 – 1(6): Tabled Document 030 – 1(6) (Mental Health Strategy) to Committee of the Whole – Notice**

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, March the 6th, 2003, I will move the following motion. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Kugluktuk that Tabled Document 030-1(6) Addictions and Mental Health Strategy be moved to Committee of the Whole and I would like to get unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker, to deal with this today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Notices of Motions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Motion 016 – 1(6): Review of Bill 12, Human Rights Act be Extended – Notice

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, March the 6th, 2003, I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Amittuq that notwithstanding Rule 68(1), the Report of the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit on the Review of Bill 12, Human Rights Act, be extended until such time as the Committee has concluded its review.

And, Mr. Speaker, later on today, I will be asking to deal with my motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Can you please pass the copy of your notice to the closest table? Notice of Motion. Item 14. Mr. Tootoo.

Motion 017 – 1(6): Honourable Jack Anawak be Removed as a Member of the Executive Council – Notice

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, March 6th, I will move the following motion: Whereas the Legislative Assembly and the Executive Council Act provides that Members of the Executive Council hold Office at the pleasure of the Legislative Assembly.

Therefore, I am move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Kugluktuk, that the Honourable Jack Anawak be removed as the Member of the Executive Council. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Can you give us a copy of your Notice of Motion? Item 14. Notice of Motion. Item 15. Notice of Motion for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 16: Motions

Motion 016 – 1(6): Review of Bill 12 – Human Rights Act

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Amittuq that notwithstanding rule 68 (1), the Report of the Standing committee, Ajauqtiit, on the review of Bill 12, Human Rights Act, be extended until such time as the Committee has concluded it's review.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Agreed? The motion is carried. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I would like to receive unanimous consent to deal with my motion.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking for unanimous consent. Any nays? Please proceed.

Motion 015 – 1(6): Tabled Document 030 – 1(6) (Mental Health Strategy) to Committee of the Whole

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Member for Kugluktuk, that Tabled Document 030 - 1(6) in regards to addictions and mental health strategy be dealt with during Committee of the Whole. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Agreed. Opposed. The motion is carried. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters.

In our caucus meeting this morning we agreed that we will not go into committee of the whole today. I just wanted to comment on that.

Item 20. Committee of the Whole. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Quirke.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Meeting of the regular caucus tomorrow morning at 10:00 in the Natsiq Room.

Orders of the Day for Wednesday, March 5th, 2003:

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. Notice of Motion
15. Notice of Motion for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 23 and Bill 24
 - Minister's Statement 095 - 1 (6)
 - Tabled Document 030 - 1 (6)
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Quirke. This session stands adjourned for today. We will convene again tomorrow on March 5, 2003 at 1:30 in the afternoon.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 15.37 p.m.*

