



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

3rd Session

1st Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 8

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1999

Pages 227 - 276

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Levi Barnabas
(Quttiktuq)

Ovide Alakannuark
(Akulliq)

Enoki Irqittuq
(Amittuq)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Kevin O'Brien
(Arviat)
Chair of Caucus

Glenn McLean
(Baker Lake)

Hon. Kelvin Ng
(Cambridge Bay)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Finance and Administration; Minister of Human Resources; Government House Leader

Peter Kattuk
(Hudson Bay)

Hunter Tootoo
(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Ed Picco
(Iqaluit East)
Minister of Health and Social Services

Hon. Paul Okalik
(Iqaluit West)
Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Donald Havioyak
(Kugluktuk)
Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth

Hon. James Arvaluk
(Nanulik)
Minister of Education

Uriash Puqiqnak
(Nattilik)
Deputy Speaker

Hon. Peter Kilabuk
(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Sustainable Development

Hon. Jack Anawak
(Rankin Inlet North)
Minister of Justice; Minister of Community Government and Transportation

Hon. Manito Thompson
(Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove)
Minister of Housing; Minister of Public Works, Telecommunications and Technical Services

Olayuk Akesuk
(South Baffin)

Jobie Nutarak
(Tunnunuiq)

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

Officers

Clerk
John Quirke

Deputy Clerk
Rhoda Perkison

Clerk of Committees
Nancy Tupik

Law Clerk
Susan Cooper

Sergeant at Arms
Timothy Kamookak

Editors of Hansard
Innirvik Support Services

*Box 1200
Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0
Tel (867) 979-6770 Fax (867) 979-6811 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266*

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer	227
Ministers' Statements.....	227
Members' Statements.....	230
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery	234
Oral Questions	236
Tabling of documents	255
Notices of Motions.....	255
Motions	255
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	256
Report of the Committee of the Whole.....	274
Orders of the Day	275

Daily References

A.

Friday, October 29, 1999	227
--------------------------------	-----

B.

Ministers' Statements

34 - 1(3): Recruitment & Retention of Health Care Providers (Picco).....	227
35 - 1(3): French Language School in Iqaluit (Arvaluk)	228
36 - 1(3): Appointments to NDC and NBCC Boards (Kilabuk).....	229

C.

Members' Statements

53 - 1(3): NTI Bruisers Vs MLA Sharks (Picco).....	230
54 - 1(3): Relaxation Tapes and Inuit (Arvaluk)	230
55 - 1(3): Importance of Education (Alakannuark)	231
56 - 1(3): MLA Sharks Goalie (Thompson)	231
57 - 1(3): NTI / MLA Hockey Game MVP (Iqaqrialu)	232
58 - 1(3): Joamie School Family Fun Night (Kilabuk).....	232
59 - 1(3): Sanikiluaq's Position on Time Zone Change (Kattuk)	232
60 - 1(3): Arvaluk and Hall Beach Memories (Irqittuq).....	233
61 - 1(3): Compromise for Time Zone Issue (O'Brien)	233

D.

Oral Questions

89 – 1(3): Time Zone (Out of Order) (O'Brien).....	236
90 – 1(3): Time Zone (Out of Order) (Irqittuq)	236
91 - 1(3): Infrastructure for Businesses (Puqiqnak).....	236

92 - 1(3): Health Centre Construction Delay (O'Brien).....	237
93 - 1(3): Rankin Inlet Utilidor Project (Iqaqrialu)	238
94 - 1(3): Gjoa Haven Fish Plant (Puqiqnak)	238
95 - 1(3): Purchase of Country Food from Kivalliq Communities (McLean).....	238
96 - 1(3): Housing for Social Worker (Akesuk).....	239
97 - 1(3): Funding for Access Road (Kattuk).....	239
98 - 1(3): Wheelchair for Clyde River Resident (Iqaqrialu).....	240
99 - 1(3): Doctor for Igloodik (Irqittuq)	241
100 - 1(3): Bowhead Whale Study (Alakannuark)	243
101 - 1(3): Appointment to Boards (Puqiqnak)	243
102 - 1(3): Internet Services in Communities (McLean).....	244
103 - 1(3): Health Statistics (Iqaqrialu)	246
104 - 1(3): Telehealth Systems (Irqittuq).....	247
105 - 1(3): Wrong Translation Attachment (Nutarak).....	248
106 - 1(3): Qikiqtarjuaq Airstrip (Iqaqrialu).....	249
107 - 1(3): Location of Old Dump Site (Nutarak)	249
108 - 1(3): Multi-Year Plans (Nutarak)	250
109 - 1(3): Social Services Employee in Arviat (O'Brien).....	250
110 - 1(3): Arctic College Centre in Hall Beach (Irqittuq).....	252
111 - 1(3): Full Time Mental Health Worker (McLean)	252
112 - 1(3): Cape Dorset Water Pipeline (Akesuk).....	252
113 - 1(3): Staffing for Elders Societies (Iqaqrialu)	253
114 - 1(3): Marketing for Fish (Irqittuq).....	253

115 - 1(3): Elders Housing (McLean)..... 254

116 - 1(3): Rules of the Assembly (Iqaqrialu)..... 254

F.

Tabling of Documents

13 - 1(3):Letter from Cape Dorset Mayor..... 255

G.

Motions

03 - 1(3): Sitting Hours (McLean)..... 256

H.

Committee Motions

1 - 1(3): Amendment to Bill 5 (Ng)..... 257

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, October 29, 1999**

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Honourable James Arvaluk, Honourable Levi Barnabas, Honourable Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irqittuq, 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 Manitok Thompson.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Opening Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much Deputy Speaker for saying the opening prayer. Back to the Orders of the Day. Item 2, Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 34 - 1(3): Recruitment & Retention of Health Care Providers**

Hon. Ed Picco: Qujannamiik Uqaqti. Uqaqti, I rise to inform this House about the progress that the Department of Health & Social Services has made towards our vision of establishing a stable work force to serve the people of Nunavut. We are all aware of the daily challenges that face the health and social service providers striving to meet the needs of Nunavummiut.

In recognition of their valued work our department has earmarked 1.26 million dollars in pay adjustments for Nunavut nurses and social workers, retroactive, Mr. Speaker, to April 1st, 1998. These adjustments will place our nurses and social workers amongst the highest paid in Canada. This, Mr. Speaker, is only one step towards creating a stable work force and I believe a demonstration of the high regard in which we hold our nurses and social workers.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health & Social Services is committed to being part of a government that seeks direction from the people. We have set up a team of representatives from across Nunavut to recommend solutions to the challenge of recruiting and retaining nurses in our communities. This group, the Nunavut Illusarijiit Action Team will work with Nunavut health care providers and each member has direct experience about what it takes to attract and retain nurses within Nunavut.

Their reports to the department will be treated with priority and contribute to the strategies being developed within the department. Mr. Speaker, the department is also in the process of hiring a Nunavut Work Force Development Officer. This person will be primarily responsible for recruitment

and retention activities within the department and will work closely with the Nunavut Illusarijiit Action Team.

Finally, I am pleased to tell you that over the next several months I am planning to hold a series of Ministerial Focus Groups in several Nunavut communities. The purpose of these focus groups is to allow me to consult directly with staff from community health centres about their concerns and their recommendations about the issues effecting recruitment and retention of health care providers in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker we have taken the first steps towards developing an effective recruitment and retention strategy for Nunavut, and I look forward to updating this House as these initiatives develop. I should also add, Mr. Speaker, that the Mental Health Worker that was requested last week for Arviat is now going to be in place in the coming weeks.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Deputy Speaker (Mr. Puqiqnak) (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Mr. Arvaluk.

Minister's Statement 35 - 1(3): French Language School in Iqaluit

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Yesterday I said I was going to be speaking in English and today I am going to be speaking in French.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker I am pleased to inform the Assembly that the Department of Education and the Government of Canada have reached an agreement in principle to construct a French as a first language school in Iqaluit.

The new French school will give us an opportunity to demonstrate our belief in cultural diversity within Nunavut. The building of this facility has long been a goal of the local Francophone Society. Mr. Speaker, the site for the new school will be adjacent to the middle school in the new subdivision and will share the yet to be constructed playground that will serve both schools.

Mr. Speaker, operational costs will come from the existing funding formula and supplemented through Heritage Canada funding for programs in support of French language instruction. The new French school will directly cost the Government of Nunavut approximately 500 thousand dollars over two years. In addition the Government of Nunavut and the Town of Iqaluit will provide 600 thousand dollars of in kind contributions.

The Federal Government will spend an estimated 4.5 million dollars to build the school. Nunavut will also receive approximately 539 thousand dollars in federal funds for program support and development to cover the costs of a French school program co-ordinator, support staff and associated administrative costs.

Mr. Speaker, under the present Canadian Constitution, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the Official Languages Act, in which there is provision for French language instruction, I am pleased to announce that we as the Government of Nunavut, in recognition of these rights and freedoms will be providing education in French to those young members of the French language community of Iqaluit. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Merci, Mr. Arvaluk. That was a good statement. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements, Mr. Kilabuk.

Minister's Statement 36 - 1(3): Appointments to NDC and NBCC Boards

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to be able to provide this House with the names of individuals appointed to the Board of the Nunavut Development Corporation and the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation.

On April 1, 1999, this government took over responsibility for the *Nunavut Development Corporation Act* which as members know, is responsible for making investments in community based businesses. In my home community of Pangnirtung there are two of these investments; Pangnirtung Fisheries Ltd, and Uqqummiut Arts and Crafts Ltd. There are seven other operating businesses in Nunavut.

I am pleased to announce that the following people will make up the Nunavut Development Corporation's Board: Directors Wilf Wilcox of Cambridge Bay, Ayou Peter of Iqaluit, Peter Tatty of Rankin Inlet, Jacopie Maniapik of Pangnirtung, Jackie Nakoolak of Coral Harbour, Peter Keenainak of Iqaluit.

And a seventh and final member is expected to be appointed later this month.

On April 1, 1999 this government also took responsibility for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation Act which provides loans, loan guarantees and bonds to Nunavut businesses.

I am pleased to announce that the following people will make up the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation's first Board of Directors; Robert Hanson of Iqaluit, Keith Peterson of Cambridge Bay, Mark Kalluak of Arviat, Peter Tapatie of Baker Lake, Mary Cody of Cambridge Bay, Ike Hauilli of Igloolik, Monica Ell of Iqaluit. The seventh and final member is expected to be appointed later this month, so I look forward to the Board assuming their responsibilities. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. Item 3, Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 53 - 1(3): NTI Bruisers Vs MLA Sharks

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise today with some urgency on a matter that occurred yesterday. Uqaqti, at approximately 8 pm across from the Racquet Ball Club, here in Iqaluit, an event of Stanley Cup proportions took place.

The NTI Bruisers challenged the MLA Sharks to participate in that great Canadian pastime, hockey. NTI was ably coached by Jose "the Killer" Kusugak and Pat "Burns" Lyall. They came with an awesome team, Mr. Speaker, centred and supported by the likes of James "Tank" Etuluk, and Paul "the King" Kaludjuak.

Now Mr. Speaker, members and staff of this House were second to none. Led by Paul "the Gump Worsely" Okalik in goals and James "68 Year Old Ace" Arvaluk. The ledge team were exciting and dominant. Uqaqti, Donald "the Hit Man" Havioyak and Peter "King" Kattuk, did a superb job in coaching our team.

Mr. Speaker, while the final score is in some doubt, it was by unanimous decision Mr. Speaker, unanimous decision, by the players and all the fans that attended the game, that yours truly, was voted MVP.

>>Laughter

...or Most Valuable Picco. Not bad for a player who broke his two feet and still can skate and score like an older Pavel Bure. I would like to thank NTI, the staff and members of this House for participating. All proceeds were donated to the homeless shelter here in Iqaluit. A special thanks to Jerry "the Excel" Ell, for an excellent job refereeing the game. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Congratulations to NTI. Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 54 - 1(3): Relaxation Tapes and Inuit

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Usually we don't comment about retail products here but I would like to make an exception. As employees or public servants or members of the Legislative Assembly, we have a hard time sleeping sometimes because of all the jobs that we have to do.

When I went to Victoria for an Education Ministers' Conference, my wife told me to look for a tape recording that would be soothing and serene and would put me to sleep at night. So when I asked her what particular tape I should be looking for she suggested wilderness type tunes with the sound of the environment and she said that would soothe me and that would take away my worries, so I bought one.

When I got up in the middle of the night and I couldn't go back to sleep because I was worried about what I was going to be doing the next day, I put on the tape to soothe myself. When I put it on the sound of animals and the outdoors came on I became more awake and very, very alert. My instinct was to get ready and go hunting.

So I don't suggest those tapes be bought by Inuit.

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

Member's Statement 55 - 1(3): Importance of Education

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I was in Repulse Bay just this fall and I met with various councils and boards in Repulse Bay and I went to visit the school. The children were about the age of the children in the gallery. What I told the smaller students was to continue their schooling and education and then I would tell them that perhaps when you get older you'll use a cane and then you can become an MLA. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 56 - 1(3): MLA Sharks Goalie

Hon. Manitoq Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Since today is Friday I am very pleased that we did quite a bit of work this week and now I hope we will be able to relax soon. Last night at the hockey game I was one of the observers and I was told to be the cheerleader to help cheer for the members of the Legislative Assembly. I did my best but I guess it didn't help very much, as the MLA team lost.

I couldn't quite figure out the time because the clock seemed to be at a standstill, I don't know whose time zone it was on. I also couldn't recognize the goalie for our team.

I didn't like his performance and I was yelling "remove the goalie", "get rid of him". I kept saying that and then my son came over and gave me his hockey stick. I used it to bang on the wall while chanting "get rid of him", "remove the goalie".

It was then that I found out it was Paul Okalik, our Premier. So I apologize today to Paul Okalik, because everyone else at the arena heard me and knew who it was, and I didn't. Unknowingly, I kept telling the people there to remove him. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 57 - 1(3): NTI / MLA Hockey Game MVP

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise today to tell you that I was at a meeting until late in the evening. I was looking forward to playing hockey with our team members but I was able to go there while the game was still in progress. I saw something that I didn't think that I was going to see.

Jobie Nutarak who is sitting next to me is a lot better hockey player than I am. So for your information he is my MVP. I also saw James Arvaluk zooming around on the ice. As for the other players, I thought there were a bunch of penalties that were uncalled for to my team. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 58 - 1(3): Joamie School Family Fun Night

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Last night we had a celebration up at Joamie School. There were games for both the students and the parents. When I was up there and walking around I was checking out what kinds of games were being played and where I could participate.

Somebody touched me on the shoulder and asked me if I was Peter Kilabuk. When I said yes he gave me a paper and it said, I am sorry but you have to go to jail. So I was put in jail, he brought me over there and I think I was there for a little over two minutes and then I kept checking around to see who had bought my time and today I still don't know who had put me there. But I believe it was one of my employees. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement 59 - 1(3): Sanikiluaq's Position on Time Zone Change

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Although you may be relaxed today, myself I am not. In regards to the time zone, yesterday the Hamlet Council of Sanikiluaq had an urgent meeting with the residents of Sanikiluaq in regards to the single time zone. They are still very opposed to the change.

Usually on October 31st, they just want to turn back with daylight savings time, by one hour. So they passed a motion to turn back one hour only, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. At this time I would like to recognize the students from grade six from Joamie School. I would like to recognize these students in the gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): My apologies, the note I have said grade six but these are from grade five from Joamie School. Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 60 - 1(3): Arvaluk and Hall Beach

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure that this morning you could loosen up and I am going to be speaking on a contentious issue. We of course have many friends and James Arvaluk and I have known each other for a long time, for as long as I can remember. I had never gone hunting with him during our years growing up together.

I think it was in the 1980's that he came to my community of Hall Beach. I am not going to give you the full details of what he was like in Hall Beach, but in the summer, my older brother, myself and Jamesie, went Beluga Whale hunting quite far from my community.

We were quite far away and we got a bearded seal and since we were far from my community, my older brother said that we could leave the meat, because we were going to be there for a long time and it would just rot. So James said in response, people tell us not to leave meat behind, so I want to load it up in the canoe.

Since those two couldn't agree and since I was the youngest one I didn't say anything, and then James started putting the meat in the canoe and my older brother took them out at the same time as James was putting them in. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. O'Brien.

Member's Statement 61 - 1(3): Compromise for Time Zone Issue

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about the issue of the single time zone for Nunavut. Mr. Speaker I commend the government for moving on this issue which is designed to unify Nunavut. Having one time zone for Nunavut is something that I personally support and also my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I am fortunate to live in a community that is in the geographic centre of Nunavut. This means for the people of my region and my community that they will not have to make a major change on October 31st. But Mr. Speaker it distresses me that many of the communities in the Baffin are expressing much discontent about this as it effects them more deeply.

Mr. Speaker I am sure that if this were my community that had been effected, I would feel the same as the members from Clyde River and the other communities that have expressed concern about the change. It appears, Mr. Speaker, that the discontent is not so much with the principle of the initiative as it is with the timing of it and the sense that communities were not able to participate in a fuller discussion about what this means to their lives.

This past week we have had petition after petition presented on this issue, and letter after letter from Mayors and Councillors indicating that motions had been passed not to change their clocks at the end of the month.

Mr. Speaker, if we are to have this change done in the spirit of unifying Nunavut, then we must do it in a manner which unifies and doesn't divide the people. Surely there must be some compromise which will allow the people of the Baffin communities to understand that the government is listening to their concerns. We have heard some suggestions from people to move the date of implementation of this initiative forward to the spring or summer when it would have less effect on the people's immediate routines. Could we openly accept that some communities might postpone the date they implement the changes and welcome that in the spirit of phasing in this change, rather than seeing it as an act of defiance.

Could we phase in so that the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq region begin on October 31st and the east begins on April 1st or July 1st. Mr. Speaker I don't know what the consensus or compromise should be but I do know that in the spirit of unifying Nunavut, we must try to reach it on this important issue. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Item 5, Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Premier.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize Mr. Fortier the President of the Francophone Association of Iqaluit. Mr. Carriere Director of the Francophone Association of Iqaluit. Madame Lefebvre the Co-ordinator of French Languages. Welcome. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Merci Mr. Premier. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I was also going to recognize the Francophone Association President and the other members, but the Premier did that so I would like to recognize again the grade 5 students and their teachers from Joamie School. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manito Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a very capable and able employee, Mr. Thomas Tiktak, who is sitting over there. I believe he can also speak French if he has written material in front of him. He is a very competent employee and he gives out

information on the radio now in Rankin. I am very thankful that he is here and I would like to welcome him. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Welcome to the gallery, Mr. Tiktak. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker some of the members are stealing my thunder this morning. I want to take this opportunity this morning Mr. Speaker to welcome to the gallery the students and the staff of Joamie School. A special thank you to Ms. Pat Angnakak and parent Maureen Doherty who drove the kids down here to the ledge this morning.

Also a special thanks to Jane Tagak and Theresa Lynch the two teachers who brought the students here from Joamie School. A special hello to my son who is a member of the class, Wally, who is over there trying to hide, he doesn't come very often to see his dad perform, but I thank him for coming this morning. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. (interpretation) Welcome to the gallery and to the people Mr. Picco mentioned. Recognition of visitors in the gallery, Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Picco stole my thunder when he mentioned the name of that teacher who is sitting over there. She used to teach up in Clyde River and I am very glad that you are still sitting with students. I am very proud of her and also all of the students who are now looking into their future. I recognize them all and Pat Angnakak, who has been a friend of mine for a long time, I recognize her and also everyone in the gallery. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize at this time a role model in the community. We had a raffle and I would like to recognize a person who got a skidoo at the skidoo draw, Paul Idlout who works for CBC. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Welcome to our gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize a person who is always here with us and if they left our meeting it would stop right away, it may go ahead but those of us who are unilingual would ask for the meeting to stop. I would like to recognize Blandina Tulugarjuk and Mary Nashook. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Back to the orders of the day, item 6, oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 89 – 1(3): Time Zone (Out of Order)

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker my question is directed to the Premier and it is concerning the time zone issue. Mr. Speaker my question is; is there any possibility that at this point in time, I know that it is somewhat late in the exercise, that the changing of the time, some kind of a modification could take place or is it too late. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. I am sorry Mr. O'Brien, I have to rule you out of order. You will have to discuss this in committee of the whole according to the order paper. Thank you. Oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 90 – 1(3): Time Zone (Out of Order)

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I too have a question about the time zone, but I don't know who to direct it to, but I hope that I am going to get a response. Although you ruled my colleague out of order, this is Nunavut wide now and not confidential, why can't we ask a question in this regard, because everybody is aware of it now. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. In regards to your question I also rule it out of order because you will have the opportunity to ask questions during committee of the whole where it is already on your agenda, so I rule it out of order. Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 91 - 1(3): Infrastructure for Businesses

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Sustainable Development. Mr. Speaker, I wrote a letter in regards to the shortage of infrastructure for businesses in our community. It is hard to initiate businesses due to the lack of infrastructure. Can you update me on any developments for the two communities in my constituency. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Deputy Speaker. Minister Responsible for Sustainable Development. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. To date we are still in review. Since we received the letter you sent and we are still reviewing it, looking for the best possible way and we are aware of it. We do have a Superintendent in your area and he is now reviewing it personally as to how he can best support your request. To date the review is ongoing and that is the only answer that I can give you. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I know that we do have a Superintendent in the Kitikmeot area but for the capital plan 1999/2000 do we expect to see any money for the year 2000 for Taloyoak and Uqsuqtuq. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Minister responsible for Sustainable Development. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. At this point in time we have not identified any plans, but as I have stated before and I will repeat myself this is under review at this point in time and we would like to come up with the best possible solution in regards to your question. We still haven't made any commitments.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Question 92 - 1(3): Health Centre Construction Delay

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker my question is to the Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker it relates to the delay in the construction of the health centre in my home community of Arviat. I wonder if the minister could update me as to the status of this project. It was delayed but there has been some success, I guess, to get it kick started. If the minister could give us some details. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister of Health, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I appreciate the member's question, it gives me an opportunity to update the House on the new Arviat Health Centre. As members know and it was announced in this House previously, we are proceeding to move forward on this P3 project to build and construct a new health centre in Arviat.

What happened was Mr. Speaker, when the construction corporation was building the facility and went into Arviat they inspected the soil on the lot, and there was some oil contamination there and that has delayed the project, because that contaminated soil had to be removed. It is still going to move forward, there have been discussions with the Development Corporation and indeed, with the Council and the Mayor of Arviat.

It is delayed right now but it is expected to move forward in earnest in April or May of this spring for construction of this facility. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral question, Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker it is my understanding that part of the problem has been rectified and there had to be a clean up and so on and it is just a question of costs. My question would be who pays for this additional cost to clean up this site to make it ready for construction. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister of Health.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker as I stated earlier there was a problem with the lot and some soil contamination. We are in the process right now as a government and my understanding is that we are looking at some legal considerations to see if there is some responsibility

on behalf of the people who tested the lot for environmental contaminants previous to or prior to the actual construction. So that is what's happening right now. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 93 - 1(3): Rankin Inlet Utilidor Project

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Finance. In Rankin Inlet a mistake on a utilidor project was made. I want to get an update on that, will the Government of Nunavut be responsible for that mistake, for the costs of that mistake. That is my question Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister of Community Government, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. In regards to the Hamlet Council and Public Works it was a joint project and I am sorry I cannot tell you how much more money it cost us and who will be paying for those extra costs. I will take it as notice.

Speaker (interpretation): The Minister has taken it as notice Mr. Iqaqrialu. Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 94 - 1(3): Gjoa Haven Fish Plant

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Sustainable Development. In Gjoa Haven last summer the fish plant was closed and was not even used during the summer even though during the previous summer we had utilized that fishing plant which is in the HTO office. I had given the minister a proposal and I was wondering what the status is right now.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Minister for Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The proposal was recently received and due to prior commitments, I have not had a chance to respond to you so I will take your question under notice. Thank you.

Speaker: Deputy Speaker. The minister has taken your question as notice, Mr. Puqiqnak, after he has done his review he will be able to answer your questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 95 - 1(3): Purchase of Country Food from Kivalliq Communities

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Presently there is a federally inspected meat and fish plant located in Rankin Inlet. At this point, we all know there is a job shortage in the Kivalliq region and there is an abundance of fish and caribou in the region. Would the minister investigate the possibility of

purchasing fish and caribou from all the Kivalliq communities so it can stimulate the traditional economy. Thank you.

Speaker: Ma'na Mr. McLean. Minister of Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. We could take your question under notice and I also want to find that out from the new members of the Nunavut Development Corporation, during this time they are just settling up right now but you will be able to work with them. Perhaps through them we will be able to deal with this, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Oral questions. Mr. Akesuk.

Question 96 - 1(3): Housing for Social Worker

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. I have made repeated requests to find out if there is housing available now in Kimmirut for the social service workers. I have asked this question to the Minister of Health and now again, I would like to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services if you are looking to see whether there is housing available for the social service workers in Kimmirut. We have just heard in Mr. O'Brien's riding that they have housing provided, so I am asking this question.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Akesuk has been a very persistent and strong advocate for the social worker position in Kimmirut. I should add that last week in this House, as the minister responsible for social workers and indeed, nurses and other health professionals in the communities, we talked about and said in response to his question at that time that we did not have staff housing, Government of Nunavut staff housing available in the community. Although the community of Kimmirut had identified two private homes that may be available, Mr. Speaker, for the accommodations for the staffing of the social worker position.

In this case, Mr. Speaker, the minister responsible for staff housing, Hon. Maniok Thompson, is following up on that request and we want to make sure that we are able to secure housing, it is an urgent priority of our department to fill that position in Kimmirut, as soon as possible as I explained earlier in response to that question last week. The situation is though, Mr. Speaker, is that we don't have a policy in place right now as a government where we subsidize privately owned accommodation for our Government of Nunavut employees and it is something that we have to look at and we also have to make sure of what the cost-benefit analysis may be in this situation. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Kattuk.

Question 97 - 1(3): Funding for Access Road

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Community Government. I have a question in regards to inadequate funding for an access road that

was built. The minister had made a statement that the Hamlets have to request funding on an annual basis. My question is do we have to do that.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Community Government, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. In regards to the building of roads outside of the Hamlet boundaries I believe with the past government they got funding to build additional roads that are outside of the Hamlet boundaries. This didn't get passed on to the Nunavut Government but we are presently having discussions with the Federal Government Department of Transportation. We hope soon to get funds for those types of projects but I can't tell you exactly how much money we will be receiving.

I can only say that we will review those types of programs, programs that are set up for access roads. I do know that there was such a program set up by the GNWT but I don't know, we'll look into it and have discussions with the Federal Government. Thank you.

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

Question 98 - 1(3): Wheelchair for Clyde River Resident

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. We have a disabled person in our community who has been waiting for a wheelchair for a long time., could you tell me the status or give me an update on what is happening.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for health, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I attended along with Premier Okalik, the founding meeting for Disabled People for Nunavut here in Iqaluit and at that meeting I think the person that the member is talking about was there. It was a sad situation Mr. Speaker, the person that the member was talking about from his community was in an ill fitted wheelchair.

After seeing that myself and the Premier, immediately made a phone call to the hospital and by the time the person in question had left the meeting to go back to their home, they had a replacement wheelchair. I think that was a very good thing to see. So the status of that, if that is what the member is asking about, is the wheelchair will be replaced and a motorized wheelchair has been ordered by the Baffin Regional Health and Social Services Board for that patient.

Now on the other issue of the Board itself, the Board for Handicapped and Disabled People is under Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, Mr. Speaker that's another good thing that the Government of Nunavut has done, we have made a contribution so that organization can staff, fill the position and have someone working for them. I believe the chairman is Mr. Davidee Arnaquq who I have had an opportunity to meet at that meeting and have been in communication with him in the past. The worker here in Iqaluit is Meeka Kilabuk, who needs no introduction. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I know that we expect that wheelchair to come in. When do we expect that wheelchair to come into my community. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister of Health, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker we should point out I guess at this time and explain something about wheelchairs. A lot of people believe that you just sit in a wheelchair. Indeed, Mr. Speaker the wheelchair has to be fitted properly. We have a person right now working for the Baffin Regional Health and Social Services Board who is actually trained in fitting people for a wheelchair. You just don't take any wheelchair, Mr. Speaker.

What had happened previously with that patient, to my understanding, is that there was only one wheelchair available in Clyde River and that was given to the person because they needed a wheelchair. It wasn't fitted properly and this was pointed out to me as the Minister of Health and Social Services and Premier Okalik when we attended the meeting here in Iqaluit. We rectified the situation by getting a wheelchair and getting it fitted at that time at the hospital.

The wheelchair in question Mr. Speaker, is a motorized wheelchair, it has a battery where the person will be able to navigate in their home which is a good thing. When exactly that wheelchair will be coming in, my understanding from about three weeks ago, when we fitted the patient in question with the wheelchair was that it was on order and my understanding at that time was that it would be about six to eight weeks. I can assure the member right now that I will follow up on that after the House finishes today, to find out exactly when the wheelchair in question will be made available to that patient, the constituent of Mr. Iqaqrialu in Clyde River. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 99 - 1(3): Doctor for Igloolik

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Last spring we were supposed to get a doctor in Igloolik which is my constituency and you said this at the time that you and I went to Igloolik. You told the Igloolik residents that you would be getting them a resident doctor. But this was not the case so now my question is Mr. Speaker, are there any plans to get this doctor for Igloolik.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Minister for Health and Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased that the member has brought up this question and the reason of course being the misinformation surrounding the doctor and the community of Igloolik. What happened, Mr. Speaker, and the member knows this because he was with me, I was invited to go to the community of Igloolik by the member, I wanted to go up there and talk about the dissolution of the health boards.

When I arrived at a community meeting, at a public meeting, the Mayor and indeed the Council had already known, that the Baffin Regional Health and Social Services Board were looking at placing a

doctor in Igloolik. I never said I was putting one there. I never said that at all. What happened at the meeting I said I understood that, it was my understanding that there would be doctor coming here. And the Mayor, who worked for DPW, understood that there had been a process at that time trying to get a room ready at the Health Centre. So they were aware of it, of the possibility of a doctor going to Igloolik, the possibility of putting a doctor in Igloolik.

What had happened was, on the cost side, on the administrative analysis, was that the Baffin Regional Health and Social Services Board felt that by putting a doctor in Pond Inlet, instead of Igloolik, that doctor would be able to cover off more communities, with better transportation connections, at less cost. Given the financial situation of the health boards, it was very difficult for me to look at that and say, okay, I want to put a doctor in one community over another, when there was a cost difference especially when you looked at the logistics and administratively where the person, the doctor in question, could cover off more communities and more patients by being based in Pond Inlet.

After saying that, Mr. Speaker, what we have in Nunavut, for primary health care, is nurse practitioners. Putting a doctor in a community doesn't make people more healthy, Mr. Speaker. We have good trained professionals in communities. When I have attended the health ministers meetings, with all the national ministers, they talk about having a model like we have. We have nurse practitioners, a doctor in a community doesn't make you more healthy. What we're trying to do as a department, a fundamental shift in the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Speaker, is move toward primary care, trying to prevent some of the causes of the diseases and some of the problems that we're seeing in our communities.

For example, one of the people, one of the members here yesterday brought up the area of smoking, one of the most preventable causes of some of the respiratory and other problems that we're seeing can be prevented if we could put a more proactive anti-smoking campaign in place. And that's the kind of things that we're working toward. I'd like to thank the member for bringing it up and clarifying the issue with the doctor.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Mr. Irqittuq

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't know if he understood my question. Are there any plans to get a doctor in Igloolik in the future. That was my question. I didn't ask any other question. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister for Health, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there are no plans underway, to my knowledge, by the Baffin Region Health and Social Services Board, to staff a doctor in Igloolik at this time, that's at this time. That's at this time.

I can say at this time that we're open to the possibility, if we can identify a doctor, and if we can identify a doctor that wants to be based in Igloolik, then that's something that we would try to facilitate, as a department. At this time, that's not the case.

In the case of the doctor that went to Pond Inlet, by the way, Mr. Speaker, that doctor wanted to go to a community because they had adopted some Inuit kids, and they wanted to make sure that they had a background in Inuktitut and indeed, Mr. Speaker, the member and myself had met with the doctor and she explained that to us. So at this time, Speaker, no, that's not something that to my knowledge is being looked at, but it can be something that can be looked at in the future. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Mr. Irgittuq.

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a different question, so I'll ask it later on.

Speaker: Oral questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 100 - 1(3): Bowhead Whale Study

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Sustainable Development, wildlife division. In one of my constituencies, there is an abundance of bowhead whales. In Pelly Bay, they would like to be able to harvest bowheads, but they were told by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that this bowhead stock comes from the Baffin Region. My question is has there been any study as to where these stocks come from? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Minister for Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation) Yes, Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yes, in regard to the bowhead whales, we keep hearing more about the concerns about bowhead whales, as to where they migrate to. But at this point, with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, we're working very closely together, through research, we study as to how these species are important to Inuit people. DFO in Ottawa, had done a study, and research on this. They are now collecting all the results. Our department is not responsible for larger mammals, but I could look into it if you want me to. If you want me to look for the results from the studies that have been done by the previous government, I could do so. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral questions, Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. We would like to know if there has been any study done on bowhead whales in the Pelly Bay area. So I would like the Minister for Sustainable Development to look into this further. Thank you.

Speaker: I did not hear a question. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 101 - 1(3): Appointment to Boards

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister for Sustainable Development. I keep asking the Minister for that department. However, Mr. Speaker, this morning, under Ministers' Statements, on the Nunavut Development Corporation and Nunavut

Business Credit Corporation, these two boards. Did you appoint these members as a minister. Did you appoint these people.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. Minister for Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: (interpretation) Thank you Mr. Speaker. If I understand your question correctly, you are looking for the names to be appointed to these boards. We had asked for nominations and then we had publicized this...and the appointments were made through the nominations of regular members. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I apologize. I did not see any documentation. So my apologies, because the Kitikmeot Region, for example, we do have a member. I apologize. My constituency is not represented in this board that you just appointed. I suggest that we utilize all the communities. The other community in my constituency is not represented on this Board. So I don't think that we should be lopsided. Thank you.

Speaker: It's up to you, Mr. Kilabuk, Minister for Sustainable Development, to respond.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. For the board appointments, on the statement I just made. If the communities have concerns, or they want us to review this again, you can go to this board if you have any concerns. If an MLA or if Members of the Legislative Assembly have any concerns, you can go, ask questions to the board. At the time, when we asked for nominations, there were not many names that were submitted.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. McLean.

Question 102 - 1(3): Internet Services in Communities

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Over the last while, we've heard a lot about the information highway and internet service to communities. Presently, I could be corrected here, but outside of Iqaluit, Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet, there's not much internet service to the other communities and I was wondering if the government was considering putting internet service in all of the communities of Nunavut.

Speaker: Thank you., Mr. McLean. Minister Responsible for PWTTS.

Hon. Manito Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. We have been thinking of linking up all the communities, but at this time we're putting priority on the larger communities but the smaller communities are planned for the future. We hope to link up all the Nunavut communities some time in the future. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you., Ms. Thompson. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I realize that it's probably not a high priority, the other communities in Nunavut, right now, but coming into Iqaluit and having internet service myself, it's opened up a whole new world for me. And for me to access the internet in my community – and when I talk, I want to talk about the Arctic Bays of the world, the Chesterfield Inlets, Whale Coves, that it's a long distance connect charge.

And I think with this day and age, we're going into the millennium, and I look around this room today, and there's so many young children that could access information. And that is also good for the business community, for people to sell their traditional things like clothing and carvings and stuff like that. Could the minister be more direct in what kind of a time line we're looking at with providing internet service to the smaller communities? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you., Mr. McLean. Minister Responsible for Telecommunications and Technical Services, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Mr. Speaker, I realize that the internet is a very exciting field and it's a system that everybody should be connected to, whether you're in a small community or a bigger community, because you can learn so much and you can have so much access to the rest of the world. But right now, I don't have any plans in the near future to start connecting those communities, but it's something that I have already talked to my staff about. My staff is aware of this, that it's something that we have to find a way for those communities to start connecting with internet. Thank you. I don't have a timeline on when we're going to do these things. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you., Ms. Thompson. Oral Questions, Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I don't want to put undue pressure on the minister to give me too much of a timeline. But as we all know, this government is in sort of a financial surplus....and it's my humble opinion that internet access in Nunavut should be available to everybody in Nunavut. And I'm wondering if the minister would go forward to her cabinet colleagues and FMBS to give the rest of Nunavut what the larger regional centres have. Because I feel that this is important to myself and all the people of Nunavut, to have internet access. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. McLean. Minister Responsible for Telecommunications and Technical Services, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Right now, we're just putting in government services and not the public. But I can certainly bring that forward to my cabinet colleagues, because it's important to all of Nunavut. I realize that, so yes, I'll do that. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: It's OK.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 103 - 1(3): Health Statistics

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Those of us who live in Nunavut, there's approximately a total population of twenty eight to thirty thousand, I'm not quite sure, I'm just approximating the figure. Yesterday, we said that the people of Nunavut are the heaviest smokers in Canada, and there's approximately ninety per cent of us who smoke. We have the smallest population.

How come we always have the largest population with social problems? There's other Canadians in the millions – how come we're always told that we have the highest population with social problems when we have a very, very small population. Could you explain this, Mr. Minister. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you., Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Speaker, the member brings up an interesting area, and that is the area of ratios, stats, numbers, figures. I'm not a mathematician, Speaker, or indeed, as Mr. Ng said, a statistician. What I am is a person who understands what the question is the member is trying to bring up, if I'm correct, is why our rate is so high. And that's based on a ratio.

And I'll try to explain it this way. When you look across Canada, as a population, as a group of people, the ratio of people smoking, for example, in this case, is higher when it is compared to other provinces, other territories, other jurisdictions within our country. So what that means, is when you look at Canada as a whole, maybe one in one thousand people has a certain kind of cancer. And then we take that, and in Nunavut, it may be, based on our smaller population ratio, it may be five in one thousand people. It doesn't mean that because we have a smaller population base, why are we having these numbers.

Each population ratio stands alone on its own merits, as it were. So in this case, the reason why we have so many high numbers is based on the ratio that's brought forward per capita. That's what we always use as the number, Mr. Speaker, is per capita. I don't know if that helps the Member, to explain why it seems so high, even though we have a small population we have higher incidences of this.

So when you take the general population of Canada as a whole, and we say, for every one thousand people there are twenty break and entries, for example, and when you look at Nunavut, there is thirty seven. The reason for that is based on the smaller population based on the smaller ratio. It comes down to the lowest common denominator. In that case, Speaker, we are higher on a national average, in a lot of these instances, like TB, like infectious diseases, like sexually transmitted diseases, suicide rate, and so on. And I hope that helps clarify the answer. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I can never believe those numbers because of our small population. I just feel that we're made to look bad in Nunavut. Maybe the people out there want us to look bad, through alcohol abuse, heavy smoking, a large population that smokes. It

seems that we're always the ones having all these things. We have a very, very small population. That's one of the reasons why I can never understand it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you., Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the stats that we have accumulated on those various areas and issues, like the highest rate of TB, like RSV, like the STDS, and so on and so forth. I don't need to rehash them here this morning. Those are accurate numbers, Mr. Speaker. Now I think that the concern the Member has is that because we have such a low population base, is why do they seem so high.

When we extrapolate, which means to take out those numbers, and show on a national average, how our instances of morbidity are higher, then it indicates that our population is having a more difficult time over the last few years with these different instances of infectious diseases and other problems, for example, suicide. Those numbers are correct. Those numbers have been checked. They have come forward, they haven't changed in x number of years.

And that's one of the things that we're trying to do, Mr. Speaker, in the department of health, is to work on the preventive side of medicine...to look at preventing some of these diseases, some of these problems, before they occur. My explanation maybe wasn't that good on the ratio and how those numbers are valid. Maybe after the sitting this morning, we can have someone sit down with the member and go through ratios and percentages and how those numbers are extrapolated out of the national averages for Nunavut. I think that's what the member is trying to get at. Maybe yourself, Mr. Speaker, or maybe the Minister of Education, with his background, could go through the ratio and percentages so it could be more understandable. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you., Mr. Picco. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 104 - 1(3): Telehealth Systems

Mr. Irqittuq: (interpretation) Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health and Social Services. He said that even if we get the resident doctor in our community, the number of illnesses will not decrease, that was his response. So my question is for example, setting up TVs is very important, there's a lot of telehealth systems up now, and the patient is diagnosed through the Telehealth system. Are these Telehealth systems better than resident doctors.

Speaker: Thank you., Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Picco?

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what I was trying to point out is that in other jurisdictions, not just here in Nunavut, a lot of governments would like to move toward a nurse practitioner model. We have a nurse practitioner in a community, identifying the problems that the people are having, and work on the preventive side of medicine – and that's what we're trying to do .

What a doctor does is diagnosis...and this also applies to treatment. The member asked a question specifically on Telehealth. I think, Mr. Speaker, Telehealth is probably one of the most exciting

technological opportunities that have come a long way for us, here in Nunavut. Telehealth has proven itself in other jurisdictions across this country, and across the world. For example, in Australia, it's really taking off. In Norway, I believe in June there's going to be an international conference of circumpolar countries, on Telehealth and the applications of Telehealth for the circumpolar world. In Canada, many of the other provincial jurisdictions, and territorial jurisdictions, are using or experimenting with the application of Telehealth.

In our case, for example, Mr. Speaker, as the member knows, we had a case where we had – I think it was eight people, who had some problems with a skin rash. And the doctor was asked to review this case. Instead of having to medevac the people down from Pond Inlet to Iqaluit, we were able to hook up through Telehealth where the doctor was able to, through the television screen, look at the rash, diagnose it, and then have the nurse in charge treat it.

They were able to stay in their community to be treated so that's one of the exciting things about Telehealth. This government is trying to move forward. We're trying to put some money into our budget to enhance the delivery of Telehealth as we explained in this house and again in the caucus last week. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The minister's response, my question was are they better. Is Telehealth better than doctors. Are you saying they are better than doctors? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. If you could rephrase your question, I could let you go ahead because you cannot ask the minister and I could rule you out of order. You cannot ask him a question on the minister's feelings. If you rephrase your question I will let you go ahead Mr. Irqittuq.

Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 105 - 1(3): Wrong Translation Attachment

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I don't know if this is a question or a comment. I have a question to the minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. On the 27th, he had a minister's statement and the Inuktitut translation is a little bit different than the English version.

Mr. Minister, he gave me a copy of his response but the Inuktitut does not correspond to the English. The wrong translation is attached to the wrong English and I think I'm not the only one who has that so I would like you to know that I don't know about the Inuinnaqtun I think that one corresponds with the English but the Inuktitut is the wrong attachment. If that's the case then could you correct the mistake please.

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

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): I saw that one. I will see to that then find out what the problem was and I will go from there.

Speaker: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): If my question is in fact true, next time around or anytime I do not want to get wrong Inuktitut attachments to English. I just want you to know that. I didn't put a number on it, I should have but the date corresponds to your Minister's Statement made on the 27th. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. I don't hear a question. Oral questions, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I have another question if there is no one else on your list.

Speaker (interpretation): I will give you the opportunity as I have no other names on my list. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 106 - 1(3): Qikiqtarjuaq Airstrip

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the Minister of Community Government & Transportation. I thought the airstrip in Broughton Island was going to be extended to be a little bit longer. I was wondering if you can look into this issue so that maybe they could extend the airstrip.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes, I'll take your question under notice. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 107 - 1(3): Location of Old Dump Site

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the Minister of Community Government, Housing & Transportation. Last spring, we discussed the old dump site. It's too close to the residential units and they may not construct units because of that and especially when the wind blows, that old dump site gets smelly. So I was wondering what the minister has done so far. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): The Department of Health was going to be dealing with this but I apologize, I still haven't, I'll take it as notice.

Speaker: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I apologize Mr. Speaker. Supplementary question to the Minister of Community Government & Transportation. Will you be able to notify us as soon as you get all the results. Perhaps at our next session, I'll be asking that again. Once you find out the results I would like you to inform the hamlet and myself. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Anawak has responded and he has taken this as notice. At this time, oral question period is over. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I move to extend the oral question period. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Iqittuq. Unanimous consent to extend the oral question period. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You have unanimous consent. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 108 - 1(3): Multi-Year Plans

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker and I would like to thank the members for extending the question period. My question is directed to the Community Government, Housing & Transportation Minister. Previously we had made a five year plan in the communities and then they stated that we are going to have a longer plan for 20 years. What does this mean. Usually the communities do their five year plan. Is there going to be a new system for that Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. I know that the five year capital plans were made by the GNWT but what we have done recently was to suggest that the hamlet councils work closely together with the government officials so that both sides will know what the priorities are of the individual communities.

I would also like to tell the member that we're going to be doing community tours and I'm sure that this is going to be one of the issues that will be brought up. We'll be talking about the capital projects that we'll be including as a government. So I would suggest that if we're going to be making five year capital plans at the community level that we work with the Nunavut Government officials so that they'll be better alignment between the two.

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

Question 109 - 1(3): Social Services Employee in Arviat

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services indicated that there was a new staff person being hired on or being located in my community. I wonder if the minister can tell the House as to what type of background and special skills that this individual will have as it relates to Social Services and some of the concerns that we spoke about earlier this week. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister responsible for Health, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Last week the member for Arviat had brought up the need and the concern to this house about a mental health specialist for his community. A mental health specialist has been hired for Arviat. The person is scheduled to start in early December of this year.

Mental Health Support Services right now for Arviat are currently being provided by the Baker Lake Mental Health Worker. The actual resume of the person who was hired by the health board I don't have in front of me but I can get that information for the member. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my second question would be whether or not this is a full time permanent position located in my community and furthermore Mr. Speaker, I wasn't looking for a detailed resume but I was just concerned whether or not the person that's being hired will be able to address some of the concerns that we spoke about last week in a more specialized manner. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister responsible for Health, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. That's what I was trying to point out in my earlier response. I can't come out with the person's resume of course, that's confidential information but what I can do is to see if indeed the person that's been hired by the Keewatin Regional Health and Social Services Board, we have for example in these types of positions a job description that is made available and if the job is posted, giving in that job description of course, the qualifications that are needed to carry out the job.

This person has been hired. My understanding is that the person is capable and will be able to deal with the issues that the member has brought up in the past and indeed brought up as late as last week. So we're very confident Mr. Speaker that that person will be able to do that. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral question. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my earlier question also was asking whether or not this person was a full time staff person for my community. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. That is my understanding yes, that that person will be in place full time to service the needs of the community of Arviat and like I said right now those needs are being covered by the Mental Health Worker for Baker Lake. Early December we will have the mental health worker in place for Arviat. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral question. Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 110 - 1(3): Arctic College Centre in Hall Beach

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education. Mr. Speaker, in my community we have an Arctic College Centre which has been vacated. Does the minister know what is going to be happening with that adult education centre?

Speaker: Minister responsible for Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I don't know what he means by the building being vacated.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. I will give Mr. Irgittuq an opportunity to rephrase his question.

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Well buildings are vacated when nobody goes there to work or go to school or to use it. I would like to know who owns this building and who operates the building. I'm assuming it's the Department of Education.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irgittuq. Minister responsible for Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will take it as notice and advise the member.

Speaker (interpretation): Taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 111 - 1(3): Full Time Mental Health Worker

Mr. McLean: Ma' na Uqaqti. It's with great joy that I rise and ask this question. My colleague, Mr. O'Brien has a full time mental health worker now located in Arviat which is a great delight to me and my community because I'm hoping that this question that I'm asking the minister means that we get to keep our mental health worker full time also. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it also gives me great pleasure to state at this time in Baker Lake we have three Social Worker's staffed and we have two Mental Health Workers, we have one mental health worker and one for addictions counselling. Yes Mr. McLean, they will be staying in Baker Lake. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. Akasuk.

Question 112 - 1(3): Cape Dorset Water Pipeline

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have questions for Community Government & Transportation in regards to the water pipeline that we have. Our water lake is very far even though there is a lake closer by which dries up in the winter when it freezes up. My question is, are you going to be doing anything about the pump in our community.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister responsible for Community Government & Transportation.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. The Community Government, Housing & Transportation department said they put this on the B list and it was included in the 1999/2000 budget. We have identified the dollars but not for this year. I could talk to the member and also talk to the Hamlet Council to find out about the urgency. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu

Question 113 - 1(3): Staffing for Elders Societies

Mr. Iqaqrialu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth and perhaps it's similar to what Mr. Nutarak asked. The Elders have societies in the majority of the communities in Nunavut. They very much require good staff, such as a secretary. Have you looked to find out if there are additional dollars for the Elders' Societies' staff. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for elders Mr. Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you of your question. I just want to tell this member that my staff person hasn't been appointed yet. The people that are working for us now will be looking in to hiring our new position in the near future. And as soon as we hire staff then I will let you know. Thank you for your question.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker, a question that is different from the one that was just asked.

Speaker: Mr. Iqaqrialu, I will note your name down, I still have other names on the list. Oral question Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 114 - 1(3): Marketing for Fish

Mr. Irqittuq: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I know that we have a limited time for question period, I will limit my question Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Sustainable Development. Today, it seems to be harder for my communities of Igloolik and Hall Beach to start a small business. During the fall around October and November at this time of the year, the fishermen used to have a viable market for arctic char but now a days it's really hard to market arctic char. Perhaps the Minister of Sustainable Development can find out where we can market this fish. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Minister for Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. In regards to the question of marketing of arctic char, I have worked in this area for four years in Pangnirtung. The fishermen in the communities in all of Nunavut have worked very hard and have met stumbling blocks in marketing their fish. The Department of Sustainable Development at this time can support a fisherman financially if they apply for funding but for the last three years it's been very hard to market char due to the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

Since there are rules and regulations to follow especially in the communities where there is no fish plant. The fish has to be cleaned adequately and they have to be inspected. One of the things that people misunderstand is that we know what arctic char is. We like to eat it as a whole fish but the southern consumers would like to see the fish processed. They prefer to buy processed fish. It has been pretty hard but at least we're learning what consumers want down south. We have to follow consumers needs.

That's where the problem has been in the past, so I'm very glad that you asked me that question because I have worked on this issue for quite some time and if there's anybody out there who would like to be assisted in marketing their arctic char, we would be pleased as a department to assist them. but there have been some areas where we couldn't work on this because we don't have a staff member for fisheries. We are aware that arctic char is very important to Inuit of Nunavut.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Oral questions, Mr. McLean.

Question 115 - 1(3): Elders Housing

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I know that the minister responsible has set up a task force on the serious issue of housing in Nunavut. I want to ask the minister responsible, has she considered the seriousness of elder's housing in Nunavut and in her task force, will that be one of the mandates for them to address, the serious lack of Elder housing in Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Manitoq Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Last night the task force met with the chairperson Enoki Irgittuq. I told them that there's a lot to be done in housing and they will be making recommendations to me on all issues related to housing and that can be one of the issues that they can look into. I just said that everything's on the table in regards to housing. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 116 – 1(3): Rules of the Assembly

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I shall be directing my question to the Premier or the Speaker. Since I'm very new to the Legislative Assembly and I'm not used to the system as yet or rules of the house, like every time I look around to where the ministers are sitting, they tend to be sitting and talking to each other during the proceedings of this house. We were oriented on how to conduct ourselves in the house. One of the things that we learned was not to

move around too much from our chairs. I think we're forgetting that and I want to be told what the status is now.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu, that's my responsibility. We'll have to be oriented more than once. It's now noon hour. We'll take a 30 minute recess. Lunch is ready. Thank you.

>>>*Short recess*

Speaker: I have no more names on my list at this time. We'll wait an extra five minutes. We don't have a quorum. (interpretation) We're still on oral questions. Oral questions. Thank you. Written questions. Written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Returns to written questions. Item 9, replies to opening address. Replies to opening address. Item 10, Petitions. Petitions. Petitions. Petitions. Item 11, Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12, Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Reports on Committees on the Review of bills. Item 13, Tabling of documents. Mr. Akasuk.

Item 13: Tabling of documents

Tabled Document 13 - 1(3): Letter from Cape Dorset Mayor

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. There was a phone in show in the community of Cape Dorset in regards to the single time zone. There were 36 callers, 25 opposed, and 9 for. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Tabling of documents. Item 14, Notices of Motions. Mr. McLean.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Tuesday, November 2nd, 1999 I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay that the Speaker be authorized to set sitting such days and hours as the Speaker sees fit to assist with the business before the house. I am seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion later today. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Item 15, Notices of Motions for first reading of bills. Notices of Motions for first reading of bills. Item 16, Motions. Mr. McLean.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. The member is asking for unanimous consent to go ahead with this motion. Are there any nays? No nays. Mr. McLean, you have consent to proceed. Thank you.

Motion 3 - 1(3): Sitting Hours

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable member for Cambridge Bay that the speaker be authorized to set such sitting days and hours as the Speaker deems fit to assist with the business before the house. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Okay, the motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Thank you Mr. McLean.

Item 16, motions. Motions. Item 17, First Reading of Bills. First Reading of Bills. Item 18, Second reading of bills. Item 19, Consideration of Committee of the Whole on Bills and other matters. Bill 3, an Act to amend the Interpretation Act. Bill 5, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1999/2000 with Mr. Puqiqnak in the Chair. Sergeant-At-Arms.

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

Chairperson (interpretation): We are full now. I would like to ask the committee what they would like to do regarding Bill 3 and Bill 5 and taking into consideration I would like to know what the committee would like to do at this time. What is the committee's wish. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): In the Committee of the Whole I would like to deal with Bill 5.

Chairperson (interpretation): The member wishes to consider Bill 5, Supplementary Appropriation. What is the committee's wish? Mr. Iqaqrialu would like to consider Bill 5. Agreed?

Bill 5 will be dealt with. They're in your white binders, tab 5. Bill 5. Would the minister like to make opening comments? Yes? Thank you. You can say your opening comments. You may do so from your chair. Afterwards I will give you the opportunity to go to the witness table. Thank you.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill is to make supplementary appropriations for the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2000. Authority is requested for a total 8 million 146 thousand in additional appropriations made up of 4 million 539 thousand for operations and maintenance and 3 million 607 thousand for capital expenditures.

A number of interdepartmental transfers are also included in the supplementary appropriations which do not require additional funding. These transfers include funding for the establishment of the Decentralization Secretariat, the transfer of responsibility for Nunavut's Housing Program to Public Works and the transfer for Nunavut's Income Support Program to Education.

Mr. Chairman, the additional appropriations have been provided for in the estimated supplementary appropriation requirements included in the 99/2000 main estimates as a contingency reserve.

However they do consume much of our 10 million dollars reserve and we will have to be very vigilant over the balance of the year.

The operations and maintenance appropriations requirements include 530 thousand for the formation and operation of the Nunavut Law Reform Mission, 310 thousand to provide funding for the costs of removing contaminated soil and providing backfill to restore the Arviat Health Centre site. 200 thousand for the implementation of a new automated Personal Property Registries System. 2 million 855 thousand for the implementation of Strategic Initiatives in the areas of Inuit Teacher Education and the Nunavut Nursing Program.

Mr. Chairman, the Capital appropriation requirements include 220 thousand for renovations to the Iqaluit Court House Building to improve security standards, 200 thousand for the continuation of the Breakwater Construction project in Clyde River, 250 thousand for the provision of temporary space in Cambridge Bay to be used as a Community Library until the new Library is completed as part of the new Killiniq High School, 337 thousand for repairs to the Rachel Arnangmaqtik School in Baker Lake caused by the discharge of a fire sprinkler, 400 thousand for the architectural engineering work required on an addition to the Pond Inlet Ulaajuk School, 1 million 800 thousand for renovations to the Qulliq Iltarvik Elementary School in Cambridge Bay including the construction of a common mechanical utilities facility to serve both the elementary and high school. The costs incurred relative to the temporary library space and the common mechanical utilities facility in Cambridge Bay will be included in the insurance claim with respect to the loss of the high school. Those are my opening comments Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. Thank you. If you would like your staff to sit with you at the witness table, we will deal with Bill 5. Mr. Minister if you would go up to the witness table.

Thank you Mr. Minister, if you have staff that you would like to invite up to the witness table. Are you going to be having your staff up there?

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, the staff were told to be here at 1:00 because I thought that is when they were needed. In the meantime I have here, if the committee allows me a motion to address that issue by substituting the schedule in the Appropriation Act.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is a motion in your white binders. Please read your proposed amendment, or your motion.

Committee Motion 1 - 1(3): Amendment to Bill 5

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I move that Bill 5 be amended by deleting the schedule and substituting the following schedule which would have Vote 1 – Operations and Maintenance listed at 3 million 495 thousand dollars. Part 2 – Capital, listed at 3 million 607 thousand dollars. That would have a total supplementary appropriation in parts 1 and 2 of 7 million 102 thousand dollars. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. If there are no comments. Question has been called. All in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. I apologize, I keep forgetting. Since the motion is in order, I will now open up the floor for questions or comments. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. When you say little Jobie I feel that you love me.

>>Laughter

In regards to the motion. What did it read before. What are the changes, from what to what. You said it was in order but I would like to ask for further clarification on the amendment.

Chairperson (interpretation): This is in schedule 1, where the revisions were made. Questions or comments to the motion in regards to Bill 5. General comments. I will call the question later. General comments. Okay we'll go clause by clause. Bill 5 Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1999/2000. Page 5, we'll go clause by clause. Mr. Akasuk, do you have general comments to make.

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): I apologize Mr. Chairman, on page 5 there is 535 thousand dollars that is identified for the Nunavut Law Review. It is October 31, 1999. It is quite large, what is that going to be used for. The one under the Nunavut Law Reform.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akasuk. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, I could answer it but I guess what I am asking for is some direction from the Chairperson on how we are going to proceed on this. Because if we start, it is my understanding that you go into the detail for item by item and then you can raise the questions when each specific item comes up. Otherwise we will be going back and forth over the schedule, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I will ask for your direction. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Ng. I believe you all have a copy of the Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1. We will go to page 5 and go detail by detail. I ask then again to my colleagues, if you agree with going into details. We're on page 5,

Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, operations and maintenance. Directorate. The writing is very small and I can hardly see them. Special warrants. Directorate, 792 thousand. Not previously authorized 792 thousand. Next page. Page 6. Mr. Akasuk.

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Before we go onto the next page I would suggest that you ask if anybody has any general comments. My question was prior to this, and I would like to apologize, can I now ask my question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akasuk, for reminding me. Okay then I will ask for general comments. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I will respond to the honourable member's questions about the Law Reform Commission budget. I understand that is what he initially asked. The breakdown for the budget, Mr. Chairman for the 530 thousand dollars, and I can provide a copy if members want, the budget for '99 in this total there is 38 thousand 5 hundred for the Chief Commissioner. There is 56 thousand 250 for the normal commissioner's expenses.

There is 11 thousand 250 dollars for the full commission meetings. There's wages for administrative support of 33 thousand 667 and benefits of 10 thousand 868, there's travel and transportation of 70 thousand dollars roughly, accommodation and meals, 29 thousand dollars, materials and supplies approximately 10 thousand dollars. Purchased services Mr. Chairman of approximately 37 thousand dollars. Contracted services of approximately 57 thousand dollars, community consultation contracting fees, 144 thousand dollars.

Other expenses of 12 thousand, in miscellaneous about 5 thousand, Mr. Chairman that is roughly the breakdown of the 530 thousand. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. Okay before we go to general comments. If you would introduce your staff member who is sitting beside you so they will be properly recognized.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. To my right I have Mr. Bob Vardy, Deputy Minister of the Department of Finance and Administration. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Welcome Mr. Vardy. General comments. We are on page 5. Not previously authorized 792 thousand. We'll then turn onto page number 6. Department of Finance and Administration. Operations and Maintenance. Fiscal policy and expenditure management. Not previously authorized, negative 54 thousand. Agreed? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Could you give me an elaboration on what these negative numbers represent. Because it could be a deficit. Why is there a negative figure here.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Iqaqrialu would like clarification on the negative number. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, this is an expenditure in establishing the decentralization secretariat and it is as a result of transferring one individual from the Department of Finance to the Division Secretariat. So the negative would show up here and a positive would show up in the Executive Department later on. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Going ahead. Page number 6. Fiscal policy and expenditure management. Not previously authorized, negative 54 thousand dollars. Financial Services, not previously authorized, 310 thousand. Not previously authorized, total department 256 thousand. Agreed? General comments Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Following the numbers there is one to provide funding for the costs of removing the contaminated soil and providing backfill to restore the Arviat Centre site. What kind of contaminants are we talking about here.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairperson, this was mentioned in an earlier question in the House from Mr. O'Brien to the Health Minister. It primarily is fuel oil spilled there over the years Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Where, in Arviat?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mr. Iqaqrialu is correct, in Arviat.

Chairperson (interpretation): I think that is pretty clear. We are still on page number 6. Total department, not previously authorized, 256 thousand. We'll then go to page 7. Human Resources, Operations and Maintenance. Directorate. Not previously authorized, 522 thousand dollars. There is a question, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): I would like to know exactly what these monies are going to be used for. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman this again is one of the internal government transfers, it is coming from the Department of Education to the Department of Human Resources. So the programs that are intended to be delivered wouldn't change as this is a shift in responsibilities between departments. This is the public service training program, so it is for government wide training initiatives of our staff, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Department of Education sets the programs but now they always keep saying that they don't have enough money, how come they are transferring these dollars to a different department.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, it is primarily because it was felt that the role for staffing, Government of Nunavut staffing was the responsibility of the Department of Human Resources, so the department has agreed to this transfer. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. If that is going to be the case, it doesn't go well with me because the Department of Education doesn't have enough money, we keep hearing almost on a daily basis that the Department of Education doesn't have enough money. Maybe because I don't understand, maybe if you could explain to me I would feel better about it. This is going to Human Resources from the Department of Education, right. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Minister, did you want to respond.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes I will try again, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman it is for a specific program for the public service commission training program for employees. So the intent is that there is no change, the program will still continue to be delivered, it is just that instead of having the funding within the Department of Education, the funding is transferred to the Department of Human Resources. If I can use another example, later on, it might clarify it.

For example, when we made a decision for the Housing to come out of Community Government, Housing and Transportation, and to be rolled in with Public Works, the housing program dollars will be transferred out of Community Government, later on here, and transferred in to the Public Works budget. So it is the same type of thing, we are still delivering the housing program, it is just a transfer of the responsibilities for the budget goes from one department to another. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. So this is still a training program. Is that the way I understand it. Yes.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, I see that my colleague understands.

Chairperson (interpretation): Okay then going back to page number 7. Directorate, not previously authorized 522 thousand. Assistant Deputy Minister, not previously authorized, negative 55 thousand. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): I would like to know in regards to the Assistant Deputy Minister, I thought we had Assistant Deputy Ministers already. There is no Assistant Deputy Minister for this particular department. Could I get clarification on that please. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Did you want to respond to that, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, the Department of Human Resources still has an Assistant Deputy Minister. This particular transfer is to deal with the one Assistant Deputy Minister, Ms. Aglukkaaq, that went over to the Decentralization Secretariat.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I thought that there was already money in the decentralization secretariat. I thought we already had approval on April 1.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. On April first we didn't have a decentralization secretariat. It's a decision that was made at the Apex meeting, when cabinet reviewed the whole focus of decentralization and the decision was made to try to co-ordinate things from a government perspective and establish the decentralization secretariat. So you'll see throughout the Supplementary Appropriations, some transfer of funds from various departments...earlier we did one from Finance...to the decentralization secretariat, so it's pulling pots of person years from different departments to form the decentralization secretariat under the Department of the Executive. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Thank you, Mr. Ng. (interpretation) Going back to page 7, Assistant Deputy Minister, not previously authorized, negative 55 thousand. Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized ...467 thousand.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Just to help, you should say "total department", please. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): I apologize. I think there's a question on the floor. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The total department, the total, is it 522 thousand and negative 55 thousand? The total is not 467 thousand. Where did the total come from.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, the total is the addition of the 522 thousand, and you take away the negative amount of 55 thousand, and that's how you get the total departmental amounts at the bottom of the page. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ng. Yes, going back to the total department. Previously authorized. 457 thousand. Going on to the next page. Department. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Court services. Not previously authorized. 200 thousand. Total Department. 200 thousand. Not previously authorized. There's a question. Mr. Akasuk.

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Is this essential. That 200 is it just for that department? Why do you need it now.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the primary reason for it is establishing the automated personal property registry system, because the current system now lacks certainty. It inhibits and increases the cost of commercial transactions as a result of not having an automated system. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Does that answer your question, Mr. Akesuk, OK. Going back to page 8. Total department. Not previously authorized. 200 thousand. Page 9. Public Works. Operations and Maintenance. Project Management. Not previously authorized. 153 thousand negative. There's a question. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. For Public Works, for what kind of works, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Minister, could you respond to his question, or your official?

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding again is that is a couple of person years that is transferred over to the decentralization secretariat. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This 153 thousand, is it geared towards Human Resources, or staff members?

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Mr. Chairman, again it's staff transferred to the decentralization secretariat. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't understand the translation term for decentralization secretariat. Could you tell me or elaborate to me who they are? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps the Premier could elaborate to him.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We wanted to have good direction on decentralization. That's why we established the secretariat. Our work with Public Works to establish our offices and the infrastructure for decentralization are now in the works and in order to give clear direction we are getting support from Public Works. We're not coming up with new dollars. We're just going to be working with the Public Works to establish the decentralization secretariat. I hope I answered you, thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. I think that answers his question. Going back to page 9. Project Management. Not previously authorized. Negative 153 thousand.

Housing, not previously authorized. 19 million 471 thousand. Do you agree? Just a moment, please. There's a question from one of the members. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This 19 million dollars. Where did this come from? Is this new dollars, or does this come from our approved budget?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is the funding that was initially approved for Community Government, Housing and Transportation. At that time, at the start of the year, we approved 33 million 243 thousand for operating and maintenance for the housing portion of CGHT. Since that approval, CGHT has utilized 13 million 772 thousand and this is the amount that's being transferred here. The 19 million 471 thousand is what's left and it's going over to Public Works because of the transfer between departments. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Minister Ng. We're still on page 9. Housing. Not previously authorized: 19 million 471 thousand. There's a question on the floor. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): My mistake, Mr. Chairman, so just go ahead.

Chairperson (interpretation): Alright, then. Housing. 19 million 471 thousand. Thank you. 19 million 471 thousand. Just for clarification. Total department 19 million 318 thousand. Not previously authorized. There's a hand, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We take 153 thousand from 19 million 471 thousand so the total comes down to 19 million 318 thousand. Does that mean we take 153 thousand from 19 million dollars?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu has asked a question. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the negative amount is deducted from the positive amount.

Chairperson (interpretation): OK. Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized - 19 million 318 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): I apologize. Page 10. I will try and remember to press my button here. Community Government and Transportation. Operations and Maintenance. Directorate. Not previously authorized. Negative 63 thousand. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. My microphone kept going on and off, on and off, so it took me quite a while to make a comment. This 63 thousand, what was it geared towards and why is it negative?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, MLA for Pond Inlet. Mr. Minister, your response please.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman, both this negative item of 63 thousand and the next one of 337 thousand, which totals 400 thousand, the department has taken this out of their operating and

maintenance and moved it over to capital – which you will see later - to deal with the Pond Inlet sanitation site closure. So this is money that they felt they didn't need within their operating and maintenance budget, and they're asking to move it over to their capital. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Nutarak, do you have a question.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I only asked about the 63 thousand. I was going to ask about the bottom one, the lower one, although you answered that. Just respond to my question, please. I just asked about the 63 thousand – not the other numbers, Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Your question was in regard to 63 thousand. Are you asking another question?

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I'm just trying to say that he can only respond to my question, and he responded to two questions. So I just want to make sure that he understands that when I ask a question I want you to respond to that topic only. Mr. Chairman, you said 63 thousand, you weren't talking about the other numbers. You only talked about 63 thousand, so my question was geared towards that number only. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Going back to page 10. Directorate. Not previously authorized. 63 thousand negative. Community Government. Not previously authorized, 337 thousand negative. There's a question on the floor, Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I'll ask another question in regards to that. Mr. Chairman mentioned 337 thousand so I'll be asking a question in regards to that. I'm not talking about 19 thousand as yet, I have a question in regard to this number. What was this set aside for?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Minister, if you'd like to respond.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't know the specifics of what has been set aside. All I know is, it's part of the Community Government budget, the section that's outlined here, that's where the operations and maintenance dollars are coming from, or asking to be transferred from. Thank you Mr. Chairman

Chairperson (interpretation) Thank you., Minister. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): 337 thousand. What was this directed to, because if my constituency asks a question, I would like to be able to respond to them in detail. I would be very pleased if the Minister of Finance can respond to me as to what this was directed to.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, MLA for Pond Inlet. Mr. Minister. Perhaps you could rephrase your response. Thank you.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: (*interpretation unavailable*)

Chairperson (interpretation): I apologize. We spoke Inuktitut on the English channel. So could you please repeat yourself because the interpreters were on the wrong channel.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Once again I'll say that the 337 thousand is coming from unexpended salaries out of Community Government and the request is to transfer that 337 thousand of unexpended funds over to capital, as I indicated earlier, for the Pond Inlet sanitation site closure. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): OK, I would ask that you speak a little bit louder, because some members cannot hear us. Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Nutarak, I think he has responded to your question. Going back to page 10. Community Government. Not previously authorized. 337 thousand negative. Housing. 19 million 471 thousand negative. Do you agree? Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, 19 million 871 thousand negative. There's a question. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, there's only nine of us and the quorum is ten. Oh, I forgot to include Mr. Minister, who I'm trying to direct my question to.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak, do you have a question. Go ahead.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): In regards to this 19 million, this 19 million dollars was originally going to be used for the Pond Inlet sanitation site. What was it for, or was this money transferred over to housing.

Chairperson: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, this 19 million 471 thousand is the exact amount that we just previously dealt with in Public Works. It is a transfer of the Operating and Maintenance portion of the housing, it comes from Community Government, Housing, Transportation to Public Works. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Hon. Kelvin Ng, I think we'll go ahead. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): This 19 million dollars was taken out. Is there going to be any money going back for the year 2000?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Hon. Kelvin Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, this is for the current year. It's not actually taken out, it's just being transferred from one department to another. Next years budget will be set accordingly. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): We're doing Supplementary Appropriations for this year, to the end of March 31. On April 1, we'll get new money. My question was, when it becomes April, will there be money available to replenish what was taken out of the department?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Ng, response please.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Mr. Chairman. No, the point would be that there would still be money for housing. It's just that instead of being in the Community Government, Housing and Transportation budget it would be in the Public Works housing budget. If that answers the member's question, thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I believe that's a response. Then we'll go back to page number 10. Total Department – not previously authorized - 19 million 871 thousand negative. Page number 11. Department of Education. Operations and Maintenance. Adult Education and Post-secondary services. Special Warrants. The Inuktitut's not very good. James, what does that mean.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Special Warrant? I apologize. The Inuktitut's not very good, so we'll be looking for a better word right now.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ok. We have a good translation for it. Adult Education and Post-secondary services. Special Warrant. 2 million 255 thousand. Questions. Comments. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to this 2 million 255 thousand, is that just for this year, or is that going to be ongoing over the coming years.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Akesuk. Mr. Ng, can you answer.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Mr. Chairman. This particular decision is for this year, the warrant and the approval request, but the intent is to have it ongoing, subject to approval of budgets in the assembly, in the house. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Ng. Was that an appropriate response, Mr. Akesuk?

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Yes, I'm very glad that it's going to be on an ongoing basis.

Chairperson (interpretation): Just a comment, then. We'll then go back to page 11. Adult education and post-secondary services. Special Warrant. 2 million 255 thousand. Not previously authorized. 523 thousand negative. Income support. Not previously authorized – 720 thousand 279. Comments. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This money is for Court Services. There was already a budget approved for the Department of Justice. Maybe they didn't have adequate funding.

Chairperson (interpretation): I apologize, again. It doesn't have anything to do with Court Services. It's supposed to say, I mispronounced it. Income Support. 720 thousand 279. Not previously authorized. Total Department – Special Warrants – 2 million 255 thousand. Not previously authorized. Total 198 thousand 279. Page number 12. Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Directorate. Special Warrants. 600 thousand. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to know what this is going to be used for.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Hon. Kelvin Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, the funds are for the Nunavut Nursing Program.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Minister. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation) It's the same question as the one I asked earlier. Are we going to be seeing this money again, next year, or is it just for this year.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is an ongoing program, and it would be the intent to bring it back in the upcoming budget. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ng. Going back to page 12, Directorate. Special Warrants. 600 thousand. Total Department. Special Warrants. 600 thousand. Agreed. Okay, then page number 13. Department of Sustainable Development. Operations and Maintenance. Sustainable Development. Not previously authorized. 729 thousand 279 negative. Total department. Not previously authorized - 729 thousand 279 negative. Page number 14. Department of Justice. Capital. Registries and Court Services. Not previously authorized. 220 thousand. There's a question. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The first question that I wanted to ask this Department. Was not the budget for the Department of Justice already approved? Do you want approval for this because they do not have adequate funds?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu has a question. I'm sure you would like to respond, Mr. Ng. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, in this year's budget we had approved 318 thousand for capital funding for renovations to the courthouse, but bids for the project came in significantly higher than the budgeted amounts and that is why the request is here for additional funding. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Why did it go over. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman. When it was out to tender the bids came in higher than what the budget was, and it was felt that because this issue had to do with courthouse safety, .safety for both

the public and registry staff, the judiciary and other individuals that utilize the court building, we went forward with the request for additional funding. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We'll go back to page 14. Registries and Court Services. Not previously authorized – 229 thousand. Total Department. 220 thousand. Thank you. Page Number 15. Public Works. Capital. Housing. Not previously authorized – 9 million 319 thousand. Housing – not previously authorized - 9 million 319 thousand. Total Department, 9 million 319 thousand. Not previously authorized negative – not negative. Page Number 16. I believe there's a question. I'm sorry – I didn't see you. Jobie.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, you said that it was a negative. They're going to record it, I was just thinking that since we said 9 million dollars plus negative, I thought it would be recorded like that. I would suggest that you ask us if we agree with the 9 million dollars three hundred plus.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Nutarak. I apologize, like I said. I said that it's not negative. 9 million 319 thousand. Positive. Okay, Page Number 16. Community Government and Transportation. Capital. Directorate. Special Warrants. 400 thousand. Not previously authorized – 9 million 119 thousand negative. Total department. Special Warrants. 400 thousand. Not previously authorized – 9 million 119 thousand negative. There's a comment, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This 400 thousand under Special Warrants and the 9 million 119 thousand. Why are they side by side?

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, I think that's just the way it's laid out in the provision of the information. I'm not sure if that answers the question or not. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The negative 19 million 199 thousand is there, but then there's the 400 thousand beside it. What are they going to be used for?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you., Mr. Iqaqrialu. Today, the Speaker stated that we are going to be adjourning at two o'clock, and because of that, we're going to have to go, so I'll make my report to the Speaker. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to move that we complete the Supplementary Appropriation. We only have two pages to go before we complete these.

Chairperson (interpretation): Following the House rules, it is too late now.

Point Of Order

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Point of Order, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Even if there's a point of order, we have to adjourn at two o'clock.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Point of order.

Chairperson (interpretation): Okay. There's a Point of Order. Go ahead, please.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, my Point of Order is that if we make it to two o'clock, then automatically the House recesses, and the Speaker is called in. The motion, the honourable member made a motion prior to two o'clock, so the motion has to be debated, or voted on before the house recesses.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): According to the rules, I wanted to adjourn and after I had announced that you made your point of order, after I had stated that. I stated first that we would adjourn at 2 o'clock and later on you made your point of order. In my capacity as the Chairperson we will follow the House rules. Thank you.

Thank you Mr. Minister for going to the witness table and I would like to thank your officials for appearing before the committee. I would also like to thank the legal counsel for the Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering bill 5 and would like to report progress. Mr. Speaker I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

Speaker (interpretation): I have received a motion by the honourable member for Baker Lake and seconded by the member for Cambridge Bay authorizing the Speaker to set such hours as the Speaker sees fit to assist with the business before the House. I therefore extend today's sitting to conclude with the committee of the whole, bill 5, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1999/2000.

We will resume regular hours on Tuesday. Mr. Puqiqnak. You have the Chair. Sergeant At Arms.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is a motion to extend the sitting hours, right now we are page 16, of the Supplementary Appropriation Act and I would like to ask the minister to go back to the witness table. We will resume the committee of the whole on page 16. Community Government and Transportation, total. Just a minute please.

Since we are resuming the committee of the whole, Mr. Minister, could you reintroduce your official please.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: This is Mr. Bob Vardy, Deputy Minister here with me again. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. We are now on page 16 of the Supplementary Appropriation Act. Community Government and Transportation. Directorate, special warrants 400

thousand. Not previously authorized, negative 9 million 119 thousand. Total Department for special warrants, 400 thousand, not previously authorized, negative 9 million 119 thousand.

Page 17. Department of Education, subject capital, branch Directorate, special warrants 250 thousand. Not previously authorized, 737 thousand. Are there any comments or questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I assume this is the appropriate time to ask questions about the special warrants on page 17. Mr. Chairman with all the excitement or confusion over the last few minutes, I didn't have any questions before that but now I found a few as they relate to special warrants.

I would like to ask the minister to just give a definition again, we had this already, but just to refresh my memory, a definition of a special warrant. Then my question would be in relation to the 250 thousand dollars that has been identified, I believe, for a temporary library.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister Ng would you like to respond.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, a definition of a special warrant is a mechanism for advancing spending authority to allow a department to respond quickly to new or unforeseen needs that meet specific criteria. The criteria are; when the Legislative Assembly is not in session and the board reports to the Commissioner a) that an expenditure is urgently required; b) that the expenditure is in the public interest; and c) there is no appropriation or insufficient expenditure, the Commissioner may authorize a special warrant authorizing the expenditure. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. I think Mr. O'Brien has another question.

Mr. O'Brien: The question is in relation to the 250 thousand dollars that were filed under a special warrant. I believe, it was decided by cabinet on September 9th that this was a necessary expenditure. It indicates that the money is to provide a temporary library while the school is being built. Can the minister explain why it was necessary to have this special warrant in September when all the members were meeting just a few weeks later to discuss these issues. Why was it necessary to do it under a special warrant.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: The Department of Education had this and many other funding requests with the Financial Management Board and this particular one had come forward for that September meeting and it was approved at that time. The committee itself, from what I understand had been waiting since the fire on the issue of a replacement of the library and what they were going to do in the interim before the new high school was built with the new library facility. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister for your response. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman it may not seem like a large amount in the overall scheme of the project but it is significant when you look at some of the needs that we have elsewhere. My question would be, the building that we are spending this 250 thousand dollars on for

this library, who actually owns that building and what will happen to that building after the short term use of the library is completed and they move into the school which will have a new library, permanent library.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the building is owned by the Municipality. They've offered to provide the building, and it has become available at no lease cost so they are providing it with the understanding that the government undertakes the capital renovations. The renovations include strengthening of the floor to permit the storage of books, upgrading the heating system and other internal modifications. There is also a part of this 250 thousand dollars for furniture in the amount of 25 thousand dollars. I can't speak right now to what the usage would be after the new library is built and the books and resources are moved from there, but obviously they would be used by the Municipality for some community purpose. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this special warrant ties into the construction of the school that burnt down last year I believe, and there is an insurance factor in here that the insurance will pay for this. We still don't seem to have a complete picture on exactly how much the school is going to cost, whether it is 6, 7, 8, 9 million dollars. We don't seem to know that. I see some other indicators here that I haven't seen before. My question is how much insurance money are we expecting from the school that burnt down and how much is the new school actually going to cost. Will the 250 thousand dollar special warrant that is going to build the temporary library, will that be factored back into the new school.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. May we have a response please, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman there is currently an insurance claim being prepared with respect to the loss of the high school and the common mechanical utilities facility that we'll be dealing with later. The status of the claim is that, as I indicated, the costs are being prepared or reviewed, it is expected that this will be finalized this fall and the proceeds of the claim will be received in this fiscal year.

Part of this Mr. Chairman, this claim, will include the temporary facility space that is required. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. One last question, I think the whole issue sort of begs a number of questions and I understand the need to replace the school, that is understood. The insurance that we are talking about, this is a year ago that school burnt down and we still don't have it resolved as far as the claim. Is this a self insured arrangement where the government actually pays for the school out of its own dollars or is it through an insurance company.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman it is through an insurance company but with government buildings I believe the magnitude of the deductible would be approximately 1 million dollars. Thank you.,

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. My final question, does the minister expect that once the insurance is said and done that it will cover the costs of the new school with the costs that are indicated there. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, past practice in fire losses have shown that is not the case, although a substantive amount of insurance would cover the bulk of it there are always extraordinary expenses and liability on behalf of the government that they would have to provide some additional funding for schools, buildings, whatever the case may be for fire losses Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Going back to page 17, in your white binder. Education, capital, directorate, special warrants, 250 thousand. Not previously authorized 737 thousand. Policy and planning, special warrants, 1 million 800 thousand. Total Department for special warrants, 2 million 50 thousand. Not previously authorized, total department 737 thousand. I would like to ask my colleagues do you agree to the bill as a whole, the supplementary appropriation as a whole?

Going back to bill 5, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 1999/2000. Are you agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause by clause. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause two. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause three. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause four. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause five. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause six. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause seven. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total operations and maintenance, 3 million 495 thousand. Two, capital, Vote 2 – total capital 3 million 607 thousand. Total supplementary appropriations, in parts 1 and 2, 7 million 102 thousand. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. What I have doesn't say 7 million, it says 8 million in my total supplementary appropriation for parts 1 and 2.

Chairperson (interpretation): There was a revision, an amendment. I have got a different page, I was on a different page. Bill as a whole. Bill 5 is done. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree that we are ready for third reading.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 5 is ready for third reading and I would like to thank you Mr. Ng and your Deputy Minister, I keep forgetting his name. What is the committee's wish at this time. I would also like to thank our legal advisor and I keep forgetting her name too. Thank you.

Do you have any further comments. I would like to make a report to the Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Sergeant At Arms. Please be seated. Going ahead. Item 20, Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 21: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker your committee has been considering bill 5 and would like to report that bill 5 is ready for third reading and Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. There is a motion on the floor. Seconder, Mr. Havioyak. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried. Item 21, Third reading of bills. Third reading of bills. Before I go to Item 22, as the

members provided the Speaker today the authority to set such days and hours as the Speaker sees fit to assist with the business of the House, the House will not sit on Monday, November 1, but it will sit on Tuesday, November 2, 1999, commencing at 1.30 pm.

Item 22, Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Quirke: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Orders of the day for Tuesday, November 1, 1999.

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

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

Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

Bill 5 - Supplementary Appropriation Act 1 1999/2000

22. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Clerk. The House stands adjourned until Tuesday, November 2nd, 1999 at 1.30 p.m.

Sergeant- at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 2.33 p.m.*

