



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

3rd Session

1st Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 3

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1999

Pages 48 - 75

Speaker: The Hon. Levi Barnabas, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Akulliq)

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(Amittuq)

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(Iqaluit East)
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Hon. Paul Okalik
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(Kugluktuk)
Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth

Hon. James Arvaluk
(Nanulik)
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, October 22, 1999

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Honourable James Arvaluk, Honourable Levi Barnabas, Honourable Donald Haviyok, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Iqittuq, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glen McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Mr. Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manito Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): At this time I would like to ask David Iqaqrialu to say the opening prayer.

>>*Opening Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. We don't have a quorum. We will take a ten minute recess and resume in ten minutes.

>>*House recessed for ten minutes*

Speaker (interpretation): We will resume our agenda. Item 2, Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 06 - 1(3): Overview of Health and Social Services Initiatives**

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciated the opportunity to brief the full caucus about some important issues facing the department of Health & Social Services. During this session, I want to expand on that briefing by updating you and the House on more of the exciting and sometimes difficult initiatives that are underway in my department.

As you know, we have been very busy over the past six months implementing the decision to integrate the Regional Health Boards into one department. Since April the department has been holding regular integration meetings and conference calls with senior staff from the regional boards. I am pleased to tell you that we are making significant progress, which I will explain in more detail in later statements.

Mr. Speaker, the process of integration has been a large and challenging task for the boards and for the department and I want to commend all the staff for their hard work and

commitment to excellence. I also want to reinforce this government's commitment to a "no layoff" policy for those employees affected by integration.

The process of integrating the boards could not have been as productive as it has been if it weren't for the patience, ideas and support of the Chairs and CEOs of the regional boards. With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I would like to publicly thank: Sharon Ehaloak, Chairperson of the Kitikmeot Regional Health & Social Services Board and their CEO, Miss Alice Isnor; Rosie Oolooyuk, Chairperson of the Keewatin Board and CEO Keith Best; and Dennis Patterson, Chairperson of the Baffin Board and CEO Jarvis Hoult.

Mr. Speaker, although the integration of the Health Boards is a major task unto itself, we have also been moving forward on other important issues. With the support of this House, we were able to create the first Nunavut Nursing Program at Arctic College. This program is being delivered in conjunction with Dalhousie University in Halifax, and is something that our government can be justifiably proud of and a crucial step towards ensuring quality care and a stable workforce in the long term. Last week, the Hon. James Arvaluk and I were able to meet these students to congratulate them and wish them the very best in their studies. The road ahead for these students is a challenging one. It will take commitment, perseverance, hard work and probably some sleepless nights. They will need the support of their friends, families and communities. But they are a part of our future – they have risen to the challenge and will make Nunavut proud.

Educating our own nurses is just one part of a comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy that we are developing. Mr. Speaker, over the past six months the department and regional staff have set up an internal working group called the Nunavut Illuarsajit Action Team to identify practical solutions and ideas to improve recruitment and retention of nurses and social workers in Nunavut. We are also in the process of hiring a Nunavut Workforce Development Officer within the department who will be mainly responsible for working on recruitment and retention issues. It is expected that more recruitment and retention initiatives will be announced over the coming weeks.

Mr. Speaker, working with the Hon. Kelvin Ng who is responsible for P3 projects in Nunavut, we are moving ahead with the program functional review of the Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay and Iqaluit projects. Arviat's Health Centre will begin construction in earnest this spring.

I also want to tell you a little about our plans for the future delivery of health care in Nunavut. Our goal is to shift the emphasis of programs and policies to community based delivery and preventative care, Mr. Speaker, preventative care. An approach that goes hand-in-hand with community empowerment. We are also seeking creative ways to improve access to health care and social services in the communities through initiatives such as Telehealth. This is a promising tool for Nunavut and I would like to thank the members for attending the recent demonstration that I held to show you this technology. I will be telling you more about this initiative later this session.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, we are working on many initiatives, but for us to be successful, we need to build our capacity in the communities and to deal with the financial pressures facing us. As publicly announced recently, the three health boards had a combined deficit of approximately \$8.9 million dollars as of March 31, 1999. As a department and as a government we are acutely aware of the implications of this deficit and are moving aggressively to identify the causes and to put in place a strategic plan to deal with it. I want to reassure the people of Nunavut that service delivery will not be compromised by these deficits.

Of course, the other ingredient that is essential for success is the input and participation of all residents of Nunavut. It is with this in mind that I have visited and met with health centre staff and Hamlet Councils in many Nunavut communities. Over the coming months I plan to hold more meetings and to attend regional forums where possible.

Mr. Speaker, as you can imagine, undertaking the initiatives that I have touched upon this morning has been extremely challenging for our dedicated staff. I am very grateful for their hard work and determination.

I also extend a special thanks to our staff in the communities who work tirelessly, often under very stressful circumstances for the benefit of all the residents of Nunavut.

In closing, I also want to thank my cabinet colleagues, the members of this House and especially the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health who continue to provide me with support, encouragement and ideas in my work.

Qujannamiik, Koana, Naqurmiik, Merci and Thank you Uqaqti.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Merci beaucoup Mr. Picco. Ministers' Statements, Mr. Anawak.

Minister's Statement 07 - 1(3): Inuit RCMP Graduates

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. Because I can only say thank you in Inuktitut.

I am pleased to announce to the Legislature that the first all-Inuit troop of recruits has completed training in Regina. We now have six highly trained Inuit RCMP officers who have returned to Nunavut and are assigned to various communities throughout the Territory.

The Inuit officers are: Joe Baines from Iqaluit, assigned to Arviat; Pitseolak Koochiakjuk from Iqaluit, assigned to Cambridge Bay; Eric Ootoovak from Pond Inlet, assigned to Iqaluit, Kevin Sudlovenick from Pond Inlet, assigned to Rankin Inlet; Richard Tatty from Arviat, assigned to Iqaluit; Ben Williams from Iqaluit, assigned to Rankin Inlet.

This is the first time that we have had a full troop of Inuit recruits trained to become officers. This is an extremely important event for our communities and for Nunavut as a whole. Inuit officers who can speak the Inuktitut language and who understand the people will have a major impact on justice in the communities. And hopefully, these officers will serve as role models for young people throughout Nunavut. I believe that this is Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit at work.

I want to recognize and thank Chief Superintendent Chris Bothe of "V" Division for his vision and his efforts in making this initiative a reality.

But, most important, I want to congratulate our new Inuit RCMP officers for their courage, their hard work, and their dedication to the people of Nunavut. They will face challenges as they assume their new roles, but they will have the support and encouragement of this Legislature and the people of Nunavut throughout their careers.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. I will be giving a letter of congratulations to these new recruits. Ministers' Statements, Mr. Arvaluk.

Minister's Statement 08 - 1(3): An Education Act for Nunavut

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make an announcement on an Education Act for Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce an initiative that will impact on the development of education in Nunavut for many years to come. As you remember, a decision was made during the last session to dissolve the Divisional Education Councils.

This decision means that we must revise the existing Education Act to reflect the new roles and responsibilities of the various partners involved with the education of our children. It will also allow us the opportunity to revise the Act to make it more reflective of Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Last month I circulated to all members of the Legislative Assembly, Divisional Education Councils, District Education Authorities, Nunavut Social Development Council, Nunavut Federation of Teachers and the Nunavut Employee's Union a list of legislative principles to be used as a guide in developing a new Act.

I am pleased to report that we are receiving comments back from this exercise. The suggestions we receive will allow for further development of an Education Act for all of Nunavut. It is important that those involved in the education of our children take an active role in the revision of the Education Act. It is through the active involvement of parents, DEA's, community members and educators that we will develop an education system that is meaningful, responsive and reflective of Nunavut.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, we will be bringing the revisions of the Education Act forward at a future time. I will be keeping the members informed as to our progress. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Minister's Statement 09 - 1(3): Sport Nunavut Division

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sport Nunavut Division, a division of Community Government and Transportation, promotes, develops and delivers sport in Nunavut.

Before the creation of Nunavut, sport was funded and delivered through the independent NWT organization, Sport North. Sport Nunavut is now funded through government sources, so it became a division of Community Government and Transportation.

Sport Nunavut headquarters is located in Baker Lake with four staff members, a Director, two Sport Development Officers and one support staff. Even though sport and recreation programs are organized and funded through various levels of government, the delivery of programs is often at the community level through countless volunteer hours.

Fourteen sports applied to join Sport Nunavut and take advantage of our programs and services. Eleven of these sports are now legally incorporated associations and, in some instances, have also applied for membership in their related National Sport Organizations.

Sport Nunavut has three main goals in its first year of operation.

The first goal is to have informal sporting groups form Territorial Sports Associations. These associations, in conjunction with Sport Nunavut, would take responsibility for delivering their individual sport programs with assistance from developmental grants.

The second goal is to ensure a level of proficiency for all sport volunteers involved with the delivery of sport programs in Nunavut. Sport Nunavut's Coaching/Officiating Strategy will target the severe lack of certified coaches and officials in Nunavut. Over the next few months Sport Nunavut, working with the Coaching Association of Canada, will host several clinics specifically requested by communities and sport associations.

Our third goal is to provide the leadership role in the development of a representative team from Nunavut at the Arctic Winter Games 2000 in Whitehorse. Nunavut will have representatives competing in twelve sports. For many of our youth, the Arctic Winter Games and the Regional and Territorial trials leading to the Games, provide an opportunity to share in sport and spirit. Team Nunavut will be comprised not only of athletes, but also coaches, officials, volunteers and a cultural delegation.

Sport Nunavut has been fortunate to recruit numerous volunteers who have joined together to help build healthy communities in Nunavut. The recruitment, training and recognition of these volunteers are an essential component of the sporting community and far too often their contributions are overlooked. As I stand in this House today as the minister responsible for sports, I would like to publicly thank these individuals. I would also like to ask my fellow members to recognize the time, energy and dedication of these individuals in our communities.

I also would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Sport Nunavut Division staff in Baker Lake: Patrick Tagoona, Director; Tommy Bruce and Jeffrey Seeteenak, Sport Development Officers; and Marianne Uqayuittuq, Divisional Secretary. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Anawak. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. Item 3, Members' Statements. Members' Statements, Mr. Nutarak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 10 - 1(3): Compensation for Losses at Floe Edge

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today representing the people of Pond Inlet, my constituency. I think it was in 1997 that some students went out on a land program in Lancaster Sound.

They were stuck on a floe edge, on a piece of ice for three days and I am very pleased to announce that nobody was fatally hurt or harmed. They had to be picked up by a helicopter on an emergency basis. They have never been paid to date and I would like to give a written document to the Minister of Education today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Member's Statement 11 - 1(3): Recognition of Search and Rescue Team

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise to recognize and acknowledge my community's search and rescue team and all the people who take part when we have to search for hunters. When this happens they have to work very hard to try and do their fund raising for search and rescue efforts. Some of these search and rescue teams are not even supported financially by the government and they have to do their own fund raising.

I know that this is the case in all the communities of Nunavut. Search and rescue is very important and critical to Nunavut. I know that people who are involved in search and rescue teams would like to work on educating people on how to survive from the bottom of their heart. They all work hard night and day, regardless of whether there is a blizzard

outside, they do their searching. Therefore I would like to acknowledge all the people who do search and rescue.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge our government for giving financial support when we need this for search and rescue. I will be giving a written document in regards to this issue to the appropriate minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Members' Statements, Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 12 - 1(3): Year of the Elder Person

Mr. McLean: Ma'na, Uqaqti. This morning the members of the Legislative Assembly had the honour of having a meeting with the elders of Nunavut to hear their concerns. Uqaqti, 1999 is the Year of the Elder Person. Traditions and knowledge from the land are rarely passed on now to the younger generation by experience.

This in itself has been an impetus for numerous efforts to keep these things alive. In the past August, 200 elders from across Nunavut and Nunavik gathered in Iqaluit to share with each other and members of the community, traditional songs and dances, customs and practices.

Uqaqti, let us not forget that this is the year of the elder and try to listen to them more often. Ma'na.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Ma'na, Mr. McLean. (interpretation) Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 13 - 1(3): Recognition of Fund Raising to Attend Funerals

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about family members who have lost their loved ones and who want to go to their loved ones funeral but they cannot do so because they cannot afford to.

In view of that, I support the families who would like to go to funerals in another community. I also would like to thank and acknowledge the people who are unable to go to a loved one's funeral and they are now doing fund raising to help these people so I acknowledge these people who are doing the fund raising. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Members' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

Member's Statement 14 - 1(3): Changes to Justice System

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning I rise for my member's statement in reference to the justice system. The justice system has to be

amended for the Inuit and Nunavut residents' lifestyle. Other aboriginal groups, for example the Navajo Indians, have their own justice system. We have to utilize our traditions and culture within the Nunavut justice system.

The justice system within Nunavut is very important and should reflect our culture. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Members' Statements, Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 15 - 1(3): Education a Priority

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today to talk about one of the key issues that the government has identified as a priority and that is education. Education is vital to our future. I think this is especially true in the primary and pre-school area.

It is during these first crucial years that the skills are developed that will help our young children throughout the rest of their educational lives and employment for the rest of their lives. I think it is very important that these areas are identified and funded adequately. I think our education system has to ensure that we give these young people the tools they need to do the jobs we are going to want them to do in the future.

I just wanted to commend the government for making that one of their priorities and I look forward to asking the minister some questions during this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 16 - 1(3): Appreciation to Assembly Staff

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to say thank you to our staff. On October 19th the staff of our Legislative Assembly worked very hard to get this House ready on time. I would like to thank John Quirke and the staff members for working very hard to open this place on time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Members' Statements, Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 17 - 1(3): Importance of Elders

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that we touched upon the issue of elders but we realize that we need more support and we have to consult more with the elders. As they are becoming fewer and fewer we have to use the elders

during the initial stages of our Nunavut Government. The elders are not going to approach us, it is going to be up to us to take the initiative and see our elders and to ask them questions. That way there will be a closer working relationship between the elders, they'll feel that they are being effective.

We have to be proud of our elders, we shouldn't be intimidated by them. They are just waiting for us to ask questions. I would like to urge the representatives of the Nunavut Government to use the elders more. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Members' Statements, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 18 - 1(3): Elders and Youth

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about our youth and elders. They are looking for ways that they can have a close working relationship. I am in support of that, our young people today are going through challenging times to try and stand up on their own two feet. They are looking for ways to develop themselves. Our elders are dying off with their wise knowledge and our young people are our future. We have to train our young people properly for the future so that they can start thinking on their own, start believing in themselves, knowing that they are very capable people.

With all of these things, we encourage the young people to become whatever they want to be, they can become doctors if they want to, they can become workers in the labour force and they can become teachers if they want to. Our young people are very important to us, for those of us who are middle aged, and are less educated than the younger people, we have not been able to reach up to our potential. So the young people have potential if they work hard, if they are committed they can become anything they want to, whether it be doctors or health care workers, mechanics, they can become anything they want to with commitment.

So that is the power of young people, through education it can happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Members' Statements, Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 19 - 1(3): Meeting with Elders

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to talk a bit about elders too. I know that there is a regulation in the House, especially on Friday, 10 o'clock in the morning, we have to start the meeting and I Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for reminding us of that and I don't want the public to think that we were late coming in at 10 o'clock. That wasn't the case, we are not apologizing for arriving late because the goal of the Legislative Assembly is to work with the elders and to listen to the elders' comments and needs and concerns.

This morning we had a meeting with the elders starting from 8.30 in the morning until 10 o'clock, that's why we came in a bit late. Although we wanted to hear more about their comments and concerns, we had to open the House on time. So I am just relaying this information to the public, Mr. Speaker, I am not going against your ruling, but the elders are our priority, that's why we arrived a bit late this morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk for your wise words. Members' Statements Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 20 - 1(3): Opening of Aqsarniit Middle School

Hon. Ed Picco: Qujannamiik Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker I had the pleasure of attending the opening of Nunavut's newest school, Aqsarniit, here in Iqaluit, with Ministers Arvaluk, Thompson and Premier Okalik.

The Aqsarniit middle school was brought forward through hard work and proactive lobbying by the Iqaluit Education Authority, the Baffin Divisional Board of Education and our MLA. The school was built with incremental infrastructure dollars that were provided by the Federal Department of DIAND.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Aqsarniit's new principal, Peter Geikie, the staff and students of Aqsarniit School and wish them much success in this and upcoming years in this new facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 21 - 1(3): Open to Constituents

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since the session opened this is the first time that I have risen to speak. First of all I would like to thank my constituents in Pangnirtung who have been very patient and my colleagues from the cabinet. Members cannot just stay idle, because we are so busy and we have to attend various meetings.

Our plans, as we keep stating, we are reviewing our plans and that is the information that we relate to our constituency all the time. So that is the case, we are making progress on behalf of our Nunavut residents and some of these items will be tabled. I just want my constituency to know that we are very open to them through the plans that we will be setting forth. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Members' Statements, Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 22 - 1(3): Appreciation to Kugluktuk Search and Rescue

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You have already heard last summer there was a drowning incident. I just wanted to thank the people from Kugluktuk for all their help in the search and rescue even though it was a bit hard. I just want to give thanks to the people of Kugluktuk and I want you to recognize them for all their hard work and it is always very helpful when you work together in this sort of situation. I want to thank them all for working together. Thank you again.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Back to the Orders of the Day, item 4, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I apologize, many apologies, item number 4, Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Mr. McLean.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. McLean: Ma'na, Uqaqti. It gives me great pleasure today to finally recognize someone from my home community. It's a person that is really dedicated to different organizations in the community and her present duty that she is really working on right now is community based justice committees. She is now the chairperson, I would like to recognize Jean Simailak.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. It gives me great pleasure to welcome in the gallery today, the mother of one of the pages here and also my constituency assistant, well known business person and community activist, Ms. Eliza Kingdon. Sitting next to Eliza is a well known broadcaster, a good friend and a tireless worker for Nunavut and the land claim, a negotiator, Mr. Paul Quassa. In the back over there with the purple sweater on, my executive assistant, who is also here from Apex, Marianne Demmer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6, Oral Questions. Oral Questions, oral questions. Mr. Kattuk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 18 - 1(3): Inuit Customs in the Justice System

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Justice. Ever since April 1st, when the Nunavut Government was established, we have been saying we would be using Inuit traditions and culture within

the justice system. That's our goal. My question to the appropriate minister is, are we going to be utilizing Inuit culture within the justice system in Nunavut.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since April 1st, the Department of Justice has been consolidated into one. Usually there were two divisions and we have combined them into one. To incorporate Inuit knowledge so that the Justice system could operate smoothly we were looking for ways to utilize the community justice committees. We are now reviewing how we should be utilizing these community justice committees and are working on Justice of the Peace training workshops. I am very pleased, I don't know if I announced it or not, but Neil Sharkey will be working on the training part for the Justices of the Peace, to respect Inuit needs within the justice system.

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

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his response. Another question, I think it was last spring that I asked this question to find out your progress with the Baffin Correctional Centre. Last spring I spoke about BCC. The inmates at the Baffin Correctional Centre need help with their social problems. They should be provided with more healing programs.

My question to the minister is if you provide healing programs to the inmates at BCC. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. I would like to remind each and every one of you the rule on oral questions. During oral questions you have to ask about only one topic. You have already asked your question about the Department of Justice, but your second question is in regards to the Baffin Correctional Centre. I would like to remind you that you can only ask one question with one topic. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize, we have not set the whole thing up as yet, but I think that it is part of the justice system. I think his question is part of the justice system and incorporating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. We want to use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in healing programs, perhaps the Minister for Health and Social Services, I will work with him to come up with programs for healing and reflecting Inuit ways of life so that the healing programs would have a positive impact on the inmates.

But at this time, we have not set up any programs. Thank you.

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

Question 19 - 1(3): Airline Schedules

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know if my question can be responded to, but it is to the Minister of Transportation. In my constituency of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq, these two communities are very close to each other. The airline schedules, we are concerned about them, because these two communities are so close to each other but the schedule is only once on Friday and Saturday to Qikiqtarjuaq coming from Clyde River.

When the weather is bad the passengers going to Qikiqtarjuaq or Clyde River have to wait a whole week if they can't get to their community due to bad weather. If the weather is bad again, they have to wait another week. Therefore sometimes the passengers will wait three weeks to get to Qikiqtarjuaq or Clyde River. This is inappropriate and especially when a loved one dies, some family members can't reach their destination. I don't know which airline schedules should be fixed or changed, but I am asking this question to the minister responsible for Transportation to see if they can rectify this situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our department can't tell the airlines what to do but we are now finding out all of these concerns. In regards to your statement we can write a letter to convey your concern to the airline. Since Nunavut was created we want to see the airline schedules going to the communities frequently and I would like to tell the member here that we will relay your concern by way of letter to the appropriate airline.

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

Question 20 - 1(3): Cost of Merchandise

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Transportation. I know that all the goods and services at the stores are very expensive, for example our daily goods that we have to buy. Could you do a review or study to find out how much these items cost, or how expensive these are because some young families cannot even afford to buy their staples. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. I will direct your question to Mr. Anawak since he is responsible for that portfolio.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are very aware of the high cost of living in the Nunavut Settlement area. The Canadian Government has some programs to reduce the cost of living in Nunavut, but of course these programs do not go directly to the consumers, for example, those on social assistance. I had a meeting with Nav Canada, when we took on the Department of Transportation, we had a meeting with them to see if they could further reduce the costs.

For example, giving reduced fares for goods and services, for freight. We had a meeting with Nav Canada, and we talked about reducing the costs of freight and of course we also have to pay for landing fees.

We haven't set up any programs but we would like to review the cost of living through my department. Like I said, we haven't completed all the reviews that we would like to do and I cannot respond to your question right at this time.

Speaker: Mr. Tootoo.

Question 21 - 1(3): Funding for Classroom Supplies

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker my question is for the minister responsible for education. Mr. Speaker, during the last little while since school started I have been approached on a number of occasions by parents that have expressed concern over the fact that they had to do fund raising in order to provide supplies for their childrens' class rooms.

I would like to ask the minister responsible if the schools are funded for providing supplies necessary in the class rooms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The funding is given to District Education Authorities from the Regional Education Council on a per student basis. The school receives O&M funding on a per capita basis. It is strictly up to the District Education Authorities how they spend that money.

What they buy with that money is not up to the Department of Education. If for example, additional purchases are required that are not authorized by the Education Authority, then an individual teacher has the freedom to do fund raising, for example if they want a kayak for the class room, the teacher has the freedom to do fund raising for that equipment or those supplies.

But I would like to tell the member that they are funded on a per capita basis and we have no direct control as to how they spend that.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for confirming how the funding is allocated to the schools. On that basis Mr. Speaker, one of the schools here in Iqaluit, the breakdown per classroom in order to supply them with the materials necessary for the class room, I will just outline what those materials are. Basic materials, notebooks, workbooks, visual aids, markers, crayons, construction paper, maybe if they want to have a sand table for kids to use, the younger ones, water table, blocks,

encyclopaedia, dictionaries, manipulative or solid items that the children use for math and things like that. Paint, pencils and pens, anything besides furniture.

A class room in one of the schools here is allocated, based on the formula, 400 dollars a year to provide all of those materials necessary for the students in that class. Mr. Speaker with an average class size of 25 students per class that works out, in order to provide those basic materials to each student, to 16 dollars per year.

I would like to ask the Minister of Education if he feels those are adequate resources in order to provide supplies to our young children in the class rooms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I will provide the member those details. There are approximately, I can't even count how many schools there are in Nunavut now, but lots. I will provide the details for the particular school the member is referring to, but first I have to get the information from the Regional Education Council and in turn that particular organization will have to ask the DEA for those details. I can attempt to provide that but the member will have to give me a little bit of time to get the information on everything that has been spent.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Third supplementary Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wasn't asking the minister to provide me with a list of materials that were provided, I was asking the minister if he felt that was an adequate amount of funding for the provision of supplies to the class rooms for the schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo, you cannot ask for an opinion from the minister. Maybe you can rephrase your question. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How can I rephrase it. Mr. Speaker, I guess according to the formula through which funding is allocated to the schools, I would wonder if the minister could provide how those numbers are arrived at in the formula and maybe a review of that formula would show if there is adequate funding or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Mr. Speaker, thank you. I certainly could have told the member how I feel about this.

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, the budget that is given to the department, the last figure that we had in the Main Estimates, is 133 million dollars. That creates a pie and all of these allocations are given equally on a ratio basis, to District Education Councils, or Divisional Education Councils. That in turn, through a per capita formula system is given, as I said, to the schools.

Of course these are not adequate, because from this pie when we disseminate those funds, then we no longer have control because they still have to pay for the teachers and the O&M and everything that goes with it. So until such time as they are given specific instructions as to how much they must spend on those materials and supplies and etc, they will continue to have that freedom to allocate money for the supplies required.

From that, once we are given a budget from this Assembly, through the Main Estimates, we really don't have much of a role to play in it.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Oral Questions. Oral questions, Mr. Nutarak.

Question 22 - 1(3): Administrative Support for Elders Societies

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. There are elders' societies established in our communities and we have one in our community. They don't have employees or support services. They don't have secretaries to handle their administrative matters. My question to the minister is if he could look into providing positions for these so that the elders' societies can have administrative support services.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, Mr. Haviyak.

Hon. Donald Haviyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could not hear him.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak had a question regarding administrative support for the elders. Mr. Haviyak was going to respond as the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. We had technical difficulties. At this point we will give Mr. Haviyak an opportunity to respond to Mr. Nutarak's question. Mr. Haviyak.

Hon. Donald Haviyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sorry, we were cut off. Thank you very much Mr. Speaker. I just want you to recognize that the person who was going to be assisting me with elders has not yet been hired. I will confirm with you who will be assisting me when the hiring is done. Right now it is not confirmed and this will be looked at, at a later date at which time I will confirm. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have another question for Mr. Haviyak. When we had our meeting in April, I asked this same question regarding the larger communities with larger populations. My comment in April was that if we had a full time position for the elders societies it would cost too much. So I made the suggestion that perhaps the larger communities elders' societies could get a secretarial support position on a half time basis. That was just in relation to the larger communities where they have elders' societies and if it's possible to get a half time position to give administrative support for these societies.

The reason I am saying this is that we need to retain the elders knowledge and to have everything written down so that we don't forget our culture and our language. So my question again is would you be able to give us half time positions for the elders societies in the larger communities.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, Mr. Haviyak.

Hon. Donald Haviyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I want to point out that the senior advisor for the elders is still not hired today but will be hired very shortly now. That's one of the options that will be looked at by the staff. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyak. Oral questions, Mr. McLean.

Question 23 - 1(3): Rent Supplement Program

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I have a question for the minister responsible for housing. Given the concerns that have been raised by many members in the House on the lack of social housing and the urgent need for both a short and long term solution on this issue, is the minister aware of the rent supplement program that was in existence under the old GNWT and still is, whereby the private sector provided housing to the Corporation for people who were unable to pay for, or to find suitable housing?

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Housing. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize, we grandfathered the legislation from the past government and we are reviewing the legislation and I understand your question. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Until the time when the Task Force on Housing has completed its work and brought forward its recommendations, is the Minister for Housing prepared to give consideration to re-introducing such a program as soon as possible, by discussing with the Finance minister and her cabinet colleagues the need for additional dollars to put this program back into effect. Ma'na.

Speaker: Ma'na Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Housing, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could work with the Minister of Finance and other appropriate ministers to review those programs. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Third supplementary Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na, Uqaqti. I appreciate the minister's response so I will ask her one final question on the issue. Will she commit to advising the House in the January session what steps she will take to bring this important issue forward and into effect by the new year and will she commit to this. Ma'na Uqaqti.

Speaker: Mr. McLean, that's three questions on your final supplementary, but, again, once more I will remind you that on your final supplementary it has to be one question. This time I will allow the minister to answer. Minister responsible for Housing, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to your issue, it effects us all and he has been working on the issue of housing for a long time and he is well aware of what the problems are. I can assure you that I will look into this further and I will make a comment in our January session. I agree.

Speaker: Mr. Kattuk.

Question 24 - 1(3): Oil Tank Upgrade Project

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Public Works, Ms. Thompson. When we were in our budget session it was agreed for my constituency that there would be some renovations done on our oil tanks. I was told that this was not going to go ahead any more because there was no funding available for these renovations. The contractor and I had a discussion before I came here and I was told that these tanks weren't filled to full capacity because they were going to be working on them this fall. Could you give me an update on what is happening.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Public Works, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our department is called Sanajiliriji in Inuktitut. Department of Public Works. I know that we have to come up with a better term in Inuktitut, but our department is called Sanajilirijimi, Department of Public Works.

The member for Sanikiluaq informed me about his concerns on this issue and the member is also very busy dealing with other concerns. It is true that there was a proposal to renovate the tanks, we were lacking in funding, but now we have revised the proposal for

April 2000, we will deal with that project again. So that is the information that I can give you, that we will have funding for April 2000. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Kattuk.

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I will rephrase my question. Thank you Ms. Thompson for your response, but I would like to ask if the oil tanks were filled to capacity. I was wondering if we are going to have an adequate fuel supply prior to April. If the oil tanks are not filled to capacity will we have a sufficient fuel supply for the winter.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Minister responsible for Public Works, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If there is an insufficient fuel supply, we will rectify the problem but at this point in time I have not heard about Sanikiluaq being supplied with insufficient fuel. I don't know if it will be sufficient for the winter but if that has happened we will rectify the situation when we experience it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. O'Brien.

Question 25 - 1(3):Elders Living Below Poverty Line

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker my question is directed to the Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, for elders in particular. Mr. Speaker through the course of the morning we spoke with the elders and then had some comments made about the importance of elders.

To my mind Mr. Speaker, we seem to always be looking to the elders for advice and looking to the elders in general. I would like to take the issue an unusual step further and say what can we do for the elders, not only in this Assembly, but also through the other aboriginal bodies that exist in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker my question to the minister in this regard is, does the minister have any idea as to how many elders may be living below the poverty line in Nunavut. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, Mr. Haviyok.

Hon. Donald Haviyok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for his question. At this time we are looking into this and I want to reply to your question accurately. I will keep this in mind and I will get back to you on that.

Speaker: He is not aware how many people are on the poverty line at this time until research is done. I think that is a hypothetical question Mr. O'Brien. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I made an assumption that there may be some statistics on this particular issue. My second question to the minister is, would the minister commit to follow up this issue with a study, a survey to find out exactly what the numbers are if they do exist. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes, I will look into this and get back to you again.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 26 - 1(3): Lack of Job Opportunities for Youth

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not too sure to whom I should be directing this question, but perhaps to the Community Government minister. In Taloyoak we met with the organizations in the community. I think they are called interagency committees, they had a concern, and it's a fact I believe, that the children have no place to go after school. Perhaps the appropriate minister has some plans to rectify this situation, because there are no opportunities available for young children and that is a concern of Taloyoak residents, because the students have nothing to do after school.

I was wondering if the Minister for Community Government and Transportation has any plans.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. I appreciate your question and I think in most of the communities we have discussed the lack of employment for young people or for young students. When they are bored at night they get into mischief. Even last night during our meeting we discussed how we can work with the Hamlet Councils and the Iqaluit Town Council and I was thinking that we could meet with the municipalities so that we could start working on this issue.

If our young children had things to do and if they lived a healthier lifestyle, they would be better educated. I just want to point out to you that at this point, yes we have felt it and we are looking for ways to deal with this issue by working with the members of the Legislative Assembly, and with the communities assistance.

(interpretation ends) I'll take it as notice Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak, the question is taken as notice. Oral questions, Mr. Nutarak.

Question 27 - 1(3): Education Act Review

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Education. When Mr. Arvaluk was making his statement, he said they would be working on the Education Act and he would table that some time in the future.

I know the Education Act will have to be amended to reflect Nunavut. How do you see proceeding with the review of the Act. Will you be involving the communities, how are you going to be working on the amendment of the Act? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister responsible for Education.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated before, we are now starting to consult with the communities and are receiving their input. Now we will start drafting the act in Inuktitut first. We will continue to consult with the communities and the members of the Legislative Assembly on the drafting of the bill in Inuktitut. We expect in the upcoming winter session, perhaps a January or February session, we will table the bill to be read for the first time and if we have the opportunity we will read it for a second time. If we read it for the second time it will be up to the members of the Legislative Assembly how they want to deal with the bill.

If we are going to give it to a standing committee, once it has been given to the committee, you will be able to consult with the communities and get their input to the bill. So once we give it to the Standing Committee it will be at their discretion whether they want to consult with the communities. After it is read for the second time it will be up to your discretion how long you want to work on this amendment.

There was a bill passed that the Regional Boards of Education will be dissolved. If we can have the Education bill read for the third time in the spring session we will be able to implement and it will reflect Nunavut's needs. It will be up to the cabinet when the third reading will happen. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Oral questions, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 28 - 1(3): Changes to School Funding

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to the Minister of Education. My colleague just discussed the reform of the Education Act. I would like to ask the minister if through this reform process the way the schools are funded would also be looked at. I know, as you indicated earlier, that it is all on formula funding and it switched to that from program funding as we were having all kinds of problems with program funding. So I would like to ask the minister if they will be looking at changes to how they are funded and not only the enactment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Mr. Speaker, naturally. What we will be doing in our department will be looking at the old act and all of the concerns that were brought before, that were not instituted into the Act, and we will also be looking at all the concerns of the Education Authorities, private citizens, the parents, the children, including how the funding system has been allocating funds.

The government has indicated that education is one of our priorities and we will be looking at how our goals and objectives and mission statements can be effectively changed to reflect exactly what we want to do with education for now and for the future. So everything, all the responses we will be getting from the citizens of Nunavut, will be considered in the rewriting of the Education Act.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Oral questions, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to ask for a clarification from the minister. The way that the schools are funded, is that something that is stipulated in the act. That it be formula funded or program funded, is that something that is stipulated in the act? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if the word stipulation would be proper at this time, because we are looking at everything that needs to be included or excluded from the Education Act re-write. But I will assure the member that every possible subject of discussion will be included in the rewrite including how the budget is distributed to Education Authorities after the Divisional Boards of Education are dissolved in July 2000.

So I don't want to contemplate or stipulate any specific matter because I want to be completely open on this consultation process and that will be the basis of it.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker then I guess what I am hearing is that the minister is committing that the public has some input into how the schools are funded. In his letter that was sent out on the principals, it doesn't address that. So I would like to ask if he would commit to informing the appropriate bodies for input on that exact thing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Mr. Speaker, it is more or less stated in the principles, I did not want to put any kind of specific detail in these principles, but one of the basic principles is that we will be open to all of the discussions that the citizens of Nunavut would like to present to the Department of Education.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Oral questions, Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 29 - 1(3): Public Housing Repairs

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you. My question is directed to the Minister for Housing. When I went to visit my constituency last summer some of the houses had not been retrofitted. There is one house with oil burner heating and I was wondering if your department can look into my constituency because they are still using the old system of heating.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the very first time that I have heard about it. I don't know whether it is in Repulse Bay or Pelly Bay. Could you elaborate on which community you are talking about so that I could direct my staff to look into this situation and find out what we can do to rectify the problem.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Repulse Bay their houses are not built adequately, they even seem to be unsafe to live in and that has to be rectified. Some of the houses are still using the old stove heating system and they only have one heater in the house and it seemed to be unsafe. It is that heating stove, it is so old, I felt that it was unsafe. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my staff to look into your concern, but I think that each and every one of us are aware that O&M dollars for housing are eating up the majority of our budget. This is the very first time I have heard about this concern of Repulse Bay, but I will direct my staff to deal with this and I will keep you updated. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much for your response. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Oral questions, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 30 - 1(3): Status of Clyde River Hamlet Funding

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Community Government minister. Last June during the session of the Legislative Assembly, we had a crisis in Clyde River and I tabled that to the House at that time and

this was going to be dealt with. Work has been done on this issue, but I have not been updated as to what you have done and I have not heard your position on this, or how much work has been done and what kind of developments have occurred. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for Community Government. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to Mr. Iqaqrialu's question I know exactly where he is coming from. One of our employees has been working on this issue for quite some time. We have agreed that we will cost share a position with the Hamlet Council to hire a bookkeeper and I have had discussions with the SAO in the community.

There have been ongoing discussions with the Hamlet Council and my department and I would suggest that I have a meeting with Mr. Iqaqrialu and also the Mayor of Clyde River. I think that we will be able to meet and discuss this further. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that there have been ongoing discussions between your department and the Hamlet. I had a discussion with the SAO, the Hamlet Council and the employees of the Hamlet Council. In order to carry out proper operations I was told by the SAO that they were contemplating cutting down their hours or their salary because of the deficit situation.

Those are some of the options that we heard from your department. If that is going to be the case it is going to create a problem for the people of Clyde River and it is not a small problem. We are going to have to deal with this issue and your department and your staff and the people of Clyde River are going to have to have further discussions.

If you cut down on their wages or you cut down on their hours...

Speaker (interpretation): Please sit down Mr. Mr. Iqaqrialu. During oral questions you can not talk about general issues, but you can direct your question to the appropriate minister if you like.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): I apologize, of course we all make mistakes once in a while and it doesn't intimidate me either because I learn from my mistakes. My question, following the statements I made, are you going to be cutting back on the employee salaries or are you going to be cutting back on their hours?

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): The union negotiates the wages of the employees. The Hamlet Council, since they were established, get formula funding on a per capita basis. The Hamlets, if I can use an example, if they are thinking about cutting back on the

wages of their employees, we can't do anything about it. If they went into a deficit situation or went over budget, of course, the Department of Community Government will deal with the issue and we will talk with the Hamlet Council or the member of the Legislative Assembly about the problems.

We haven't said that this is what we are going to be doing, but we have had discussions with the Hamlet Council and the appropriate member of the Legislative Assembly. If they don't want cutbacks, then we would have to start dialogues again. If this problem cannot be rectified by the employees, then we would meet with the member of the Legislative Assembly and the elected Council of the Clyde River Hamlet.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. We have reached our hour. If you would like to ask a further question Mr. Iqaqrialu, I will give you an opportunity at this time. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have another question. These are deficits that have accumulated from the 70's, from the 80's and the deficit has accumulated over the years and it is huge now. It wasn't the local government's fault. Can we just forgive or write off the old deficit. I believe that we have to have discussions of these issues.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said the communities are funded on a per capita basis. The Hamlets, I believe there are 26 of them in the Nunavut Settlement area, there are some communities that are operating within their budget, if they need help then we give them help. If there are problems financially in the Hamlet Councils we end up helping those communities and it is our staff or the Hamlet staff that have dialogue to rectify the problem and afterwards it is up to us.

I would like to tell the member of the Legislative Assembly that very likely we will have to meet with the employees of the Hamlet Council and also the appropriate MLA.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. That is it for oral questions. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 7, Written Questions. Written Questions. Item 8, Petitions. Sorry I apologize I have the wrong one here. Item 9, Replies to Opening Address. Item 10, Petitions. Petitions. Item 11, Reports of Special and Standing Committees. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12, Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills.

Item 13, Tabling of Documents. Mr. Clerk.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 05 - 1(3): Candidates' Election Returns and Declarations

Mr. Quirke: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 183(4) of the Nunavut First Elections Act, I wish to table candidates' election returns and declarations respecting election contributions and expenses. The names of the candidates are listed by ridings and are attached to this tabled document. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Clerk. Item 14, Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Item 15, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16, Motions. Item 17, First Reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 1 – Loan Authorization Act 99/2000

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 1 – Loan Authorization Act, 99/2000 be read for the first time. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 1 has had first reading. First reading of bills, Mr. Ng.

Bill 2 - An Act to Amend the Worker's Compensation Act

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 2 – An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, be read for the first time.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion carried. Bill 2 has had its first reading. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Anawak.

Bill 3 – An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nanulik riding, that Bill 3 – (interpretation ends) An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act, be read for the first time.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Anawak your motion is in order. Comments or questions to the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act, has now been read for the first time. First reading of bills. Mr. Anawak.

Bill 4 – An Act to Amend the Legal Services Act

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 4 – An Act to Amend the Legal Services Act, be read for the first time.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 4 has had its first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Ng.

Bill 5 – Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 99/2000

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Kugluktuk, that Bill 5 – Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 99/2000 be read for the first time.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 5 has had first reading.

Item 18, Second Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19, Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Item 20, Report of the Committee of the Whole. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Item 21, Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22, Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Quirke: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder for members that 2 o'clock is picture taking time here in the Chambers. Orders of the Day for Monday, October 25, 1999, 1.30 in the afternoon.

Item 1, Prayer.

Item 2, Ministers' Statements.

Item 3, Members' Statements.

Item 4, Returns to Oral Questions.

Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Item 6, Oral Questions.

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 Review of Bills.

Item 13, Tabling of Documents.

Item 14, Notices of Motion.

Item 15, Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills.

Item 16, Motions.

Motion 1 – 1 (3) Report of the Chief Electoral Officer

Item 17, First Reading of Bills.

Item 18, Second Reading of Bills.

Bill 1 – Loan Authorization Act

Bill 2 – An Act to Amend the WCB Act

Bill 3 – An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act

Bill 4 – An Act to Amend the Legal Services Act

Bill 5 – Supplementary Appropriations Act, No. 1, 1999/2000

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

Item 20, Report of Committee of the Whole.

Item 21, Third Reading of Bills.

Item 22, Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Clerk. There will be refreshments and snacks for the members in the Nanuq Board Room. At this point the House stands recessed until Monday, October 25, 1999 at 1.30 in the afternoon. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> House adjourned at 12.20 p.m.

