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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Iqaluit Centre)

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday March 10, 2003

Members Present:

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

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Mr. O'Brien): I would like to call on Mr. Alakannuark to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 116 - 1(6): Anti-tobacco Activist in Iqaluit

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you a very special visitor to the gallery. This woman is an activist and an inspiration. A woman, who has brought attention to one of the deadliest, yet most insidious of all workplace hazards, so let me introduce to you Heather Crowe. Heather joins us here as part of her cross-Canada campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of second-hand smoke.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Crowe has never smoked, yet she has lung cancer as a result of the second-hand smoke she was exposed to during her 40 years as a waitress. As a result the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board accepted her insurance claim in compensation for workplace exposure to second hand smoke.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Crowe in a selfless act of courage is using her illness to raise awareness so that others won't face the kinds of dangers she was exposed to during her working life.

Mr. Speaker, while in Iqaluit she will meet with various groups to discuss issues around second hand smoke and will make a public presentation at Inuksuk High School.

Mr. Speaker, she is accompanied by Dr. Neil Collishaw of the Physicians for Smoke Free Canada. Mr. Speaker, at lunch today, we had an opportunity, the Members, the Mayor of Iqaluit, the Deputy Mayor of Iqaluit and many of the councillors to talk about the proactive stand against second hand smoke.

And the good work, the leading edge work that this government has done on anti-tobacco programming and hopefully in the next two weeks, anti-tobacco legislation.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself as Minister of Health and Mr. Ng, responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board, we really would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Crow for bringing her message to Nunavut and to thank her very much and God speed to her on her message of heartfelt sincerity and courage to the young people of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Welcome to the gallery Ms Crow and Doctor. Welcome to Nunavut. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk

Minister's Statement 117 - 1(6): Nunavut Teachers' Conference

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome you all. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to announce the 2002/2003 Teachers' Conferences being held in the three regions of Nunavut.

It is expected that most of the approximately 600 teachers in Nunavut will have participated in the four regional conferences by the time they end. Teachers who work in various communities organized the conferences. The dedication and hard work that our educators put into these conferences are examples of the extra work they do for our students during their own time outside school hours.

"Katinngaaqtut", which was held in Baker Lake in the Kivalliq region during the week of February 17 to 21, 2003. Guest keynote speaker, Hetty Van Gurp spoke on the theme of "Peaceful Schools".

"Atauttimut Havakugut", which was the theme for the Kivalliq region held in Cambridge Bay during the week of February 24th to the 28th. The keynote speaker was the well-known scientist and environmentalist, Mr. David Suzuki who spoke on the theme of "The Sacred Balance". Ms. Linda Millar addressed the theme of "Children and the Media".

"Tusartuut", was the theme for the Northern Baffin region conference held in the week of March 3 to 7 in Resolute Bay. Nunavut's Language Commissioner, Ms. Eva Aariak, addressed the theme of "Language, Culture, and Education".

Mr. Speaker, the South Baffin region's convention is being held this week in Iqaluit with "Tausiiqatigiit" as the theme. Keynote speaker, Zebedee Nungak of Nunavik will address the theme of "Inuit Language, Culture and Schools". We also have Dr. Gordon Neufeld who addressed the theme of "Reaching Out to Kids". Nunavut's Languages Commissioner, Ms. Eva Aariak addressed the theme of "Language, Culture and Education". Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 118 - 1(6): Sealskin Sales and Production

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And Good afternoon colleagues and people out there in TV land.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that my department operates a program called the Fur Price Program. The objectives of this program are to introduce Nunavut sealskins as a sustainable by-product of traditional harvesting practices. Since we started this program, the auction sale price for Nunavut sealskins increased from less than \$20 in the mid-1990s to the current price of more than \$60 per skin.

I am pleased to advise my colleagues today that as a result of our efforts, we have experienced another exceptional year of sealskin sales. At the December 2002 Fur Auction held in North Bay Ontario, sales figures surpassed the \$500 thousand mark. Nearly 10,000 skins were sent to auction. Both sales figures and volume represent 10-year highs for the sealskin industry in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to say that our activities in the sealing industry are not limited to the harvesting sector. We support the development of the "Nunavut Inuit Collection", which is a collection of high-end sealskin garments produced here in Nunavut and displayed each spring at the North American Fur and Fashion Exposition in Montreal.

We are also providing promotional support to artists like Lucie Idlout, who wears Nunavut sealskins while hosting her television show "Buffalo Tracks". We provided a number of sealskin garments to Lucie during her first year on the set of Buffalo Tracks and we will be looking to provide further support to her during the upcoming year.

Mr. Speaker, our garments have also been seen around the world in cities like Munich, Berlin, Moscow and Beijing. We will continue this promotion over the upcoming year with events like the Team Canada Trade Mission trip planned for Milan, Italy.

Mr. Speaker, we will continue to aggressively promote new market opportunities for Nunavut sealskins in both harvesting and production sectors of our industry. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister Kilabuk.

Minister's Statement 119 - 1(6): Income Support Information Campaign

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform my colleagues about the Income Support Information Campaign that has been initiated by my department.

We heard during the Income Support policy Review that many people did not understand the program or did not know what was available through the program to help them. The series of information materials are aimed at informing Nunavummiut about the Programs available under Income Support. These materials are the first step in meeting our commitment and obligation under the Bathurst Mandate to inform people about the programs that they can access, while supporting them in their progress towards self-reliance.

The materials include an informational kit with an Income Support Booklet plus five pamphlets. The pamphlets cover topics such as programs for seniors, programs in support of children, training initiatives, participants and work rights, and responsibilities, and general program information.

I am sure that Nunavummiut, especially the Income Support participants, will find the materials both informative and helpful.

I would like to invite you to view the posters that are on display in the Lobby. They depict Nunavummiut engaging in productive choices and training initiatives, the pride and traditions of our seniors, and caring for our future by supporting families.

The information materials have been sent to the three regional offices of Career and Early Childhood Services for distribution to Income Support Offices across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Ministers' Statements. Minister Kattuk.

Minister's Statement 120 - 1(6): Dry Cargo Contracts

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Seven companies have requested and received Requests for Proposal packages for the sealift services of dry cargo to the Baffin and Kivalliq communities. Five of these companies attended a proponent's information session in January, and three of these companies submitted proposals.

The review and evaluation of these proposals is now complete and I am pleased to announce the new Dry Cargo contract for the Baffin and Kivalliq communities.

(Interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, a contract for dry cargo sealift services to Baffin communities, with the exception of Iqaluit, will be awarded to Nunavut Eastern Arctic Shipping (NEAS).

NEAS is a Nunavut Firm and Inuit firm registered with NTI with a great deal of experience of operating in the North, I am confident that they will provide excellent service to Baffin communities.

Mr. Speaker, the contract for dry cargo sealift services to the Kivalliq communities and Iqaluit will be awarded to Nunavut Sealink and Supplies Incorporated, NSSI.

NSSI is also a Nunavut firm and Inuit firm registered with NTI. With a solid background in serving the North, I believe NSSI will provide excellent service to the Kivalliq and Iqaluit.

These new contracts will maintain the shipping frequency and high level of service that Nunavut communities deserve while providing savings to a number of communities. We have worked hard to include and to secure the best service at the best price because this is what Nunavummiut deserve.

Mr. Speaker, these new contracts mean a change in how communities receive their cargo. All cargo will now be shipped from Montreal. The comprehensive pamphlet highlighting cargo rates, sailing schedules, and contract information for the new dry cargo carriers will be distributed later this week.

In the meantime, an information sheet will be provided to all Members of the Legislative Assembly's, hamlets, media, community residents and Winnipeg suppliers. A Public Service Announcement will be available to radio broadcasts in all communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Ministers' Statements, are there any further Minister Statements? Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 373 – 1(6): Education System Concerns

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today regarding the education system in Nunavut. I have risen in this House often about my concerns with the education system within Nunavut.

A lot of Nunavummiut have just dropped out from school and once they drop out of school, they have nothing to do. Why is it like that? Is it because the education system is failing Nunavummiut?

If the education system were adequate, we would not see as many dropouts and I think it is time we look into this matter. A lot of people who have dropped out have committed suicide and it is hard for us as Nunavummiut.

As parents, the rearing of our children takes much less time on the child's life than it used to and that is the reason why we should look into it as to why the education system is failing our kids. The future of Nunavummiut, of our loved ones has to be more positive.

I am glad to hear the Minister say in the House today that the teachers will be having a convention in Iqaluit to deal with these matters.

I would like more attention paid to Inuit participants of this conference to ensure that the Education Act and the education system that is foreign to Inuit is examined, that it is set aside and listen to the needs of what Nunavummiut want. It is very important because it is preparing the lives of our young Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Member's Statement 374 – 1(6): McClintock Channel Polar Bear Moratorium

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad to rise today and welcome you back, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on an issue of great concern to my constituents in Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak. Please bear with me if I pass my time.

All Members know that there has been a moratorium for some time on polar bear hunting in the McClintock Channel.

Mr. Speaker, as an Inuk, I understand the principles of conservation. I want my children and my grandchildren to be able to hunt polar bears long into the future and to not just see them in a zoo down south.

Mr. Speaker, there is a problem with a moratorium that does not adequately respect Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, which has always been the controversial issue with the Inuit hunters. I reiterate that Inuit have been observing the polar bears of the McClintock Channel for many generations.

Almost exactly a year ago, I rose in this House in the same spot where I am sitting today to tell Members about field work in the channel to conduct a survey of polar bear activity in the area. At that time, I was hopeful that a solid timeline for polar bear recovery in the McClintock Channel would be reached.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am receiving letters from the Gjoa Haven Hunters and Trappers Organization asking for clarification of the current situation in the McClintock Channel.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the process leading up to and following the moratorium has not been transparent and clear.

I do not think that we should blindly trust the results of a biological study that has not been finalized yet. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude the statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, my Colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I believe there should be more transparency in the decision making process by the Department of Sustainable Development, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

These Organizations will be doing more community consultations in the near future. However, Mr. Speaker, it is not clear what will follow these consultations at this time as we are still in the dark. At the appropriate time, I will be asking the Minister of Sustainable Development questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 375 – 1(6): Caribou Hunt at Coral Harbour - Waste of Antlers and Hooves

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past week, I mentioned it and asked the Premier questions regarding the economic opportunities in the communities, particularly those communities that have not benefited from decentralization and what initiatives, specifically funding, will be made available to these communities and what planning has occurred?

This is following the line of questioning, the Premier said to the residents of Chesterfield Inlet and Coral Harbour that these non-decentralized communities will receive assistance from the Government to fund economic and job opportunities. It is now roughly three years since that statement, but as of today, we have yet to see evidence of this promise by the Premier occurring in these communities.

At this point, I would like to speak on the possible economic opportunities existing in these communities. For example, the caribou hunt in Coral Harbour, is close to 3,500 commercial tags, 6,000 being the limit. Then you realize that 3,500 caribou hides are just discarded. Another 3,500 pairs of antlers, adding up to 7,000 antlers that are just thrown away.

Mr. Speaker, I have seen some nice carvings here in Iqaluit that were made out of caribou hooves. We did not realize that 56,000 hooves from these caribou are simply thrown away. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was almost done. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues. The Minister for Education responsible for Income Support spoke of an information campaign. Through the Income Support Program, they provide \$22 million dollars on that Program.

Through that Program, I think that is a direction that they can take in my community with the Department of Sustainable Development mentioning that they can receive proposals from the people of Coral Harbour.

There are only 700 people in Coral Harbour and we do not have the administrative support that can make it possible to come up with proposals from these communities or market studies that can be done with these communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Ms. Williams.

Member's Statement 376 – 1(6): Appreciation of Ottawa Medical Boarding Home Staff

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to extend my gratitude and a good news item, because we rarely do that.

I was in Ottawa at the Boarding Home and was escorting my mother. I would like to thank that staff down there at the Baffin Larga Home, Trudy Metcalfe, Jessica Babshaw, Ursula Reddon, Lena Barnes-Alivaktak, Jessie Kanguq, Linda Uviluq, Malachi Kiguttaq, Oleepa Brown, Regilee Amaaq, Joe Sharfield, Oleepeeka Shoo, Jason Taqaugak, Sateana and Clement Goupil, Rayhill Mache', Jonah Kanguk, Ahme Pee, Sarah Birmingham, originally from Iqaluit, and I thank her, Jeannie Korgak, Corinne Philips, Sarah Thompson, Carol Morris, and Rodney Cornell.

They were very supportive of the patients who go down to Ottawa. They feed them, and give them the necessary support for the Baffin region's patients. I extend my thank you to all of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 377 – 1(6): Expected Priorities of Budget Address

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to talk about what I hope to hear in tomorrow's Budget Address. Tomorrow is the only day when we actually lock people into the Legislative Assembly tomorrow morning. I am sure that they are all looking forward to it.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that although there is a shortage of resources in Nunavut, there is no shortage of our needs in our communities. For four years now, we have talked about this in the House, about priorities.

For me, the priorities I want to hear addressed in tomorrow's budgets speeches are clear. I want to hear a real commitment to meeting the human needs in the areas of housing, education, and health care.

Mr. Speaker, last week we discussed the crisis of suicide in Nunavut. I want to repeat what I said during that debate. We need to give our young people hope. We can begin to do that by putting our scarce dollars in areas I just described.

Adequate housing and good education, quality health care are all necessary in order to achieve our goal of a territory that is characterized by self-reliant individuals living in healthy, prosperous communities.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to touch a little on what I do not want to hear in tomorrow's budget speech. I do not want to hear that the department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth has no resources for youth projects.

I do not want to hear that we have more dollars for the department of Human Resources or other central agencies but with fewer dollars for our teachers in our classrooms.

I do not want to hear that the size of the bureaucracy is going to mushroom while the frontline employees we already have on the job have to fight tooth and nail for a fair collective agreement.

Mr. Speaker, it is also important that the tomorrow's budget presents to us, the elected Members of the Legislative Assembly with a clear picture of Nunavut's fiscal position.

I've spoken before in this House to the mysterious and magical way in which the Government's deficit seemed to turn into surpluses and then back into deficits.

Our Members of the Legislative Assembly are entitled to information that is presented in a consistent and transparent fashion, on real fiscal positions. We need this information to make necessary decisions for the good of our constituents and communities.

I would like to close by saying, I am looking forward to tomorrow's budget speech and I hope that the expectations of our public are met. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 378 – 1(6): Cost of Living Increase

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak on the rising cost of living for Nunavummiut and the hardships we face in trying to meet our basic needs and this is becoming a major concern.

It is especially harder for those people who own their homes and are forced to cut corners to ensure that they keep up with these living costs. Sometime people undergo severe stress due to these pressures and it affects them profoundly. Our people are deliberating these issues daily.

Regarding the higher cost of living, for everything from groceries to transportation a lot of people find it hard to make ends meet, especially without regular income. And as well, a lot of Nunavummiut are concerned about the lack of employment in the communities which adds to the concerns on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, how can we initiate economic opportunities in our communities and where can we market the arts and crafts in Nunavut? It is very hard for a lot of Nunavummiut and the majority of the people are suffering. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to mention this again. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Alakannuark. Members' Statements. Mr. Akasuk. Minister Picco.

Member's Statement 379 – 1(6): Inauguration of Air Labrador

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday Air Labrador inaugurated a direct flight from Goose Bay, Labrador to Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, several dignitaries were on hand to greet the inaugural flight. As well, Air Labrador hosted a buffet for those present at the Iqaluit Airport Terminal.

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Wally Anderson, an Inuk Minister from the Newfoundland and Labrador Government, Labrador Business people and the President of the Goose Bay Area Chamber of Commerce were also present at the arrival.

This flight opens the possibility for more trade, commerce, tourists, and goods to be imported and exported, Mr. Speaker, north and south. It will also provide a connection with the capital of St. Johns, and it will further enhance the links between the Labrador Inuit Association and Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the development of Voisey's Bay, the continued mineral exploration in the Baffin region, and other possible developments may have a positive economic impact on our region. Having this route in place may enhance this, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I know that several Iqaluit residents who were present at the airport last Saturday, as well as local business people were optimistic that this route could open up other possible air routes within the Circumpolar North, Iqaluit, and Nunavut.

I want to take this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, take this opportunity to thank Air Labrador, and especially the owners of Air Labrador, Ward and Roger Pike, for their vision and interest in Iqaluit and in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 380 – 1(6): Kivalliq Dry Cargo Contract

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to see you back. Welcome back. I would like to welcome everyone. I think due to the blizzard the Gallery is getting full with visitors.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak in regards to Peter Kattuk's Ministers' Statement. In regards to this issue of dry cargo, the Kivalliq residents have been very interested in the issuance of the dry cargo contract to the Kivalliq communities. My colleague, Minister Kattuk made a Ministers' Statement in regards to the dry cargo contract.

Mr. Speaker, in his opening comments, he spoke about the dry cargo sealift services to the Baffin and the Kivalliq and he outlined what people can expect with this new contract. He stated that it will come out of Montreal and if his statement was properly understood, he outlined the ships that will be providing this service to the communities in the Kivalliq.

He stated that this company has a great deal of experience of operating in the North, he is confident that they will provide excellent services to the communities, including lower costs especially in the Kivalliq, because the region has been quite concerned about this contract.

Also the Minister stated that our cargo will now be shipped from Montreal. This was a concern by the Kivalliq region and the Mayors of my riding. In his Ministers' Statements, it was quite interesting to hear about the dry cargo contract so that communities will know when the cargo ship will be arriving.

Also they will provide announcements through the Hamlet and media. MLAs also will provide announcements to the Winnipeg suppliers; Public Service Announcements will be made on the radio. The Kivalliq residents are expecting to hear the news, because they are quite concerned about the dry cargo operation.

My colleague made a very wonderful Ministers' Statement, and his staff and his officials will elaborate to the Kivalliq communities on whether we will still be purchasing from Winnipeg or another city and whether these costs will actually be lower to ship them to Montreal.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my appreciation briefly to the Member so therefore I am seeking unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to see this decision proceed smoothly. I know that the Kivalliq Region will want to order their goods from Winnipeg because they know their suppliers and are used to ordering from Winnipeg suppliers.

In the past, the shipper would ship it on the train from Winnipeg to Churchill and it is distributed by barge from Churchill and we want to know the changes in the operations, both logistically and figuratively. The Minister stated that he will provide announcements and updates and make them available to the Winnipeg suppliers.

I do not know what you call them in Inuktitut, long dog sleds - trains. The details as outlined were that the train would go from Winnipeg to Montreal and from Montreal, it would be shipped to the Kivalliq Region via ships and that there would be a cost saving there. The region and the residents will look at whether this is going to be an actual fact or not.

So, therefore, I would like to extend my appreciation to my colleague, as they will be providing announcements to all of the communities, organizations, people and suppliers involved in the Kivalliq Region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

Member's Statement 381 – 1(6): Long Travel with Air Canada for Session

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I am not going to make any substantive comments relevant to the House at this time. However, since I have been a Member of the Assembly attending meetings, this is the first time that I have gone to a meeting that is very far away from the legislature.

We just got back from Toronto and I have been up since 3 o'clock this morning, knowing that I had to attend this session. We traveled Air Canada from Toronto and then we had to switch planes, to Canadian North to come back to Iqaluit.

So, this is the first time that I attended a Legislative Assembly Session coming from a meeting that is quite far from Iqaluit, something that I am going to be quite proud of. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 382 – 1(6): Fundraising for the Dog Team Races

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today with not much of a statement, but every spring we have dog team race in the North Baffin region. The committee fundraises for the operational funds from the communities of Arctic Bay, Clyde River, Pond Inlet, Igloolik and Hall Beach.

These participants from these communities worked very hard in fundraising to pay for the dog team prizes, the dog team racing crests and every time there is a dog team race happening in the community, it has another effect on the residents. These races are quite important and are cause for celebrations and uplifts individual feelings and the host community celebrating that event.

So, when the appropriate time comes, I will be asking questions in regards to how they can be given more support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 383 – 1(6): Decentralization Employment Plans for Baker Lake

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my statement today is brief and to the point and it is not a happy statement. Mr. Speaker, I did not create these reports, Footprint I and II. That was done by a group of visionaries, I think.

And since then, it has been a dogfight in my community to get some jobs, along with your community and the other decentralized communities. What has happened over the last couple of weeks was not nice.

My community has been portrayed as the bad guys because they are trying to get employment for the young people in that community. Mr. Speaker, I will fight to the end to get those jobs in my community for my young people also.

And this afternoon, I will be asking the Premier who is responsible for decentralization, the plan to get more employment in my community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 384 – 1(6): Bad Fuel in Pangnirtung

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to make a very brief statement because we usually listen on the radio to the communities' concerns in regards to the fuel problem.

I want it noted that I have been relaying the concerns from my community to my colleagues here but they have not been announced on the radio and once there is any additional information that it be sent to my riding, I will make that announcement on air. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 385 – 1(6): Mining Sector Training and Jobs

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad that we made it safely to the Legislative Assembly and I am happy to see my colleagues again. I have a very short comment; it is not a new issue and I have been raising it for quite some time regarding the mining sector.

We just arrived from Toronto where we saw mining companies at a big trade show. There were a lot of companies having a big meeting there and I am happy to note that a lot of companies have been coming to our region to explore for minerals.

In looking at the sector, there are going to be a lot of jobs for young people in our region and yesterday, I had a chance to make a statement where I supported the training programs we will be providing for the young people to be able to take on this type of work.

I suggested to the Federal standing committee reviewing the issues, that we have a lot of young people in our region and the hamlets who do not have any employment prospects.

I think they can get together to work on the future of the mining sector, the federal government, the industry and the Inuit organizations and communities.

This sector is one that is going to be providing a lot of jobs for the young people. It is definitely one of our only bright prospects for employment opportunities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Now we move onto Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 333 – 1(6): Assistance or Funding for Soapstone Carvers

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 2, 2002, as was asked by the Member for Akulliq, in response to the question of programs offered by the department, there are several programs to provide assistance to carvers in Nunavut including the assistance for soapstone and other carving materials.

Mr. Speaker, the carvers have been using the Business Development Fund and the Grants to Small Business Program to help offset the cost of quarrying soapstone, maintaining soapstone quarry sites and purchasing tools and equipment.

In some communities, funds have been made available to carver organizations through the Community Initiatives Program to conduct training programs for the carvers. The assistance available through the Business Development Fund has also been used to assist with the marketing of the carvings.

In the current fiscal year, to date, nearly \$168,000 has been provided to carvers and carver organizations, through these programs of the Department of Sustainable Development.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Sustainable Development administers their Prospector Assistance Program. Many carvers participate in this program, which provides grants up to \$5,000 for individuals to prospect for minerals including soapstone near their communities.

The department is also able to provide assistance to carvers and carver's organizations seeking to identify new sites for soapstone. The department has a qualified geologist on staff in each region. This person is available to assist the public. In the past, these geologists have assisted carvers to map new sites for soapstone and other carving materials and have travelled with carvers to help identify the sites on land.

(Interpretation ends) It is worth noting, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Sustainable Development is directly involved in programs that address soapstone quarry safety, the

marketing of soapstone carvings, the authentication of Inuit carvings through the administration of Igloo-type building programs and direct support of arts and crafts, and community-based carvers' organizations.

As the question from the Member of Akulliq suggests, Mr. Speaker, that the public might not be fully aware of these programs, the Department of Sustainable Development proposes this year to produce an information campaign on the acquisition of soapstone and other carving materials to ensure that carvers know about the support that is available to them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Thompson.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to be the first one to recognize visitors in the Gallery. I wanted to recognize a couple of youth delegates from Whale Cove, Mona Panika, please rise. And Pamela Aarualaaq, from Whale Cove, and also once they graduate in Whale Cove, I am sure that they would like have employment afterwards. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have a number of youth delegates who are here. They were going to an Anti-tobacco Conference. I would like to recognize from Grise Fiord, Sarah Kigutaq. Again from Grise Fiord, Robbie Kakkik, sitting on the other side, and from Resolute Bay, the individual is not here, we have Kathy Idlout, and from Arctic Bay, we have Jeremy Atagutsiak.

I am sure that they will want to have employment opportunities in the High Arctic. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I too have four youth delegates and one chaperone from Cambridge Bay attending the Minister's Youth Action Team on Tobacco. Across behind the regular Members here, I have Nicole Wilcox and Derek Ihaloak, as well as the chaperone, Trish Ulurianaq. Behind me, I have Chris Gillis and Clarissa Kublovina. Welcome to the Assembly.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the Assembly. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, some of the Members introduced the Minister's Youth Action Team on Tobacco, and earlier today, for the Members who were not able to be with us, we had the internationally known Heather Crowe, who is terminally ill with cancer and who came to speak to the Members about the effect of second hand smoke. Ms. Crowe had spent 40 years working as a waitress. She never smoked a day in her life and now she has cancer.

She had an opportunity to be with us this morning and she will be with the Ministers' Youth Action Team on Tobacco, which is one of the initiatives that we have put together in our Anti-Tobacco Program.

And earlier today, there was some public service announcement or commercial and ad being filmed in the Assembly on behalf of that. If I may, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to introduce some of the people.

They are part of the Ministers' Youth Action Team; invitations were sent out to every school in Nunavut, to the Regional Inuit Organizations and to hamlets to have people selected.

These names have been put forward and we have some other members, one from Arviat and a couple from Iqaluit and from Cambridge Bay, who will be joining the Youth Action Team.

I will just say the names; some of them have already stood up. So, I will just say the names, Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of being expedient. Mr. Speaker, from Grade 10, Resolute Bay, we have Kathy Idlout, Jeremy Atagutsiaq from Arctic Bay, Grade 10, Sarah Kiguttaq from Grise Fiord, Grade 9, Lavie Kakki from Grise Fiord, Grade 9.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is very important to see some really good representatives from small communities on an Action Team like this. I think it is great to see the representation from Grise Fiord.

Mr. Speaker, we also have Ezra Kasarnaq from Pond, Jamie Kautianuk from Pond, Jessica Lynn Sattiana from Grade 10 in Repulse, Pamela Arialaaq from Grade 9 from Whale Cove, Monica Panika from Grade 8 from Whale Cove.

And as Minister Ng introduced, we have some people from Cambridge Bay, Nicole Wilcox, Derrick Ihaluaq, Terresa Qabluning and Chris Gillis. I want to point out, Mr. Speaker, we also have with the Youth Action Team, Jackie Price from the Department of Health and Social Services.

As a chaperone, working on her midwifery program, and the head of the Anti-Tobacco Reduction Program from the Government of Nunavut; Nadia Solitaire is also with us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): These individuals were already recognized, but I would like to acknowledge Ezra Kasarnaq and Jamie Ootovak from Pond Inlet. They are participating in the Youth Action Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 378 – 1(6): Updates on PPD Transfer to Baker Lake

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is to the Minister responsible for decentralization. Mr. Speaker, my community over the last month, has been very concerned about the decentralization process in our community with the announcement or the semi-announcements of the Petroleum Products Division move into Baker Lake.

Can the Premier give me an update on the transfer of these decisions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, work is continuing with decentralization, we are down to two communities, Pangnirtung and Baker Lake. And in Baker Lake, we reconfirm our commitment to decentralizing jobs to Baker Lake.

In the course of the last month, a number of events have taken place. We have appointed the interim President for the Qullik Corporation and we have also identified additional positions to go to Baker Lake through the Nunavut Power Corporation.

I believe there are about a total of five new Power Corporation positions and with the creation of the Corporation, we would like to do a study to ensure that we implement decentralization in the most appropriate way for both communities involved.

So, we are continuing to find ways to implement decentralization, but it requires some studies, but we are committed to decentralize positions to Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Probably great news for my community and it will put a lot of people in my community at ease. Can the Premier tell me when he expects those first five jobs to move to Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We announced this just over a week ago that those positions have been found. I don't know exactly when, but we could work with the Hamlet and with the Member ensuring those jobs are transferred in the very near future.

But as I said, we need to do a study for the other eight positions that we're short on in Baker Lake but we're committed to making sure that we find additional positions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased that the Minister responsible is committed to moving the jobs to Baker Lake. And it's a great start and it shows great leadership in moving the first five.

Can the Premier let me know, can he give me a rough target date for the remaining eight positions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We made a commitment as a government that we would like to complete decentralization over a three-year period and this is our final year. So I'm hopeful that we can finalize the decentralization plan for this year.

This will probably trickle over; we're still doing studies in Pangnirtung, for example. We hope to get the studies completed soon for both Pangnirtung and Baker Lake in the very near future.

For Baker Lake, we're just in the process of drafting terms of reference for the feasibility studies so I don't know exactly when it will be completed but we'd love to see the whole decentralization process completed within this year so that we can move onto other issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 379 – 1(6): Igloolik Representative on McClintock Channel Study

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on an issue that is of concern to my constituents. It is in regards to the polar bear hunting in the

McClintock channel. As I stated earlier, I was going to ask my question to the Department of Sustainable Development on behalf of my constituents in Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak.

I think it was in January 30 or 31 that a representative from the department came to our community. This individual was a polar bear biologist. He or she was representing the NWMB and also the Department of Sustainable Development. There was also another individual from Nunavut Tunngavik and the Kitikmeot Hunters and Trappers Association.

Mr. Speaker, even though there were a lot of individual representatives they did not include a representative from Igloolik. Is that going to put a delay on determining polar bear hunting in our region? I truly believe that there should be an individual or a representative from Igloolik in those discussions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Akasuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the McClintock channel it affects Repulse Bay, Igloolik and the Kitikmeot area. All three regions hunt within that area and have an effect. This has been carefully considered and we're going to work hard to reinstate the polar bear hunts in this area.

We're going to have to consult with all the effected communities before reinstating these polar bear hunts.

At this moment, they are going to be coming to the Keewatin Region from March 1 to the 15th and in the Baffin Area, they will also be doing consultation tours and then afterwards, we will start working on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker I believe that there has to be consensus between the three regions and this is one of the major concerns of the people in my riding. They are concerned that they did not have Igloolik representatives. Is it going to have an affect on this study? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akasuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you. All of the affected communities will have to be consulted. We are going to start from the Kitikmeot Region to talk about the polar bear issue and once that region is completed, then we will move onto the Keewatin and afterwards, to the Baffin.

They are all going to be consulted on the polar bear issue and then afterwards, we will do our thorough review and make a conclusion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is now the third year since the moratorium was set out in the McClintock Channel.

The people from our communities have always asked why a moratorium was set out in that region and we have been told that there is going to be a study and a review and when this study, this study was not completed, it was in a draft and a moratorium was set in that region.

The people in my community know that the study was not complete. Is it not the usual procedure to ask the communities to talk to them first before it is setting a moratorium? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have worked very closely with the community Hunters and Trappers Organizations and we have also worked with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and once everything is completed, we can do a review and see if we can lift the moratorium.

We are going to work on it with the communities. We have stated that the polar bear study will then be completed and reviewed by the effected communities of Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak and Cambridge Bay.

We had to place a moratorium due to the decrease in the polar bear population. There were approximately 700 to 800 and about three years ago, we were informed that the population has decreased down to a little over 200.

So, that is why we placed that moratorium because of the drastic decrease in the population. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): I am out of supplementary questions already? You stated that only after you have completed the study would you consider lifting the moratorium and that you would inform the hunters about the results.

I think that it was in the year 2000 that the moratorium was placed on the bear hunters. You have not completed this study for the past three years? Or have you not concluded your consultation with the affected communities?

When are you going to complete that population study? Are you going to make that report available to the organizations that are constantly requesting the results of the study? I would also like a copy when it is available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand your concerns and your question. We will endeavour to complete those studies earlier. We do not want to rush through it because we have to do it very carefully, and to understand all the factors relating to the issue. We also have the Gjoa Haven HTO Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit research underway that will be incorporated into the study.

I think that is part of the reason why the study has taken this long; because we have to insert this knowledge once it is collected. Once the study is completed, we will make the report available to Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, and the affected communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 380 – (6): Undertake Study or Setup Task Force on Drop-outs

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education, as usual. I will always pepper him with more questions unless he responds to the ones I pose to him. I would like to ask the Minister of Education regarding the education system in Nunavut. We would like to plan for a better system for our future generations based on the history of our existing system.

I would like to ask whether a study can be undertaken on the education system in Nunavut. Can you set up a Task Force to look into the curriculum in Nunavut? My question is, can you set up a Task Force to review that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Minister responsible for Education, Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is regarding the question that he was asking about earlier. I immediately checked into his earlier question about the dropout rates, the numbers of dropouts in Nunavut and their reasons.

My staff informed me that there are some numbers available that I have not seen yet. I will ensure that once the information is made available. I can also review this information as to why there are a lot of students dropping out from the schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your quick response to my earlier question. This is a different question that I am asking regarding the curriculum in the schools.

What types of problems are there? I would like them to be reviewed not just through the Department of Education, but also from the affected parties as to why there are such

problems in the schools? I would like the review to include those programs that are effective, those that are problematic and those that should not be included.

That is a separate question from my earlier ones. For example, last year, there was a move to review the official languages and I am asking if we can do the same thing on educational curriculum in Nunavut. I would like a task force to look into these issues.

That is my question aside from my earlier question. I am wondering if he can respond to me, not immediately but sometime during this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the review of our educational system, there are quite a few other reviews going on, as the Member is aware. The Education Act is in the works in the standing committee.

Also the question of using Inuktitut for primary instruction is under review and once we have the draft Education Act in place, we will have a better idea as to what improvements we can make and I can review that information with the Member with the results in front of us at a later date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is good to see him planning for the future. I do not see the studies presently as being holistic enough to review all the issues related to education. The education system personnel know what situation it is in.

I would like to see a task force set up with representatives from outside the education system who can have an objective view of the curriculum and what types of problems they are having within the schools and that way we can all find out what issues are causing our youth to drop out of school. I would like to be able to see that one day.

Is he agreeable to my suggestion as to getting that review done? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Education.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can look into that matter within our department as to which studies can take on those suggestions so that we do not set up groups independent of one another that overlap.

There is a special committee for the high school curriculum review and that group is given the task of giving suggestions as to improving the education system for the higher grades, especially in furthering ones' education past high school and the high schools in different communities will be included in the study.

I'm sure his question can be included in one of those groups who are reviewing similar situations within the education system. I will check into this situation and get back to him shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary, final supplementary, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that response.

However, he said he has a group set up to review the high school curriculum, where are the members of that group from and who are they? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this point, the reviews that are being undertaken at this point, I suggested to the Member that his suggestions could be taken on by those participants are in the review groups.

I do not have names readily available, but I can get that information from my department and I can provide a copy to the Member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 381 – 1(6): Update on Social Worker/Probation Officer Position at Resolute Bay/Grise Fiord

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

(interpretation end) My question to the Minister today is regarding social workers/probation officers. Can the Minister give the House an update on the position in Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Williams. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the position in Resolute Bay was made vacant after a tragic accident with a long serving social worker in Resolute Bay and I would like to take this opportunity to again, express our condolences to the family in Resolute Bay.

In regard to your question, she was a dedicated and long-term employee in the Department of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, an offer has been made to a person in the position in Resolute Bay to fill that position. The person has accepted and the person will be starting within the next couple of weeks. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is good news for my communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, and as the Minister knows, the staff person also goes to Grise Fiord and both communities greatly need this staff person.

I would just like to take this opportunity now to thank the Minister for getting a person to work up there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Williams. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqittuq.

Question 382 - 1(6): Funding Assistance for Dog Team Races

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, I would direct my question to the Minister responsible for sports in Nunavut, who is usually responsible for a lot of programs. The Community Government and Transportation Minister.

This is regarding the traditional dog team race that occurs in North Baffin where they raise their own funds to make that event possible. My question is whether they can receive assistance for the dog team race? They have a lot of responsibilities and include quite a few communities with volunteers. So, that is my question to the Minister. Thank you.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding this particular issue, there have also been questions from my community of Rankin Inlet and from other communities within Nunavut, who have asked whether the dog team races can be provided financial assistance from the Government as there are always funding shortfalls for the events.

As the Minister for Sport Nunavut, I am considering this issue of furthering Inuit traditions by using Inuit Qaujimagatutqangit and what we can consider as financial assistance for those events.

And I will consider those for future budget considerations in that matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for her immediate response. Thank you, for looking at the issues and in considering financial assistance.

Mr. Speaker, can those groups now ask for financial assistance at this point or will we have to wait for the budget?

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We take any application sent to us for consideration so they can give in those applications.

And they can also submit their applications to the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, as it pertains to the Inuit culture although it is dog team sporting event, you can forward those applications to my Department and it may be possible once the budget has been approved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 383 – 1(6): Medical Information – Medivac Patients

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding medical evacuations to Ottawa. For instance, there was a medivac of a person with eye problems from Pond Inlet. They had no medical papers included in the patient's file. It only stated that this person went to get their eyes checked out, it did not have any information about the medical problem.

When that person was being asked about their history, they really did not have a way to find out. Fortunately for this patient, the escort happened to know the history and was able to relay that information to the doctor.

So my question is do the patients have to bring their own medical history when they are being sent out down south on medivacs? If not, then there should be a process whereby this file is sent to the hospital in Ottawa.

Let us say that I had problems with my hands and I had to be sent down for treatment. The doctor can look in my medical file and know the history behind my condition prior to evaluating my problem. That is my question to the Minister of Health. Thank you.

Speaker: The Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in any jurisdiction any person who goes to a health centre or a hospital, or is referred to a clinic, there is a file made right from birth. That file, or chart as it is called in medical terminology, so the Member is correct that each patient would have a medical chart.

When a person is sent on a medivac, or on a scheduled medical travel, the physical chart itself would not be sent, because it might cover fifteen or twenty years, but the issue surrounding why the medical travel was initiated in the beginning, that would be included on the chart. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We bring forth questions as requested by our constituents. There was a situation in that regard where this person did not bring his medical file or explanatory paperwork.

I am sure that it may occur again in the future. Can he direct his staff to ensure that any person leaving the territory brings their medical papers with them? Can you make it a directive from the department to include all the requisite paperwork in all future medical evacuations? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we will do that. Mr. Speaker, we will ensure that any pertinent information that pertains to the patient, is brought for them on a medical chart, and that is available with the patient during medical travel or indeed a medivac. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 384 - 1(6): Plans for Assistance for High Cost of Living

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance and is regarding my previous Members' Statement. My question is regarding the cost of living that is very high in the North, and a lot of Nunavummiut do not have a steady source of income available to them to meet these challenges. There are a lot of questions being asked as to where the next meal may come from for a lot of Nunavummiut.

Has there been any consideration as to what type of assistance they can have regarding the high cost of living to reflect the current situations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the Member knows, during the last budget, there was a significant decrease in the income tax rates in Nunavut.

We increased the cost of living tax credit so that working families could have more opportunities for additional credit. We've carried the costs of additional subsidies as far as not raising petroleum products prices even though our shipment costs increased.

We continue to support the power subsidy program even though, again, costs are increasing in those areas. So there are different subsidies and programs that the government has in trying to assist.

The Federal Government still has, through Canada Post, the food mail program. So, there are different avenues out there in trying to support individuals. And of course, we have

our income support program through the Department of Education for those who require assistance as well.

So, in different facets, we're trying to provide as much assistance as possible Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, for the response. Regarding the food mail program, which is quite useful in the communities. And also the sealift prices are beneficial to our residents.

Also, for Nunavummiut, with the high cost of living, can he look into how much further assistance can be given in the future? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes, the government will continue to look at ways to reduce costs. As the Member noted earlier today, my colleague, the Minister of Public Works and Services announced a new dry goods sealift contract, which we hope, will significantly decrease costs Nunavut wide.

So those types of initiatives, the government is always looking forward in respect of trying to bring down costs for our constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 385 - 1(6): Mining Sectors and IIBAs

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Sustainable Development.

Last year, in the winter, I had asked this question to him. I asked him to meet with the mining sector people as well as our mayors and myself. To date, he hasn't asked or had any papers regarding my question.

I'm wondering if the Minister will be visiting our community and visiting with the mining sector this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, since mining has been developing in Nunavut quite fast, the Inuit associations, Qikiqtani, Keewatin and Kitikmeot, yes they do have an impact agreement and also the Government of Nunavut monitors the progress of these agreements.

Once I get all that information, I will provide it to you, as to when I can visit the community in Kitikmeot because I was unable to visit the communities although I had intended to visit the communities I have never gone to.

I am willing to speak with the Member. If any of the mining sectors will be going over there, then I am willing to participate to meet about the mining issues. And whenever I need to go to that area, I will inform him right away.

And we will inform the mining sector in that area if I will be able to visit the communities in Kitikmeot. Thank you.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those development agreements that you are talking about, are they still under negotiation? When can you complete those agreements, as it has been a year now since they were mentioned as being reviewed by the parties?

I asked the Minister to come to Kitikmeot so we have an idea because a lot of people are expecting these benefits from the mining sector so that, when are you going to finish the agreements?

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the mining sector and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association have to work very closely together in regards to this issue; they have to negotiate as to how the agreements will contain the IIBA.

I am sure that they will work very closely together during the negotiations and we do want to be involved. I also would like to apologize to the Member of Kugluktuk; they have invited me for the longest time to come down to their community, but due to prior commitments, I had not been able to come to his community.

As I have stated before, I really want to go to the communities I have not visited yet. Instead of revisiting the other communities more than once, I would like to go to the communities that I have not visited.

I am willing to work closely together with the Member for Kugluktuk in regards to the visit for Kitikmeot. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister for informing me. I want to thank the Minister as he now informs that he has been making an effort to visit my community.

Since the mining companies are planning to visit, I was wondering if you are going to bring some of the Grade 11 and 12 students along with you when there is a meeting in my community?

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is entirely up to the community if they want to be involved. And the mining companies, it will be up to them, but we do want to provide support and if the mining sector is ready to invite the Grade 11 and 12 students, they can work with them. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister. There are a lot of Grade 11 and 12 students looking for work and if we are going to go to that mining symposium in Kugluktuk, we should be including them so that they can make a decision about a career path in mining if it appeals to them. When are you planning to visit the Kitikmeot Region, either this summer or some time in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will go to the Kitikmeot Region by the end of April during the Nunavut Association of Municipalities meeting.

I can work with you to find out what would be the best time to go to the community of Kugluktuk during the Nunavut Association of Municipalities in Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Some information for the Members and people in the gallery here, the Government of Nunavut offices have closed down due to weather.

We are going to try to get through question period before we reassess the situation to see whether we will follow suite or not. But it is my understanding that the taxis are shortly going to be taken off the road so people should be aware of that. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 386 – 1(6): Economic Development Agreement

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Sustainable Development.

I would like to ask the Minister if he can indicate to the House whether or not the federal budget included funding or a mechanism for funding to allow for something that we have

wanted and needed for many years here in the north and that is an economic development agreement between Nunavut and the Federal Government.

I wonder if the Minister could indicate to us on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy that you asked that question because as a Minister responsible for that, I work very hard when we are meeting with our colleagues down south.

In regards to economic development agreements, yes, we are working on this issue along with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated as to how we can have an economic development agreement.

After the Federal Government had their Budget speech, we did not get very much out of it but we will endeavour to work further on this.

We have made preparations for the Sivumut 2 conference around March 21 to 24 in Rankin Inlet where we will be collecting all the information, and after that symposium we will use this information to lobby the Federal Government in regards to this agreement. We are also inviting their representatives to attend this conference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess the Minister was not happy about the budget speech that indicated that there was nothing in there again for us this year.

The Minister indicated that they're putting together some information. I am just wondering if, other than the absence of information that he is putting together if he knows of any other reason why the north and Nunavut, specifically, do not yet have an EDA agreement with the Federal Government. That's something that has been successful in the past and is in something that Nunavummiut have wanted since our conception. Are there any other reasons why we do not have that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have a concern. The Nunavut Territory is not the only one who does not have an EDA agreement; there is also the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories.

Just recently, we struck another economic development ministers committee across Canada and all the three territorial Ministers have been working very hard in lobbying the government on behalf of First Nations.

I had spoken with the INAC Minister in regards to this concern. But perhaps we will have to revisit our negotiations and visit where the Federal Government did not agree and we will have to work closely with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated because we are working very hard in lobbying the government but in regards to the Member's question, I really do not know the contents, so therefore, once I understand your question in detail, I will provide you with the information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister had indicated that they have formed a northern Minister's group to look at this issue.

I can imagine that the other two territorial Economic Development Ministers are probably just as frustrated as he is. Their assembly is probably just as frustrated as ours is because we always seem to continue to be ignored by the Federal Government on issues like this.

Could the Minister provide the Members with some type of action plan or plan of attack that he is taking with his other territorial counterparts to the Federal Government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past we came up with the Nunavut Economic Outlook that had quite a bit of information on what we want from the Federal Government on the EDA.

Right now we are still working on that with the Conference Board of Canada to make sure that we send our message to the Federal Government. Again, with this conference that is going to be held in Rankin Inlet, between March 21-24, called the Sivumut Economic Development Strategy Conference, I think we will get more information out of that and make sure that we fight more with a better plan to come up with an economic development agreement with the Federal Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the recent past we have heard how diligently our northern MPs have been working behind the scenes on issues like this, and the health care one is a good example.

Can the Minister indicate whether our MP and the other MPs have been helpful in pushing this issue forward for us in Ottawa? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have met with Ms. Lindell a couple of times and mentioned that we really need this Economic Development agreement.

It is a big issue and we want to make sure that we send our message, so we made sure that we talked to Ms. Lindell and hopefully we will talk to her more after the Sivumut conference in Rankin Inlet. She also has been invited to that conference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I move on to my oral question, I would like to go back to Item 5, in our Orders of the Day, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: You caught me sleeping there, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Normally what we would do is wait until Question Period is up, and then if you wish to request that, then you can do that at that time. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 387 – (6): Rules and Procedures for Removal of Executive Council

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not know many of the procedural rules here because we are not used to the Parliamentary procedures. I have a question on an incident that I do not know much about. Last Friday we voted one of our colleagues from Cabinet.

I do not know if my question is going to make sense or not. I have never seen any procedural rules on how we can oust a Member of the Cabinet. I do not know where that rule is, as I have never seen it. Is it confidential? Or is the Cabinet only privileged to that information? I would like clarification. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: That is an issue that I believe that will probably be discussed in the Full Caucus. Does the House Leader wish to address it? Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As usual, you are correct. Normally, issues around rules and practices in this Legislature are a Caucus decision. Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I can advise the Member that he is the Chairman of the Rules and Procedures Committee of this House, so he could probably take it up with that Committee as well if he felt that there were problems. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Chairman of that Committee, I have never seen that rule anywhere. Thank you. If there is nothing in the rule, then why did we use that reason for the non-confidence vote?

I have reviewed all of the rules and procedures that we use in the House, but I have yet to see something that applies to the removal of the Minister last week so if there is one out there I would like to see it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that is specific in that it is a motion that it has to be brought into the Legislative Assembly. And because of that, those rules are in our Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act. The new Act that we passed in full consultation with all Members and based on the direction of the Rules and Procedures Committee, of which the Member chairs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, for your speedy responses to my questions, but I heard that we would be debating the rules and procedures in the House. I have questions about the process of removing a Minister. Most of the Members were not aware that there was such a rule that exists, but we were informed that the rule is written down; now where is this rule?

Can you show it to us so that we can check to see if we followed the proper procedure? Is it possible for the Minister to table that portion of the rules? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to table the Legislative Assembly Executive Council Act. It is available as it is a public document, but what I would say, if the Member required some clarification, through your office, Mr. Speaker ask the Clerk to sit down with the Member and go over the areas in the Legislative Assembly Executive Council Act which applied last week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to see that rule as we undertook the process without ever reviewing the actual legislation. I will do what Minister Ng suggested so Nunavummiut will know why there was such a removal last week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu, for your comments. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 388 – (6): Tannery Assistance for Sewers

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Sustainable Development.

Just recently, the Minister made a statement about sealskin sales and production. My question, Mr. Speaker is, are we going to get a tannery up here so that we can treat our skins here? It is a very expensive proposition to order tanned sealskins from the south. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, for your question. Quite a while ago, there used to be a tannery in Broughton Island, where they tanned sealskin, but due to various reasons and especially the disposal of the chemicals, the tannery was forced to close.

And for those of us who live up in Nunavut, we are very careful about our environment and we do not want to contaminate the land because that is where the animals that we eat live.

We will have to look into this further and see what options we have in building a tannery where it would be environmentally friendly and feasible. Those are things that we can consider for the future of the sealskin industry in our territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it is quite obvious that we have to think about our environment, but the Minister seems to indicate that he is willing to look at other options.

When we had a meeting in Cambridge Bay, the Minister made a statement about establishing a tannery for assisting our sealskin industry.

With the building of a tannery, it would increase the job opportunities. Does the Minister know if they are environmentally friendlier tanneries now available and can he inform us of that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not exactly sure how we can go about it but we do have to look at the options.

With the sealskin prices being really good this year, we are going to look at spin-offs and economic development opportunities that we might use at the community level. We will

do a review and see what is available out there in terms of environmentally friendly tanneries but we give assistance to the people who make products out of sealskin.

We are providing assistance to the sewers out there because it is extremely expensive. But in order to conduct a proper review it will take time, as it involves businesses, seamstresses and workers who are on the business. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My next question is when are you going to do a review and when are you going to be able to respond to my request? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will inform the Member and the public as soon as possible when we find out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I do not make sense when I am posing my questions to the Minister. When are you going to know? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I am the one who is not getting the question. I will inform the Member as soon as I have the information about her question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, I would like to go back to Item 5 on the Orders of the Day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Agreed. Proceed, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have never recognised my wife in the gallery. I would like to recognise my wife and my youngest son. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not very often that I take this opportunity but yesterday, the Sanikiluaq teachers came here to Iqaluit and some of them are here.

My relatives, and my father's sister's daughter, Taina Aqqik and her daughter, Rosemary and also our Premier's best friend's daughter, Terry Takatak.

>>*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. Iqaqrialu.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

Committee Report 012 – 1(6): Bill 22 – An Act to Amend the Securities Act

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 22, an Act to Amend the Securities Act, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* and that the Bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive rule 68(5) and have Bill 22 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. There is a request to waive rule 68 (5) so that the Standing Committee report on Bill 22 can be immediately referred to Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Bill 22 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. Puqiqnak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 077 – 1(6): Letter from Gjoa Haven HTO Re: Moratorium

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a document from the Hunters and Trappers Organization in Gjoa Haven. It is written in both Inuktitut and English. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 13. Tabling of documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Ms. Williams.

Item 14: Notice of Motion

Motion 018 – 1(6): Extension of Mandate of Special Committee to Review The Official Languages Act - Notice

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on March 12, 2003, I will move the following motion;

I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Uqummiut that the Special Committee to review the *Official Languages Act* shall continue as a Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly until it presents its final report to the House and further that it shall continue under all other terms and provisions as established by motion 001-1 (5). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Williams. Will the Member please provide the motion to the clerk's desk?

Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Premier.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 28 – An Act to Amend the Young Offenders Act and other Acts in Consequence – First Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baffin South that Bill 28, an Act to Amend the Young Offenders Act and Other Acts in Consequence be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 28 has had first reading. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Picco.

Bill 29 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Power Utilities Act and Certain Other Acts in Consequence – First Reading

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin Inlet South/ Whale Cove, that Bill 29, an Act to Amend the Nunavut Power Utilities Act and Certain Other Acts in Consequence be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The Motion is in Order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The Motion is carried and Bill 29 has had first reading.

Item 17. The First Reading of Bills. Item 18. The Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 22. Bill 23.

Bill 24. Ministers' Statement 95-1(6), and Tabled Document 30-1(6) with Mr. Iqaqrialu in the Chair. Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a twenty-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms

>>*Houses recessed at 15:46 p.m. and resumed at 16:09 p.m.*

Speaker: Members, due to the worsening weather conditions and for the safety of Members and our pages and staff who will require transportation back to their homes in the weather has taken a turn for the worse.

Do Members agree that we adjourn for the day and accordance with Rule 46 in Motion 2-1(6)?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Agreed? Thank you. Orders of the Day. Mr. Quirke.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders for the Day for Tuesday, March 11th:

1. Prayer
2. Budget Address
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Members' Statements
5. Returns to Oral Questions
6. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
7. Oral Questions
8. Written Questions
9. Returns to Written Questions
10. Replies to Opening Address
11. Replies to Budget Address
12. Petitions
13. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
14. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
15. Tabled Documents
16. Notices of Motions

17. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

18. Motions

19. First Reading of Bills

20. Second Reading of Bills

- Bill 28
- Bill 29

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

- Bill 22
- Bill 23
- Bill 24
- Minister's Statement 95 - 1 (6)
- Tabled Document 30 - 1 (6)

22. Report of Committee of the Whole

23. Third Reading of Bills

24. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 11, at 1:30.

Sergeant-at-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 16:10 p.m.*

