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Acting Speaker: The Hon. Uriash Puqiqnak, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Nattilik)

Deputy Speaker

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(Akulliq)

Enoki Irqittuq

(Amittuq)

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(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Ed Picco

(Iqaluit East)

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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

Levi Barnabas

(Quttiktuq)

Hon. Peter Kilabuk

(Pangnirtung)

Minister of Sustainable Development

Hon. Jack Anawak

(Rankin Inlet North)

Minister of Justice; Minister of Community Government and Transportation

Hon. Manitok Thompson

(Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove)

Minister of Housing; Minister of Public Works, Telecommunications and Technical Services

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Table of Contents

Opening Prayer	911
Ministers' Statements.....	911
Members' Statements.....	916
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery	921
Oral Questions	921
Returns to Written Questions.....	937
Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills	940
Tabling of Documents.....	941
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	941
Report of the Committee of the Whole.....	960
Orders of the Day	961

A.

Daily References

Monday, March 27, 2000..... 911

B.

Ministers' Statements

81 - 1(3): Minister's Absence (Okalik)..... 911

82 - 1(3): Regional Superintendent Identified for Pond Inlet (Thompson) 912

83 - 1(3): Creation of Nunavut Arts Council (Havioyak)..... 912

84 - 1(3): Nunavut Transportation Strategy Contract Awarded to LPS Aviation INC
(Anawak)..... 913

85 - 1(3): Income Support Policy Review (Arvaluk)..... 914

C.

Members' Statements

205 - 1(3): Decentralization (McLean)..... 916

206 - 1(3): Passing of Joy Halauk (O'Brien)..... 916

207 - 1(3): Decentralization to Pond Inlet (Nutarak)..... 917

208 - 1(3): Help Line Celebration (Tootoo) 917

209 - 1(3): New Anglican Ministers and Help Line Celebration (Picco)..... 917

210 - 1(3): Chesterfield Inlet Residential School (Anawak) 918

211 - 1(3): Family Well - Being (Irqittuq)..... 919

212 - 1(3): Air Links to Sanikiluaq (Kattuk) 920

213 - 1(3): Concerns of Akulliq Communities (Alakannuark)..... 921

D.

Oral Questions

286 - 1(3): Municipal Financing and Legislation Review (Akesuk)	921
287 - 1(3): Income Support Review Locations (Nutarak)	923
288 - 1(3): Department of Education O&M budget (Tootoo)	924
289 - 1(3): Income Support Review Locations (Iqaqrialu).....	925
290 - 1(3): Community Government and Transportation Budget (Iqaqrialu)	926
291 - 1(3): Sanikiluaq Fuel Tank Farm (Kattuk)	926
292 - 1(3): Fire Insurance Coverage for School (Tootoo)	927
293 - 1(3): Decentralization to Smaller Communities (Alakannuark).....	928
294 - 1(3): Budget Process to Reflect Nunavut (Iqaqrialu)	929
295 - 1(3): Nunavut Transportation Strategy (McLean).....	931
296 - 1(3): Criteria for School Construction (O'Brien).....	932
297 - 1(3): Francophone School (Kattuk).....	934
298 - 1(3): Kimmirut Social Worker (Akesuk).....	935
299 - 1(3): Status of 5 Year Plan (Tootoo)	936
300 - 1(3): Standards and Criteria for Community Halls (McLean)	937

E.

Returns to Written Questions

Return to WQ 04 - 1(3): Rankin Inlet Birthing Centre (Picco)	937
Return to WQ 09 - 1(3): Health & Social Services Funding Programs (Picco)	939

F.

Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

Bill 10 - An Act to Amend the Boards of Management Dissolution Act 940

G.

Tabled Documents

47 - 1(3): Letters from Nunavut Employees Union (Iqaqrialu) 941

48 - 1(3): Manitoba/Nunavut MOU (Okalik) 941

Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday, March 27, 2000

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Honourable James Arvaluk, Honourable Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Ireqittuq, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Mr. Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Edward Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manitoq Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Before we begin, I would like to inform the house of a letter received from Mr. Levi Barnabas, MLA for Quttiktuq, addressed to the Clerk.

“I’m writing to inform you that effective immediately, I’m resigning as the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. I will continue to be the Member for Quttiktuq. Please advise my fellow colleagues of my decision” The letter is signed by Levi Barnabas, Member for Quttiktuq.

Before we go on to Ministers’ Statements. I would like to recognize a person from my community. He has been working for the past nine years with the Power Corporation. I think this person is well known, Louis Arnakannuark.

Welcome to our Legislature. At this time, I would like to go to the orders of the day. Item 2 Ministers’ Statements Mr. Premier.

Item2: Ministers’ Statements**Minister’s Statement 81 - 1(3): Minister’s Absence**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the Members that the Honourable Peter Kilabuk will be absent from the House from today, Monday, March 27, 2000 until Wednesday, March 29, 2000 to attend the Joint Meeting of Energy and Environment Minister and the Council of Energy Ministers. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Minister's Statement 82 - 1(3): Regional Superintendent Identified for Pond Inlet

Hon Manitok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform you of some very positive progress that Public works and Services has made in an effort to prepare for the Decentralization of our Baffin regional operations.

I very pleased to announce that we have identified an individual to take on the position of Baffin Regional Superintendent for the Department in Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, this position is a very important and valuable one. It oversees all operations of the Department of Public Works and Services in the Baffin Region.

(interpretation)I am happy to inform you that Mr. Alex Sammurtok, currently an employee of my Department's Kivalliq Regional office in Rankin Inlet, he has expressed a sincere interest in the Pond Inlet Regional Superintendent position.

Mr. Speaker, after considerable discussions between Mr. Sammurtok and other officials within the department, he has agreed to take the job. To ensure that Mr. Sammurtok is given full exposure to the regional operations of the department, my staff will be providing him with extensive training, starting this May and continuing through July, here in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very positive step in our decentralization efforts. It will be a great opportunity for Mr. Sammurtok and the staff that he will have working with him. I am also pleased to advise you the Public Works and Services is currently reviewing 8 solicited applications from Pond Inlet residents.

These applicants are interested in a number of the various positions that will be required on our Pond Inlet office. Through these applications, Mr. Speaker, we hope to move closer to establishing a fully functional regional operation in Pond Inlet in the coming months. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): thank you Minister of Public Works and Services. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Haviyok.

Minister's Statement 83 - 1(3): Creation of Nunavut Arts Council

Hon. Donald Haviyok (interpretation): Koanna Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an important event for the artistic community.

Mr. Speaker I am pleased to announce the creation of the Nunavut Arts Council. My staff and I have been working very hard on establishing the council.

(interpretation ends) My staff and I have been working very hard on establishing the council. We have worked closely with the artistic community, other government departments and with the new members of the council.

The Nunavut Arts Council is ready to meet and we look forward to the things they will have to tell us. They will form an important advisory body to support my staff and will ensure a fair and efficient process of awarding funding and support for the artistic community.

They will represent the artistic community in Nunavut, in Canada, and around the world. The art proposals that Nunavut's artists submitted for this fiscal year are being fairly and systematically reviewed by my staff, however, we have yet to benefit from the Council's input.

We are arranging to have the Council meet as soon as possible to draft their terms of reference and mission statement.

The Members of the Council are: Brandy Kanayuk-Pond Inlet, Elizabeth Hadlari Cambridge Bay, Bobby Anavilok Kugluktuk, Lootie Pijamini Grise Fiord, Carla Ell Coral Harbour, and Mathew Nuqingaq Iqaluit.

We are very happy with these appointments to the Nunavut Arts Council and are confident in their abilities and the knowledge they have to contribute. It is a time for the artistic community to feel that they have a voice in their government. It is a good day for the artistic community in Nunavut. I would just like to add to that is they will have their first meeting tomorrow in Iqaluit. Koanna Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Havioyak. Going to the orders of the day, Ministers statements. Minister for community government and Transportation. Mr. Anawak.

Minister's Statement 84 - 1(3): Nunavut Transportation Strategy Contract Awarded to LPS Aviation INC

Hon. Jack Anawak (Interpretation): Mr. Speaker, a number of weeks ago I rose in the House to announce that the Department of Community Government and Transportation would be proceeding with the request for proposals for the development of the Nunavut Transportation Strategy.

While a number of the bids submitted were competitive, I am pleased to announce that I have accepted the proposals of LPS Aviation Inc.

This company has a solid track record of transportation planning in the North. The project team will be led by Mr. Ted Lennox, an engineer with 25 years' management and

engineering experience. Mr. Lennox and the rest of his team have comprehensive experience in air, land and sea transportation.

LPS Aviation's proposal includes commitment to a number of issues important to Nunavut, including its intention to examine the effects of transportation systems on Inuit culture and employment, its strategy to consult widely with a broad range of stakeholders, from elders to youth, from the business sector to the municipalities, as well as its dedication to making the strategy comprehensive, credible and flexible. I would like to reassure Members of the Legislature that we will also involve you by having full consultation to seek your input into the strategy.

LPS Aviation has teamed with four firms, two of which are based in Nunavut. Ferguson, Simek, Clark is an established northern engineering firm with sixty employees in the North, including professional engineers, technologists and environmental staff. Innirvik Services, which maintains a large office in Iqaluit, will provide the project with its consultation program.

In addition, LPS Aviation will be using a number of other Inuit and Northern firms for support throughout the course of the project.

Once completed, Nunavut will have a comprehensive multi-modal transportation strategy that promotes the economic and social well being of all Nunavut residents. The long-term objective of the Transportation Strategy is to develop a realistic transportation system for Nunavut for the year 2020. It will support the Bathurst Mandate's healthy communities initiative with the improvement of strong transportation and communication links, and improve access to land and water. It will also offer a strategic plan that will lead to the attainment of this vision.

LPS Aviation will present us with the final report at the end of October. I will be tabling it in this House at the first opportunity. Mr. Speaker, I am confident that this process will lead to a Transportation Strategy for Nunavut that will benefit all Nunavummiut, regardless of which community they live in.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister Anawak. Ministers statements. Item 2. Minister of Education Mr. Arvaluk.

Minister's Statement 85 - 1(3): Income Support Policy Review

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to update the legislative assembly on the status of the Income Support Policy Review. The Income Support Program, as inherited from the GNWT, is a program that requires new, proactive, thinking on the part of the Nunavut Government.

As the members of this assembly well know the blunt reality of the present Income Support program is that without a major overhaul and investment by the Nunavut

government today, program expenditures will continue to grow. The client caseload will grow. Client dependency on government support will grow.

The Ministerial Income Support Policy Review will solicit the views of Nunavut citizens and provide direction to the Nunavut Government regarding the Income Support Program. The Income Support Policy Review will form the basis for developing a new vision of Government support provided to the people of Nunavut through its Income Support Program.

I have now chosen the members for the Income Support Policy Review. The selection process was based on letters of interest or resumes submitted by candidates. I want to especially thank the members for participating in the gathering of candidates for consideration.

After reviewing over forty applicants, I am pleased to have appointed the following persons to conduct the Income Support Policy Review: David Arnatsiaq of Igloolik, Frank Ipakohak of Kugluktuk and Joan Scottie of Baker Lake. These people will lead the consultation in the communities and report to me what the residents of Nunavut want from the Income Support Program.

The Income Support Policy Review will be travelling throughout Nunavut. This will give as many people as possible the opportunity to share how they believe the Income Support Program can work harder and better for the people who need it. I encourage everyone to speak to write or phone these review team members with their suggestions for the future of the income Support Program. (interpretation ends)

(interpretation ends) After completing their orientation, the members will begin travelling to Kugluktuk, Kugaaruk, Baker Lake, Coral Harbour, Igloolik and Iqaluit. In addition, my department has set up a toll free number (1-877-722-4922) and an e-mail address for those people from communities that are not visited and who wish to voice their comments. ISReview@gov.nu.ca.

The Income Support Policy Review members' report will be used as the foundation for the development of a responsive and effective Income Support Program in Nunavut. I look forward to sharing this report with the legislative assembly in the fall. Qujaanami Uqaqi.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister of Education. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Going to Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Qamanittuaq. Mr. McLean.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 205 - 1(3): Decentralization

Mr. McLean: Today I rise to speak about decentralization. My favourite topic. Sometimes as a regular member you lose a little faith in our cabinet colleagues. But, they sometimes shine through. In this case, last June at the Apex summit, Baker Lake jobs were taken away.

I'm referring to the Workers Compensation Board positions at the time. At the time, Premier Okalik promised he would make these jobs up to the community and he is true to his word today.

>>*Applause*

The Honourable Minister Ed Picco announced in the Rankin Assembly that the newly created Nunavut Power Corporation head office will be moving to Baker Lake. Since that wondrous announcement the mood and talking in the community has been very positive, and the Honourable Minister promised that he would work hard at making sure that there are training programs in place to maximize the amount of locate people to fill these positions.

This is the type of minister that is sensitive to the feelings and to the well being to communities outside of Iqaluit. On behalf of the people of Baker Lake, I would like to thank the Premier and Mr. Picco. On that topic Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge Minister Thompson for her recent appointment of a long term friend of mine, Alex Sammurtok to the position of Regional Superintendent in Pond Inlet. Also to a constituent of mine that was appointed as the Regional Electrical Inspector of Rankin Inlet, Mr. Nick Nungnik. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 206 - 1(3): Passing of Joy Halauk

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise today to respectfully acknowledge a very special and unique individual and was also well recognized world wide for her special carvings. Mr Speaker Joy Halauk was one of the true treasures of Nunavut and will be remembered fondly for her family and friends. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to keep Joy and her family in her thoughts and prayers. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We will certainly send a letter of condolence on behalf of the Nunavut Legislative Assembly. Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

Member's Statement 207 - 1(3): Decentralization to Pond Inlet

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the minister for PWTTS announced that a position was moving to Pond Inlet. I was very interested to hear that in her minister's statement. It is evident now that staff will actually move to Pond Inlet and we will be very happy to , if the Minister of Education had the same transfer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 208 - 1(3): Help Line Celebration

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker this weekend I had the pleasure of attending the annual fund raising banquet of the Nunavut Kamatsiaqtut help line. This year's banquet was a special one because it marked the tenth anniversary of the crisis line. Mr Speaker the crisis line is run totally by volunteers. Over the last 10 years Mr. Speaker this has resulted in the total of seventeen thousand hours of dedicated and caring volunteers staffing the phones and probably double that in the training and organising of the services for those who need it.

Mr. Speaker I would like to recognize today the dedication of board members. They are Sheila Levy, Alexina Kublu, John Maurice, Rhoda Onalik, Steve Lowe, Mary Fletcher, Mary Nylund and Louis Budgole. From these I would especially acknowledge four of the original members for their vision in establishing this service. They are Errol Fletcher, John Maurice, Sheila Levy and Rhoda Onalik.

Also, I would like to thank many volunteers who worked the phones. I want to ensure that they know they have and continue to make a difference. Mr. Speaker I would also like, at this time, to thank Mr. Picco and Mr. Okalik who were also there and did a tremendous job of driving up the prices of the silent auction over the weekend. I thank them for that very much. I'm also sure that all the members of this house will join me in thanking the many people who's caring and giving ways have been there for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you member for Iqaluit Centre. Members' statements. For Iqaluit East, Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 209 - 1(3): New Anglican Ministers and Help Line Celebration

Hon. Ed Picco: Mr. Speaker this past weekend two special events occurred here in Iqaluit and I would like to tell the House about these events. Mr. Speaker two long time Iqaluit residents became fully ordained members of the Anglican Church. The Anglican cathedral was over flowing as bishop Chris Williams accompanied by our resident bishop Paul Idlout performed a service of ordination. Methuselah Kunuk, a long time government employee, and now senior manager with Qikiqtaaluk Corporation and Mr. Mike Ferris our own deputy minister of Community Government and Transportation

were ordained full ministers within the Anglican community and serving a tenure of deacons of the church.

Mr. Speaker I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and several members of this House who joined us yesterday and Standing Committees. Saint Jude's Cathedral for this special event and congratulate Mike and Methuselah for their achievement. Mr. Speaker Mike and Methuselah are well known in Iqaluit for their selfless dedication. Iqalumiut are justifiably proud of their achievement.

As Mr. Tootoo said earlier the second special event to occur was the help line, which was celebrating their tenth year of service to the people of Nunavut with their annual banquet and fund raising dinner. Mr. Speaker the help line was founded 10 years ago by Iqaluit volunteers to help us deal with the issue of suicide. At first it was called the Baffin Crisis Line and that name has now evolved to the Nunavut help line.

The confidential and anonymous nature of the line quickly made it very popular and today more than forty-seven volunteers man the lines every evening answering calls from all over Nunavut and even in Northern Quebec. Mr. Speaker the keynote speaker at the banquet was a help line volunteer. That person Mr. Speaker was our own Jack Anawak.

The Honourable Jack Anawak spoke with compassion and concern and delivered a fine speech on behalf of the crisis line. Mr. Speaker I too would like to thank the many Iqaluit volunteers who work at the help line and the people and businesses that continue to support the operation of this excellent community and Nunavut service.

Nunavut Catering and owner Doug Lem and corporate sponsor First Air deserve special recognition for their outstanding contribution to the line. On a personal note Mr. Speaker I would like to thank the crisis line for being there for our family when we needed it. I would also ask Mr. Speaker that this house join me in congratulating the Nunavut help line and the Reverend Mike Ferris and the Reverend Methuselah Kunuk for their achievements. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you for the members statement because I attended that church and the church was filled to capacity and we were so proud to see that and I am so proud to hear your statement about yesterday. Going back to the orders of the day. Item number 3. Members' statements. Member for Rankin South, Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 210 - 1(3): Chesterfield Inlet Residential School

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a member's statement on an issue that I'm sure a lot of people have been touched by. A lot of Inuit have gone through the Chesterfield Inlet residential school as the residential school was open for a long time. We were taught in English and we were not allowed to speak Inuktitut at all.

I know that a lot of Nunavut leaders went to that school and got a very good education. We appreciate the fact we were taught very well in that school in Chesterfield Inlet. However, there are a lot of people who attended the residential school who have a lot of personal problems and they have had emotional problems as well.

Although the Chesterfield Inlet residential school is closed today, a lot of people are having a lot of problems because they were greatly affected by the experience. Having to go through a lot of changes within a short period of time. There was a lot of abuse whether it was physical or emotional. We had a hard time adapting to the qallunaq way of life. Although a lot of people have been trying to get some healing done there has been a lot of difficulty along with them and their families. Although there are some people that say they don't feel anything we can see they are hurting inside and I just wanted to talk about this situation too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you for your statement. Going back to the orders. Members' statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 211 - 1(3): Family Well - Being

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a member's statement today Mr. Speaker. During this past month it has been a very difficult one for us listening to the news reports about suicides and family difficulties. Although I had made an earlier statement regarding these problems I would like to bring it up again, during this session. We all are often affected by people who commit suicide. Everyone often gets affected.

I have been thinking a lot about this and we have had sad experiences such as suicides and I personally have gone through a lot of difficulties in my lifetime. Because three of my immediate family had also committed suicide and they would be alive today if it weren't for suicide. These things that do occur really affect me personally. I'm sure a lot of people are affected by these suicides.

Whenever I have a chance to talk about it and deal with it I would like to be given the opportunity to do so. I want to encourage the people of Nunavut to consider this seriously and be more open about it so we can discuss problems. I just wanted to talk about this today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you member. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statements. Are there any nays. There are no nays you can finish your statement.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Yes the problem that we have with suicides is something difficult to deal with. We have been trying to work on this problem for a number of years, beginning in 1984. Particularly in my community there are some groups that have been trying to deal with it. Also, there have been a lot of public hearings regarding this

and people have been going to training programs to deal with suicide intervention and prevention. However we have not come up with any solutions to deal with this directly.

There are a lot of people who still commit suicide within our community. Perhaps every month we have been hearing about a suicide in some communities. We as members of the legislative assembly have to work hard and to try and give more support to those people who are working suicide prevention and intervention. Although we can come up with all kinds of ideas we still do not know how to deal with this in a constructive way. We have also had a funding problem.

Although we have some obstacles we have to go through with this because there is always going to be problems occurring. I'm not saying I'm a deeply religious person but I would like to be able to help people in dealing with suicides and I want to be open to the public to give input. Even if we say to our children that we love them I think it is a good start in supporting them, morally and emotionally. Or even if we sit down together as a family for a meal perhaps if we can give a prayer of thanks then it would help in any way for our children.

I think prayer is the only thing that can help us right now even if we put in so much money and support I think prayer is the only way we can deal with this very heavy issue. If we are more open to our children and we can talk to them I think that is a very good start in our homes. I have gone through a lot of personal problems in my lifetime and even my family members have committed suicide and I'm sure a lot of people in this House have been affected by suicide. Their family members have also committed suicide. I would be willing to talk more openly in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Yes I recognize where you are coming from. We hope that in the future this problem can be resolved. Going back to our orders of the day, item number 3, Members' statements. Mr. Kattuk.

Member's Statement 212 - 1(3): Air Links to Sanikiluaq

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker I want to speak about a particular concern that I have. Last year we had stated when the Nunavut Government first came into place that it would be more accessible to the people of Nunavut. The concern that I have is the routing of airlines. I think they should be more accessible to the communities of Nunavut. Particularly in my riding. I have had a lot of problems trying to get to Iqaluit from Sanikiluaq. Of course this has been a problem for some time in my riding.

When we had a meeting in Hall Beach for the Baffin Leaders Summit, the mayor of Sanikiluaq came to me to make a presentation about this airline scheduling problems. This has been a problem for some time for Sanikiluaq residents particularly for unilingual people who have to attend meetings because they have to go via Montreal and take the southern routes. This has been complained about by the Sanikiluaq residents so I am making the same complaint about it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 213 - 1(3): Concerns of Akulliq Communities

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to make a pleasant statement regarding the recognition of my communities. They have been working hard to improve community conditions. I believe we can have a close working relationship with the communities and the Government of the Nunavut.

We will not always meet the needs of the people but I believe we should have a close working relationship with the communities. Especially in Repulse Bay and Pelly Bay it is getting more urgent where we have to start working with the elders right away. I think the elders and the youth are the ones we should focus on. We should close the gap between the elders and the youth. If we start working on the elders and the youth it will alleviate the problems with suicide.

Speaker (interpretation): Members statements. Going back to the orders, item number 4. Returns to oral questions. Back to the orders of the day, item number 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Picco.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker . Mr. Speaker I would like to welcome to the house Fauna Kingdon who served in Yellowknife as a page and then again last year here in Iqaluit during our sessions in March and April, in addition, to these past few weeks again. Fauna was an Arctic Winter Games Participant Mr. Speaker and is an excellent role model for Iqaluit and Nunavut youth.

Fauna will be travelling to Ottawa with youth across Canada to learn about entrepreneurship and business next month. Later Mr. Speaker I believe it is this summer she will be going to the country of Ecuador. In Ecuador she will be involved in social development issues. Mr. Speaker Fauna is an excellent ambassador for the youth of Nunavut and I would like to take the opportunity to welcome her to the assembly.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That is very good news because we want to see more youth becoming prominent. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 286 - 1(3): Municipal Financing and Legislation Review

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Community Government. In the budget it stated (interpretation ends) that 150 thousand will be allocated this year for the review of Municipal financing and Municipal legislation. Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware that a review of Nunavut's Municipal

legislation just 15 months ago by the GNWT and the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities.

The report of the review committee has been made public and was presented to the Minister in December 1998. My question to the minister is why is it necessary to take another 150 thousand to study this point. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we became the Nunavut Government during the review it became evident that we needed to make some changes so we had to review that program again so we had to come up with some funding for the second review. We have to review all the Nunavut municipal government legislation to be able to review all the funding that is allocated for each community.

If we are going to be working more efficiently we are going to have to review the Nunavut municipal legislation. If we have to give them more funding then we will try to do that. We have also noticed that there are some differences in some communities when it comes to municipal legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In 1998 they had made this report public. I think if they are going to be reviewing the legislation again, can he look to each community individually. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister for Community Government.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was the purpose of the review in 1998. I think we can make real changes to the legislation so it can reflect the communities' needs. This is going to be Nunavut made legislation and that is why we are having the review now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How long do you think the review will take, after all of the reviews, how long will this second review take. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): My apologies Mr. Speaker. Maybe I can get back to the member and I will take his question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): I understand the minister will take this as notice and get back to the member. Thank you. Member for Tunnuniq, Mr. Nutarak.

Question 287 - 1(3): Income Support Review Locations

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the Ministers' Statements, one of the ministers made a statement regarding the Income Support policy and the creation of a council. Are you going to be going to all the Nunavut communities.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, we won't be going to all of them. It is going to be impossible to visit all of the communities. The Department of Education will be providing the funds and we are not going to be looking at any new dollars. With that we won't be able to go to all the communities but we will be utilizing the telephones, faxes and so on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I directed my question to the Minister of Social Services. It is very likely that the northern most communities are going to be left out again. I hope that all the information at least will be given to the Hamlet Councils and to the appropriate agencies. I don't know if that was clear Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Of course we can understand you, you were speaking in Inuktitut. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will be writing to all the Nunavut communities. We are not only going to be directing the letters to the Hamlets but we will be utilizing other agencies and providing them with the contact numbers. Another reason why we are not going to be able to go to all the communities is because in following the statement that I made, I mentioned some community names where there were large and small communities. I do know where the member is coming from but there are differences in communities.

We have contracts with some social services and some are being handled by the Government Departments. Because of that we are going to try and get in touch with each of the communities.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Oral questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 288 - 1(3): Department of Education O&M budget

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. I would like to ask the minister about his budget address. Under the area of education it indicated a number of areas of additional funding being allocated. One is to provide additional Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun curriculum. Two for investing in additional teachers and the third area was in the area of income support of 1.5 million.

Mr. Speaker, these three areas that the minister mentioned total about 3.1 million dollars, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the minister about Table 3 of the report, it only shows the O&M budget for the Department of Education going up by roughly 534 thousand dollars, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask if this is additional dollars that is going to be coming in from elsewhere. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the budget address there are a number of initiatives that are outlined. Some is new funding as a result of utilisation of some of the expected surplus funds. There are also internal reallocations within government itself so it is hard to be specific about where the money is coming from for each program because it is a global summary of all government spending.

I would suggest that it is more appropriate to direct this either to the Minister of Education on the specifics of funding in his department or obviously during the Committee of the Whole review of the departmental estimates when he has all his officials here that worked on all the ins and outs of the balancing of the budget allocations within that department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my first question, I believe the increase in the O&M budget for Education is only 543 thousand. As the Minister of Finance indicated yesterday, a very small amount, similar to the amount that I talked about in relation to housing, which he said was more like an adjustment, there was a point 3 percent decrease.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the finance minister if, as far as new money going into education, the other area that this government has also said is top priority, if he considers point 4 percent of an increase in O&M funding a significant amount. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you consider the total budget of education, the honourable member refers to the operating and maintenance allocations proposed of 135 million dollars, which is the largest single departmental expenditure of this

government, then I would say yes that is a significant amount of dollars Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. Tootoo, your third supplementary.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance if there is an indexing or a way to compensate for the higher cost of living or inflation from year to year in the department. As I indicated in my earlier question, Mr. Speaker, there is only an increase in the O&M budget of 543 thousand dollars, of which I might say Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Finance indicated that 500 thousand of that is coming from savings as a result of the dissolution of the Boards.

I would just like to ask the minister if there is a factor, an indexing factor in there to calculate the funding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, all the allocations for each department, the authority to set the targets is given by the whole Financial Management Board and at that time, as I had indicated in questions in the past, all the proposals come forth from the departments based on their existing programs, based on some new initiative that each department might want to undertake. There is an extensive review and discussions on each of those initiatives and on departmental spending.

We try to relate that to the government priorities from the Bathurst Mandate and from the budget consultation process that took place, and then the targets are set. But as far as specifics on indexing or forced growth issues, again, it would be based on the merits of each proposal that came forward from each department, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. Oral questions. Oral questions. Member for Uqqumiut, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 289 - 1(3): Income Support Review Locations

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My first question will be directed toward the Minister responsible for income support. Some of the question was brought up by the member from Pond Inlet, he mentioned some communities are going to be visited, like Igloolik, Baker Lake and so on.

But these are not the highest, most expensive communities. Why do you not go to the high arctic communities because they are very expensive for food and clothing. I would like to suggest that you visit the high arctic communities. You have identified communities where it is a lot cheaper for the cost of living.

It's going to create an unrealistic picture if we visit just the communities where the cost of living is not that high. I think Mr. Minister that I would like to ask you to include also the high arctic communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for income support, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Yes, we can make those adjustments.

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

Question 290 - 1(3): Community Government and Transportation Budget

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community Government and Transportation. In the budget estimates, there has been a lot less money allocated because of course the communities are growing very rapidly and there are going to be more programs and services required.

There was originally 80 million and 81 million and now in the year 2000/2001 there is only 78 million dollars in there now and I think that is quite scary. Is it possible to make some adjustments to reflect the growing communities and to reflect the growing expenditures for programs and services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we were tallying up the budget figures we had members' statements saying that we want to go in a new direction with the Nunavut Government and also with the Bathurst Mandate. We had agreed that Education, Housing would be priorities of this government.

I believe we also agreed that Housing and Education are very much a priority. Of course we have to make a budget proposal that would reflect these priorities. We are not going to be making any changes to the O&M but like I said and the member stated there are some communities that will get decentralized positions. This will give them growth and there is no money made available in the budget. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Kattuk.

Question 291 - 1(3): Sanikiluaq Fuel Tank Farm

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance. In the Main Estimates for this fiscal year, 2000/2001, last year I thought you had agreed that in my community of Sanikiluaq we were going to improve

the fuel tank facilities and the minister had made a commitment that the improvement would take place next year.

When he stated that there would be nearly 1 million dollars directed towards the Sanikiluaq fuel tank farms, I was wondering if this money was in addition to that money that you stated was too small for last year. Is this another additional funding. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish I had all the information for every department, but I don't. That will be when each department comes before the Committee of the Whole, they will have more detailed information. I can say that there is 1 million dollars, approximately 1 million dollars for the 2000/2001 year.

Whether or not there is more funding I don't have the full substantiation for that project, but I am sure that the minister and her officials will have that information. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Finance. Oral questions. Item 6. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 292 - 1(3): Fire Insurance Coverage for School

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is again for the Minister of Finance. In his budget address the one table that I referred to last week was Table 4 on Capital Expenditures. I would like to ask the Minister of Finance if that money for that particular project as he had indicated it was burned by fire, if that has been covered off by insurance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a significant portion of it is covered off by insurance proceeds, I don't have the specifics right here with me but that information will certainly be provided, again when the budget is dealt with. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I can appreciate that the minister doesn't have all the details on the departments and I don't expect him to but I was just wondering if some of it was being covered off by insurance.

In light of the fact that the majority of it, as he indicated, is being covered off by insurance, the total amount of capital, again, for an area that this government has stated over and over again is a top priority, education. If one were to take the dollars for that particular project that are being covered off by insurance out of the capital, then in actuality the capital for the Department of Education dropped by about 1.8 million from the previous year. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to ask the minister again, how

something like that has happened in an area where we have all said it is a top priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance in Nunavut, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when the government collectively puts together a budget, obviously the sources of revenue are important but for the purposes of allocations of dollars for each department, and in setting targets, it is not what we look at for each individual department of where the funds come from. We look collectively as a whole all of the governments' fiscal performance.

As I indicated earlier and then in the budget speech, the fact that we have a bit of a surplus estimated for the 1999/2000 year is taken into consideration. Then you base your setting of departmental expenditures based on that Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ng. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, again to the Minister of Finance. He indicated that collectively they take a look at the budget and prioritize. In light of the very minimal or small increases in the budgets of the top two priorities of this government, I would like to ask the minister, who is also the Chair of the Financial Management Board, if there was a concerted effort to ensure that we have increased spending in the two priority areas of this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Member for Iqaluit Centre. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, but again not specific to just capital but relative to all the departmental spending across government, in trying to balance out the needs of all the departments and all the needs of programs throughout Nunavut, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 6, Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 293 - 1(3): Decentralization to Smaller Communities

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I could direct this question to the Premier in regards to decentralization. My question is have you considered the smaller communities in Nunavut for decentralization. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, although we have discussed this with our colleagues, we are not going to have any decentralization for the smaller communities but we are looking for ways to benefit them. I know that the Department of Sustainable Development have been working on ways they can help the smaller communities get more job opportunities.

Although we won't be transferring any positions or offices to these communities, we are looking for ways to help and assist them in any way we can. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Member for Akulliq riding, Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When, in what year will you consider the smaller communities. The reason I am asking this question is because I have two smaller communities in my riding and there is no decentralization for these two communities. In what year will you start considering assisting the smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I would like to ask the member, in your constituency community of Repulse Bay, I visited that community and they want to establish a park in that area. As I have stated before I would like to find ways to support Repulse Bay when they are looking for an office facility and I would like to meet with the community too. So in any way we can we will try and support the smaller communities, with job creation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Going back to the orders of the day, oral questions. Member for Uqqumiut, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 294 - 1(3): Budget Process to reflect Nunavut

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Premier. Since March the Federal Government or the Northwest Territories Government, since we have just followed their procedures for the Main Estimates, this is our fiscal year, I don't know if these Main Estimates reflect Nunavut requirements and needs. I don't know if we have followed our own procedures. As the Nunavut Government we had inherited legislation and statutes from outside of our jurisdiction which I am not happy about.

I was wondering if we could amend our statutes and legislation to reflect the requirements and the needs of Nunavummiut. I think we should be utilizing the requirements and the needs of Nunavut when we are amending legislation and preparing for the Main Estimates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Premier. Deputy Premier, perhaps you would like to respond, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that would be appropriate given that it's a fiscal question I believe on the government priorities and how it has impacted on the Main Estimates. I believe that was the question from the honourable member.

Again, I would say that no, we have not overnight dramatically reformed or eliminated or changed our existing programs or services. I think we all recognize that, but I think what has happened, quite frankly, as a result of the confirmation of hearing some of the priorities during the pre-budget consultation hearing that we undertook and we were all involved in.

As a result of some of the concerns and priorities that were articulated in this House during various debates in the legislature, the government as a whole has tried to recognize that and tried to incorporate some of those changes in the current 2000/2001 Main Estimates before you. We will be having some further extensive debate on them over the weeks to come, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a true blue Inuk, and I am a member of this Nunavut Legislature, I am a member of the House during these current estimates and I am still in the learning process. Just a couple of days ago there was a budget address and today they have been tabled. Only after the fact, after the budget address, and I do have to review them to make sure that I agree with them and I have to know the details on the days when we deal with the Main Estimates.

For that reason, when that happens we are going to be rushing around and we will lack time and opportunities to ask questions in regards to our concerns. I was wondering if you could reconsider this process, I would be very happy. Also if you can give the regular members more opportunity to review the Main Estimates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the member for clarifying his question. As you know this budget process was somewhat unique I would say, given that we all agreed to carry out Nunavut wide consultations in the fall. That took place over pretty well the whole month of November and into early December because of some problems with missed meetings due to weather conditions and other events that happened in some communities.

So, this budget process was a bit prolonged that way, or delayed that way in getting all the information put together. As you know, all members of this Assembly had an opportunity in January and in February internally to review all the budgetary information that the Government had in respect to the capital and in respect to the Main Estimates and

O&M. But having said that Mr. Speaker, the plan would be for this coming 2001/2002 year budget that we would have the work start on that, obviously after this budget process is finished.

I believe I indicated also in my budget address that we plan on having a five year capital plan document to work with hopefully in the late summer or early fall over to all members as a working document. At the same time we would be putting together the estimates during this coming fall for the 2001/2002 operating year budgets, Mr. Speaker.

With that again, on that type of a time line we can expect to have an earlier review by the Standing Committees during the course of either late this 2000 year or early 2001 year in time to have a late January, February budget debate for the 2001/2002 budget year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. McLean.

Question 295 - 1(3): Nunavut Transportation Strategy

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the recent signing of the MOU between Manitoba and Nunavut and today's statement from the Minister of Transportation regarding a transportation strategy or study for Nunavut. Has the minister established a working group yet between Nunavut and Manitoba in regards to this transportation strategy. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister of Transportation and Community Government, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No the work at this point is strictly within the Department but the Deputy Minister will be in contact with the Government of Manitoba to set up that working relationship. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: My apologies I didn't have my microphone on. Would the minister let me know, the members know if there are going to be any kinds of terms of reference and when we can see these. Thank you.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we can do that.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister also inform me as a MLA for the Kivalliq, who is going to be involved in this strategy. Thank you.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak: I am sorry, I am getting ahead of myself here. As I said during the statement that we will involve the regular members as well as the whole caucus in this study as well as the people of Nunavut so we will make sure that the regular members are kept up to date and have a role in the whole exercise. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Going back to the orders of the day, oral questions. Member for Arviat, Mr. O'Brien.

Question 296 - 1(3): Criteria for School Construction

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is to the Minister responsible for Education. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are just of a general nature and I will follow them up with more detailed questions through the week.

My first question to the minister is what criteria has the minister used in the capital selections of capital projects for schools that were selected for the upcoming year. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We used the same criteria as we used last year. Those are safety and health issues. We have used the same thing, it is just that although we wanted to do more there is only so much we can spend for the capital section of education so we used the same criteria as last year. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister of Education. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister could refresh our memories as to exactly, at least in general terms, the criteria that was used and if every school, every school in Nunavut was looked at prior to the actual selection of capital projects. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Mr. Speaker, I believe so, because we rely on the information from the Divisional Boards of the different three regions. They do our fieldwork. I did not personally go to every school to check them out but I believe that's the guidelines that were given by us to the Divisional Boards of Education, and depending on their recommendations then we would look at that particular school to see if they qualify under the criteria.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Member for Arviat, Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the reason I raise this general question is for the simple fact that for 1998 the school in my home community was on the books, I believe for planning and design.

After that point the school I believe was delayed for a year and the project actually fell off the books and I think fell off the end of the world. At this point in time it is my understanding that there is not even a file or a record to indicate that there was a need for school improvements in my community. Having said that, if there are no files or records in the regional office in the Keewatin, even going back to the Yellowknife headquarters from the last government, I fail to see how the minister's staff could fairly assess the need for a school in my community or an improvement to it if the records have been destroyed or lost conveniently by some individuals.

So I would put the question to the minister that I would think it would be difficult for his staff to assess the needs of my community, one of the fastest growing communities in Nunavut. We expect for example over the next five years, that on the average of 70 – 80 children will be entering the school program. So again, I say to the minister, in my case, if the minister could endeavour to find out whether or not the needs for my community were looked in to. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no way that the Department can approve or reject the missing documents or the missing plans from the five year capital plans. We looked for it everywhere even trying to find it from Yellowknife on behalf of Arviat. Depending on the outcome of my department's discussions with Public Works, I may be in a position to contribute some of the anticipated minor capital projects manage to work in making the playground area more pleasant place for the children to use.

I know what the condition of the playground is and I will be willing to work with member later. If they are enough surplus dollars from the dissolution of the divisional boards perhaps that could be used for minor capital. But, I'm not in the position to make a commitment right now before we've had a chance to talk to the department of Public Works.

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

Mr. O'Brien : Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe the playground issue is a minor component to the overall problem of over crowding of schools. I realise that the Minister is trying to deal with the issue and there are so many dollars to go around. But, I would ask the minister once again, if he can go to his staff and locate the report that indicated very clearly there was a need for an upgrade to our high school in Arviat and report back to myself and to other members on where it stands.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk : Even without the document the member is talking about. We can start, I already promised that we will start looking with the 20 year plans for all the schools in Nunavut. And, I also got a letter from the Arviat's DEA chairman, Robert Leonard, talking about the problems of overcrowding of the schools and I have the numbers here. I'm not disagreeing with the Member.

It's just that last year and this year's criteria have been for safety issues in all the schools. Unfortunately, we are not able to provide the necessary renovation and expansion of schools in every community that need them right now. So we concentrated on the problem areas like the schools in Baker Lake and Clyde River and Pond Inlet.

So, I certainly will be looking at all the schools for the 20 year plan and get back to the member. At least work with the member and the Arviat community along the same line as with the other communities that need them very badly. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister of Education. Going back to our orders of the day. Item 6 oral questions. Member for Hudson Bay. Mr. Kattuk.

Question 297 - 1(3): Francophone School

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education. During our last meeting in Rankin Inlet, we heard that here in Iqaluit, the Francophone Association would be getting their new school in Iqaluit. I just wondered how many Francophone students would be attending that particular school that will be built in Iqaluit. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's always difficult to estimate how many students will be entering schools. It also differs from year to year. You also have to consider the growing community. I cannot estimate how many students will be entering the Francophone school in Iqaluit.

I think I would like to explain to the Member that the Federal Government has contributed money to the tune of 5 million dollars in building of the school. I think most of the funding will be coming from the Federal Government. So, that's why we agreed to build a school. And, I can take his question as notice and get back to the member tomorrow. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister has taken this as notice and he will get back to the member tomorrow. Do you have other questions Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Kattuk you don't have a question. Going back to orders of the day. Oral questions, member for Baffin South, Mr. Akasuk.

Question 298 - 1(3): Kimmirut Social Worker

Mr. Akasuk: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I don't want to sound like a broken record. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services...(interpretation)...again for the people of Kimmirut we still don't have a social worker. We haven't had one for a very long time and the people are anxiously waiting to get this position in Kimmirut.

I mentioned this at the beginning of the year and my question is how much longer are we going to wait.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I do appreciate the question. I would say to the member on behalf of Health and Social Services and the Baffin Regional Health and Social Services Board which is responsible for filling that position.

They have not been able to staff the position. We did in response to the member's question in February in Rankin Inlet. We had a person interviewed for that position. That person was ready to take that position in Kimmirut, and at the last minute declined the offer. Mr Speaker, my understanding is that we have to go back out again to re-advertise that position to find a person to fill that position in Kimmirut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister, Mr. Akasuk.

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you for that information. Are we going to be waiting for a long time or are you going to be as expedient as possible. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker we are endeavouring to try and fill that position and the member knows and some of the members in the House through debate on the Kimmirut Social worker. The first concern is the house. We didn't have any housing in Kimmirut. We secured a residence for the social worker. We went back out to competition. Several people applied and we narrowed down to one person and finally when that person was offered the job, they backed out at the last moment. We have gone out to competition, we still hold the house.

So, that we can fill the position, we'll have a residence available. Mr. Speaker, it brings out a bigger question is that with the recruitment of social workers and last week I know in this house we had 5 from Igloolik who are training. We also have another 5 from Igloolik who will be finished in May with their diploma in Social Work. We hope we will be able to start filling these positions Mr. Speaker. So the answer to the members question is we are working on it expediently and hopefully Mr. Speaker before the end of

this session we'll be able to give the people of Kimmirut some good news that they have, Mr. Speaker, been waiting for and deserve to hear. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral questions. Iqaluit Centre Mr. Tootoo.

Question 299 - 1(3): Status of 5 Year Plan

Mr. Tootoo : Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker my question again is for the Minister of Finance. In his budget address and another question he had alluded to the committing to the development of a 5-year plan. I just like to ask the minister, who or where his staff are, who they're involving in this process. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon Kelvin Ng. Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker as you know the department of Finance acts on behalf of government in trying to co-ordinate the provision of information and putting together the Main Estimates and the Capital Estimates. And it is really each individual department responsible for the planning for their specific needs.

As it stands now Mr. Speaker, the main focus has been trying to get the Main Estimates and the Capital Estimates before the House so that we are in a position to try and complete the 2000-2001 fiscal year operating budgets. The plan would be to move on from there and try to resolve and produce a 5 year capital planning document that I spoke of at the budget address. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question to the same minister. As the Chairperson of the FMB, will they be ensuring that the municipalities are given an opportunity to provide what their thoughts are, provide their own capital plan to the government for consideration. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't know if the municipalities would provide their own Capital plans. Certainly as I indicated in the past the intent would be to involve them in the process and have them identify, given our limited fiscal resources, identify what they deem to be the priority for the communities.

I don't see that would hopefully differ too much on what we heard during the budget consultation hearings that we undertook. As you know they were quite extensive and there was significant participation from municipalities across Nunavut during each community's hearings. So, we're hoping that a lot of that is consistent and certainly also consistent to what the members bring forward on behalf of their constituents as well thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We are on item 6. Oral questions. Did anybody else want to make another comment. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. McLean.

Question 300 - 1(3): Standards and Criteria for Community Halls

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question today Uqaqti, the community hall in Baker Lake was built in 1986 when our population was quite small. And it's increased quite a bit. At this point, we're to the point where we can't have a full function, celebration in the community hall at this time. I know there has been expansion of community halls around the region now. Can the minister responsible explain to me if standards and criteria's are changing for the size of community halls in each community. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon Jack Anawak: (Interpretation): Mr. Speaker I believe your microphone is off. (interpretation ends) At this point, we haven't changed the policy on the size of the community and the community hall or the building we build in communities.

However I would like to assure the member and all the members that we are looking at the communities and the size and the size of public places that would be needed to ensure that the communities can comply with fire codes and the regulations. But, I can assure the member that we will be looking at all the community halls.

I should however point out to the member that there are some communities that are in dire need of community halls and that may be in a more urgent state than the present community of Baker Lake. But, we will look at all the communities, in terms of the sizes. Thank you.

Speaker (Interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. The time allotted for question period is over. We will take a fifteen minute break.

>>House recessed for fifteen minutes.

Speaker (interpretation): The House will come back to order. Item 8 Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Picco.

Item 8: Returns to Written Questions

Return to WQ 04 - 1(3): Rankin Inlet Birthing Centre

Hon. Ed Picco: Mr. Speaker I have two returns. The first one to a question asked by Mr. McLean on the Rankin Inlet Birthing Centre. There were one hundred and seventy-three births at the birthing centre since 1993. However, it is equally important to note that the number of clients that received care at the birthing centre for their pregnancies is much higher than the actual number that delivered their babies at the centre. The care that a woman and her family receive from a mid-wife throughout her pregnancy for the first 6

weeks of the babies life for protecting the health and well being of the mother and the child.

Question 2 - Was it well received and accepted ? The following information was extracted form the evaluation of the birthing project in Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories, 1996. The principal investigator, Mr. Speaker, was Marie Chamberlain. From the community members receiving care one of the patients receiving care gave the following quote " choice had increased significantly for a place of delivery."

Many women stated they would like to be cared by Inuit midwives. Fathers were allowed to be at the deliveries in Rankin and this was seen as a positive thing for emotional and financial reasons. Most women stated they wanted to have their babies in their home communities. Mr. Speaker we should take the opportunity to thank the honourable Kelvin Ng, who had the foresight as the Minister of Health under the Northwest Territories in 1996 to help set up the birthing centre.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, continuing, from one of the community members in general one of the reactions was there was overwhelming support for the birthing project and also there is agreement that it has helped the community in a number of positive ways. All felt that training Inuit midwives was important and the expertise of the elder who knew about birthing traditions should be a part of the training. Mr. Speaker in the budget coming up for the Department of Health I'm hoping to elaborate on some exciting things that we are hoping to do, using Inuit elders and traditional medicine.

Question 3 Mr. Speaker. Is it cost effective in regards to the initial set up ? In 1996 Marie Chamberlain stated that it would require not less than forty births a year in the birthing centre to make the project cost effective. The health benefits of this project cannot be measured in financial terms for this short-term study. Mr. Speaker at the present time, with an average birth rate of 27-30 a year it would have to be determined if the financial savings, and that includes hospital and accommodations costs, matches or exceeds the salary of 2 mid-wives and 2 maternity workers plus a clerk interpreter.

However, analysing the true costs, Mr. Speaker, and the cost effectiveness would have to include an assessment of the savings to the health system of improving the health of young children, infants and their parents. This analysis has not been conducted. Mr. Speaker I think it is fair to point out one of the cost factors that are not there in dollar values is when a women has to go away from her home community and the stress that puts on the family. This is helping alleviate that.

Question 4 for Mr. McLean was - Does the minister see it continuing in the future ? The birthing centre became an accepted program in 1995 after a 2 year pilot project phase. It will indeed continue as a program in the future and plans are currently underway to expand the service to clients in other Keewatin Communities.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Speaker we have hired a third mid-wife for the year 2000 and we will be offering the service to other women in communities who wish to deliver their babies in Rankin Inlet and not have to go to Winnipeg two thousand miles away. The medical criteria must be met firstly, which is low risk patients. We also wish to provide support to nurses in the Keewatin communities who are caring for clients with the maternal and infant program.

Return to WQ 09 - 1(3): Health & Social Services Funding Programs

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I would like to give my second return to an oral question. Mr. Speaker, my second return is to an oral question asked by the honourable David Iqarrialu. It was asked on February 28, 2000. The question was in regards to the community based funding programs and the application processes. Well Mr. Speaker with regards to the fiscal year 97/98, 98/99, 99/00, what programs does the department require individual community governments or organizations to submit applications in order to be considered for funding.

Those are Brighter Futures, Building Healthy Communities, The Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP) and the National Native Alcohol and Drug Addiction Program (NNADAP). Question number 2 by Mr. Iqarrialu was which of these programs uses a funding formula at the beginning of the fiscal year to allocate the amount of funding that each community will be entitled for. Mr. Speaker those are Brighter Futures, Building Healthy Communities, CPNP and NNADAP, which all use Canada Health's formula funding program to deliver program dollars to our region. Brighter Futures and Building Healthy Communities use this same formula Mr. Speaker to allocate funds to communities.

Now, Mr. Speaker it is very important to point out the CPNP and NNADAP are held at headquarters for Health and Social Services and delivered upon community need and capacity. What that means Mr. Iqarrialu, is that when they need the funds the Department of Health and Social Services transfers it directly to the community. Continuing with Mr. Iqarrialu's questions. Number 3 - What were the funding allocations made for each Nunavut community at the beginning of each of the past two years and the current year for each such program.

Mr. Speaker I have provided in my return an attachment that lists every Nunavut community and the monies that are coming forth but I won't read that for the record. But it is available for the members and the other members.

Question 4 Mr. Speaker - What specific outreach were made to ensure that the communities and specific organizations within the communities were made aware of the funding eligibility, and Mr. Speaker a good question is how do they apply. Guidelines and communications within the communities were made to each hamlet in Nunavut outlining the proposal procedures and indeed Mr. Speaker the application process.

Mr. Iqaqrialu's 5th question was - were applications procedures and forms available in Inuktitut for each of these programs and what specific community development efforts were made in each community so that someone personally worked within the community or groups in the community to assist in the development applications under each of these programs.

Mr Speaker the applications are available in Inuktitut as provided by the GNWT. Nunavut Health and Social Services is developing a multi-lingual document for 2000/2001. Health and Social Services Community Wellness Program administrator delivered proposal templates workshops and assisted with the development of funding applications in collaboration with the community SAOs, wellness co-ordinators and the economic development officers within those communities. So it has been a multi-departmental initiative.

Mr. Speaker number 6 question asked by Mr. Iqaqrialu was - how many communities submitted applications for these funding programs but did not receive funding. Mr. Speaker that is an excellent question. How many communities had asked for money and didn't receive any ? The short answer to that question Mr. Speaker is none. Every community that asked for money got money Mr. Speaker.

For each funding program which communities did not submit applications. For Brighter Futures and Building Healthy Communities all communities, twenty-six participated. CNPN funds were accessed based upon need and the capacity. Question number 9 Mr. Speaker asked by Mr. Iqaqrialu - in programs where preliminary allocations were made for each community, how many communities lapsed their funding and was it reallocated to another community or purpose at the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Speaker this will not be ascertained until all communities report and that report is due on April 15, 2000.

Mr Speaker the final question asked by Mr. Iqaqrialu - how much funding was given out under each of the following programs, in this department, for each community in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker I would ask Mr. Iqaqrialu and the members of the house to refer to the attachment connected with the written question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker for allowing me the opportunity to respond to these two excellent written questions.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Returning to the orders of the day. Item number 8. Returns to written questions. Going to the orders of the day again, Item 9, Replies to the Opening Address. Item 10, Replies to Budget Address. Item 11, Petitions. Item 12, Reports of Special and Standing Committees. Item 13. Report of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Nutarak.

Item 13: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

Bill 10 - An Act to Amend the Boards of Management Dissolution Act

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr Speaker I wish to report that Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Boards of Management Dissolution Act has been reviewed

by Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health, and that the Bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole as amended and reprinted. Mr. Speaker I wish unanimous consent to wave rule 68(5) and have Bill 10 moved into the Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak . Mr. Nutarak is seeking unanimous consent wave the rule sixty-eight (5). To have the Bill moved into the committee of the whole. Are there any nays. Since there are no nays Bill 10 is entered into the Committee of the Whole today. Going back to the orders of the day Item 14, tabling of documents, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 14: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 47 - 1(3): Letters from Nunavut Employees Union

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker I would like to table this document. Since Mr. Puqiqnak cannot table this document because he is acting as speaker this document was given to him by Nunavut Employee's Union. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Tabling of documents. Mr. Premier.

Tabled Document 48 - 1(3): Manitoba/Nunavut MOU

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker , I would like to table the agreement between Manitoba and Nunavut. A memorandum of understanding which was signed by Gary Dower and myself when we were in Rankin Inlet.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Tabling of documents, Item 15, Notices of Motion. Going back to the orders of the day, Item 16. Notices of Motions for First Readings of Bills. Item 17, Motions. Item 18, First Reading of Bills. Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. Item 20, Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Minister's statement 50-1 (3). Tabled document 27 -1(3). Bill 13. Tabled document 41-1(3). Bill 14. Bill 10. With Mr. Irqittuq as the Chairperson, Sergeant-At-Arms.

Item 20: Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

Chairperson (interpretation): We will have a break and afterwards we will go into the committee of the whole go into the last item we dealt with last time.

Chairperson (interpretation): The committee will come to order. We have before us Minister's Statement 50-1(3) and Bill 13. Tabled Documents 41-1(3) and Bill 10. We were dealing with these the last time. We dealt with Tabled Document 27-1(3). Do you want to go ahead with this. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. chairman, we were dealing with NNI. We didn't complete this item so I'd like to go to that item.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree. Thank you. Mr. Premier, thank you for coming to the witness stand. Do you want to have your witnesses with you Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, Ross Mrazek, and Barry Cornthwaite. They are from the Department of Public Works. Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Works and I am open to questions now regarding this policy. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. First of all, are there any comments from the members. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson, I have different questions that I will pose to the Premier. However, in regards to the NNI policy, I'm quite satisfied with this policy as we can make some changes in the future.

There's room for improvements and changes. With that, regular members will be involved in this discussion. However, I have some questions a few questions that I would like to pose to the Premier. If I don't forget some of the questions that I wanted to ask.

First of all, I would like to ask about the 51 percent ownership within Nunavut businesses. I would like to ask the Premier if they will be complying with the legal requirements. If he can elaborate a little bit more on this, I would appreciate that then after that I can ask more questions. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier or Mr. Mrazek.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. We did make some changes to the old policy but we decided to keep the 51 percent as it is in the Nunavut Incentive Policy. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I understand the response quite well. Has this 51 percent been considered in the past and did they follow up on it after the Nunavut government has had that established policy. That's my first question.

Chairperson (Interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. At this point, I have to recognize a person from Manitoba, Mark Christen. Welcome to the Assembly. Mr. Premier, if you didn't forget the questions that were being brought forth to you.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank Mr. Chairperson. Up to date we didn't have a concrete policy in place according to agreements that we made. We don't know as of yet

how this policy will be used in Nunavut. There are some provisions in there that have been used previously.

However, NTI said they would be looking into this matter as well and consult with business owners in the Nunavut area. We have to consult with those people to see what kind of problems they have come across in regards to this policy. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Thank you for the clarification. I see that this policy will be of good use to business owners in Nunavut. My other question was in relation to contracts that have been awarded to some business owners, however, they have to fill out forms in order to comply with this act or regulations. When that is the case according to the Nunavut policy, there are some Inuit business owners that have to fill out all kinds of forms. I'm just wondering if these forms they have to fill out will be translated into Inuktitut along with all the regulations within the policy. If you can understand me.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Up to today, we have been using the policy and we're trying to get it translated into Inuktitut. It has been televised and reported on the radio in Inuktitut. So, the Inuktitut translation is now available. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Whoever deals with contracts or awarding the contracts, will those people be able to speak in Inuktitut or will they be able to read the Inuktitut versions of the policy, so that the Inuit of Nunavut can be better involved in the policy itself. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Premier or Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like respond to the question from the MLA, that the forms will be translated and procedure manual will be translated. So this is going to be a little bit easier than with the previous business incentive policy.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Yes, I welcome that Inuktitut translation. We'll be more appropriate for Inuktitut speaking business owners and they are going to be able to read all the forms in Inuktitut, and speak in Inuktitut as well. But I would like to ask the Premier, if the staff can communicate in Inuktitut to business owners. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Which one of you is going to answer the question.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I cannot answer his question at this time. Our assistant deputy minister will be an Inuktitut speaking person. So, I think he or she can look into this further. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Yes, I'm glad that you will be preparing for this. Especially when it comes to the business incentive policy for Inuktitut speaking business owners. I think this is very good news for them because there's been a lot of business owners that have come across problems with the previous policy.

I'm sure this has been brought up to but I would like to ask another question on that. In the communities, whether they are bigger centres or smaller centres, there's been some people getting into their own businesses and trying to operate businesses efficiently. I'm just wondering if they'll be utilizing the local business owners as much as possible. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I cannot state at this time whether we will be fully utilizing the Inuit business owners in local communities, but we have put out this policy so people will get into more businesses. We would give them an incentive where we would add 10 percent if it were Inuit owned but we haven't made anything definite on the smaller communities. There is the Nunavut firm status adjustment of 14 and 3 percent Inuk firm and local status at present. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I don't want to be the only one asking questions because I'm sure there are going to be other people who want to ask other questions. One of the clarifications that I would like is in regards to the businesses. It states in there that they would get a 20 percent bid adjustment on contracts. With the previous government, and when they were awarding contracts, they were put up to 40 percent with the previous government. So, there's quite a change if we put it at 20 percent. Is that going to have an effect on the people who are bidding for contracts. Thank you Mr. Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I don't know where you got that 40 percent from because I've never heard about it. It used to be in the 20 percent

area with the business incentive policy. We'll use 20 percent because of course if it's any higher, it's going to be too expensive.

We'll leave it around the 20 percent area and this is for all of Nunavut. It doesn't define where this 20 percent is going to be adjusted but we did include that there would be incentives for Inuit owned businesses to help the community businesses. Thank you Mr. Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (Interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Also, I would like to ask about getting contracts where you would try and get the lowest bidder. With that included in the policy, the larger businesses are the ones who can try and get the lowest bid. But, of course you know it's very expensive to operate a business up here in Nunavut. And, because it's very expensive I think it's going to create a lot of problems if you're going to go for the lowest bidder. It would leave out the Nunavut businesses. Is it possible to make that change. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. This proposed policy is for the benefit the people of Nunavut and businesses. Because of that we give 20 percent for people of Nunavut to make that adjustment. So the Nunavut businesses have just as much opportunity as the larger businesses. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I'm starting to smile more about owning a business in Nunavut. It also talks here about Hamlets, they do not own businesses. Usually the Hamlets don't own businesses. It also states here that this would go through the Hamlets. Is that the case Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Everyone who uses government money, including the Hamlets Councils, if they are funded by the government by more than 51 percent they will have to comply with our policies. Again we have stated that should there be any concerns we are open to any suggestions sometime in the future. What we're trying to do here is let the Nunavut businesses benefit from this policy. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (Interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (Interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. A very clear response. The Hamlets are local government and they have to treat people fairly and equally just like the Nunavut government. If that's the case then is it not possible for the Hamlets to be

financially benefiting and pushing out the local businesses. Is that going to be reviewed again by your staff. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This policy is for Nunavut businesses. It is not for the Hamlet councils. If the local businesses would like to sign a contract with the Hamlet council then they would have to comply with this policy. If there should be a problem we will review this NNI policy again. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, that's it at this point.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as you all know that the process and the development of this new policy involved the different businesses, the community sectors, businesses, and the regional chambers and stuff like that. I'd like to ask maybe the Premier and staff. Were there any particular concerns like the chamber of commerce had on the policy. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Numerous concerns leading up to the production of the policy were heard and addressed through the policy. In the initial draft, there were concerns over the grandfather clause. We dealt with that over a transitional period under section 20 of the policy. There were concerns with the different departments doing different things in accordance with the policy. Like the criteria, the standardised criteria. We dealt with it through section 11, through an evaluation process and the bid adjustment process. There were concerns about the appeal process. In the past, there were no appeals. So, we addressed that by setting up an appeals process under section 18 of the policy.

There were concerns about the monitoring and enforcement under the old BIP policy. We addressed that through section 14 and 15 by setting up a monitoring and enforcement process. There were concerns there were no real employment and training benefits under the old policy. We addressed that with bonuses under section 12, under bonuses and penalties under the new policy. There were concerns for incentives for hiring Inuit for example. We addressed that again through section 12, through bonuses and penalties in the new policy.

There were concerns raised about previous companies being covered under the policy when they weren't entitled to be. We addressed those under section 14 and 15 by monitoring the enforcement of the policy. There were concerns about Inuit companies

receiving extra incentives under the old policy, we addressed that through section 11 through the evaluation process and bid adjustment process. So, there were numerous concerns raised and we addressed them through the policy and really appreciate the comments we received from all concerned. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairperson, I understand there are also representatives from NTI.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. There were representatives of the Development Corporations on the working group, so I imagine their concerns were addressed in the working group. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, last week I was asking the Premier as far as having a limit or a cap on the subsidies provided. I am just wondering if, specifically on a construction contract if there would be a limit on that. I guess those can be quite substantial and I would venture to guess that beyond a certain point, I don't know if any numbers have been crunched on that but, beyond a certain point we are giving more money away than what we need to. I am just wondering if that's been addressed. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. As I stated in my prior answers, we set up a cap for goods at 100 thousand dollars. So if it is a major construction project and the goods are pretty expensive then they will be capped at 100 thousand dollars. So that is the cap on where it won't produce much employment for the residents of Nunavut for getting goods. It is capped at 100 thousand dollars.

If it is a four million dollar project and the goods are 2 million dollars then they would receive a cap at 100 thousand for the goods, but for the labour itself and services there is no cap. We want to create employment in the Territory, and that's one of the main focuses of the policy. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in section 12 under bonuses and penalties, the first one says that contracts may provide for, and then it goes on to list the different bonuses. If it is "may" or "shall" or "will" there are some that will and some that won't or what criteria are used to determine whether they may or may not provide for that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I can go from the changes that were made from the draft that you were provided. Okay under section 12 for example, 12.2 used the word may on the first sentence, penalties may apply. That has been changed to shall. If you go to the next section, section 12.3, on the first sentence, bonus or penalty may has been changed to shall. On the next section also where it is referring to may, has been changed to shall. On 12.5 second line, may has been changed to shall. 12.6 also the first line, may has been changed to shall. If you go to 12.7 as well the may has been changed to shall, so there is less discretion in the policy. Does that clarify the question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Premier for those changes. I know those ones between the old one and the new one, I was just saying in 12.1 where it says contracts may provide for, I just wanted some clarification on that one. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr Cornthwaite would you like to respond.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Basically there are many, many different types of contracts so it is something that can't be said that they'll always be able to be applied, because of the different types of contracts that the government has to enter into. The government has to have the ultimate power to decide with regard to the incentives. Hope that answers your question.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. So I guess, just to make that point clear is how this is going to be implemented is basically at the discretion of the Department responsible for doing that. I don't know if there is a way that could be further clarified or not, just food for thought, maybe to take a look at it and add a little more clarity to it. That's all I have for right now I will let somebody else have some questions. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Are one of you are going to be responding to that question. No. Okay, other questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't believe it is part of this policy but it does have an effect. The private businesses have a plan or put a business plan together when they are going to be trying to obtain some contracts. Usually they hire lawyers to put the draft together, the agreement and the structure and so on. Lawyers don't come cheap. When businesses are trying to be established, what kinds of plans do you have that would help the potential businesses or what kind of support system have you established for businesses that are going to be starting up. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It doesn't have anything to do with the NNI policy. This is more to help the businesses if they want to establish their own private businesses then possibly what they can do is use the Department of Sustainable Development. It has nothing to do with this so I can't give you an adequate response. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I wouldn't say anything about it if it had nothing to do with this policy, but of course there are going to be businesses that will be established. Once you establish a business you have to use this policy. This is going to be a very important policy for us as the Nunavut Government and we will have to use Nunavut local businesses. It has everything to do with the businesses that we are planning to establish.

So I would suggest that the Department of Sustainable Development work very hard on this issue and I can help them and give them advice. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): I don't hear a question. Just a comment. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to the smaller communities they have small businesses that have been established and when they are bidding for a contract some of the people who own these small businesses don't know very much about the tendering process and bidding for contracts and so on. Is there going to be training made available for these small businesses. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We are already starting the training process. They are going out to the communities and we hope to cover all the Nunavut communities in this year. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Since there is going to be support for the smaller businesses are you also going to be considering the other communities so that everybody will have a fair chance at obtaining these government contracts. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Mr. Premier or... Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes if they are from Nunavut, they will get support. There is a 3 percent local bid adjustment for businesses with local status. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The smaller businesses that are just getting established don't have the required equipment or they don't have vehicles. For those that are just starting out. There are some businesses that have all their equipment and there are some that are just getting established and have hardly any resources. Are you going to be giving some support to those businesses that are just getting established. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier. Manitok. I am sorry, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Just call me Manitok, it's okay. I have got a very expensive name. In regards to Mr. Akesuk's comments, the Department of Sustainable Development will be able to work with our Department so that the needs of the smaller communities will be realized if that is your wish. Also we try and make sure that they contracts are put in the Hamlet offices and in the newspapers.

My department and Sustainable Development's mandates are a little bit different. The Department of Sustainable Development is more to help the establishment of small businesses and with my department we deal solely with the contracts. But we will take your issues into consideration and we will see how we can have a better working relationship on this issue with DSD. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anybody else. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I couldn't find the button for my microphone. In the NNI policy on section 9.0 the Clyde River Protocol. Could you clarify that for me because it says the Clyde River Protocol, the only community mentioned is Clyde River. It is the only community mentioned, so what is so special about it. Thank you.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, that just tries to elaborate the agreement that took place in Clyde River between Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and that agreement was called the Clyde River Protocol. So we used that Clyde River Protocol and that was only one of the protocols that we have used when preparing for this policy. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): But is there a Clyde River protocol. Did you just use Clyde River as a name. Could you clarify that again to me please.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. If you remember, last year, I think it was during the fall, we signed an agreement between Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and we agreed to have a meeting in Clyde River. NTI was going to have their AGM at that time but due to bad weather, they were unable to make it to Clyde River. So therefore we had signed that agreement here in Iqaluit, and even though we did that, the agreement was called the Clyde River Protocol. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Nutarak do you have any further comments or questions.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I don't mind using that name. I think it was just last Friday when we discussed this matter the Premier had stated that the contracts that were in effect last year will continue to use this but they will use this new policy with the new contracts that take place in this fiscal year. The Premier had stated that the policy would take effect on April 1st, and I know it will be implemented. If we don't implement it I am sure there will be some problems that arise from it, if it doesn't go ahead. As we have stated that housing shortage is in crisis now and we would like to see the units constructed this year and it is one of the Nunavut Government's highest priorities.

I know that the construction of housing will have to be tendered out this spring, if the Nunavut Government brings some process in on that agreement. So I just wanted to find out what kind of consequences there would be if we do not pass this policy. So I have those two questions.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Premier, if you or one of your officials would like to respond to that question.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, this will take effect on April 1st, and as the Government we have the authority to regulate the policies and to implement them. If any one of my colleagues had any concerns we are now collecting concerns so that we can amend the NNI. So we are open to your concerns and your input but we would like to have this in place by April 1st, because there is going to be a large number of contracts that have to be bid on.

So once we are using this policy it is going to benefit the communities. So therefore we want to implement this on April 1st, that's why. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier for giving us the opportunity to make amendments once we find out what kind of problems are occurring. Since this is new we will implement it and once it come into effect we will know from experience what kind of problems will occur. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to Mr. Iqaqrialu's question, I don't think they answered him properly. Will the contract procedures be in Inuktitut. For example if they want to build a water reservoir in my community, and that

is tendered out, the contracting documents are about this thick. A lot of reading is required. Will these documents be translated into Inuktitut. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Premier, if you or any of your officials would like to respond.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you Mr. Chairman. That is a very interesting proposal. I am a little bit afraid that I can't offer any judgement at this time, because to translate the technical specifications, drawings and the general descriptions of the projects might be really difficult.

I don't think we can promise you that this can be done, but if there are any serious inquiries for any tender, my ADM Jamie Flaherty is fully fluent, he will be able to interpret in some portions, providing this is done prior to the tender. But we are not involving ourselves with pre-tendering or anything like this at that point, you have to realize that from the contracting law it is basically not permitted. I am not sure if I answered your question, but I thought I would try.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Mrazek. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): I apologize, I almost spoke as if I was the Chairperson. So in regards to Mr. Iqaqrialu's question that is how I understood it. That's why I just rephrased the question and asked the same question again. I will be asking a question in regards to that question again. My second question. I know that in most of the smaller communities, small businesses are being established.

You either require the Worker's Compensation Board. There are many requirements in the contracts that hinder small Inuit businesses from applying for the contracts. For example if I wanted to bid for the one hundred thousand dollar contract, I would have to pay a percentage of that. We would need bid security at all times. Even for the small businesses how can we give more forms of help for Inuit businesses that are establishing.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Premier or your staff, if you would like to respond.

Mr. Mrazek: Mr. Chairman the current situation regarding the bid security which is required by the law is still 100 thousand plus. Now considering the prices went up considerably for the past couple of years the department is still seriously considering increasing the bid security to somewhere around two hundred fifty thousand dollars in order to reflect the possibility of giving the smaller contractors benefits so they do not need to contact the security or insurance companies to get the bid bond or performance bond.

That right now, we are exploring that possibility with the Justice people and we will be proposing that this is the way to go in reflecting on construction prices or contract prices because it will generally help the smaller contractor. For the last number of years in some

contracts we were able to eliminate the bid security specifically dealing with the Hamlets and the risk was absolutely minimal. So that leads us to believe that increasing the bid security to a quarter of a million dollars is probably the right thing to do.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you for your response. Do you have any further questions Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): So I understand the bid security will no longer be in use. I don't think I understand your response. Are we going to do away with the bid security. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, at this point if you are going to bid for a 100 thousand dollar contract you need a security deposit. Perhaps we need to increase the total number for bids up to a 250 thousand dollar contract. A 100 thousand dollar contract doesn't require a security bid. If the contract is 250 thousand dollars or more then you require a security bid. I hope I responded to your question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): My last question is more a comment than a question. In most of the communities a majority of the businesses require assistance. I myself experienced this. They bypassed the smaller contractors, for example if they have to build an arena or to build a big housing facility. The big housing companies don't want to hire local people for employment, they use transient workers. Like GC North wins contracts they can afford to bring all their equipment into the community and once they are done they ship it all out again.

All the benefits do not trickle down to the community, it only benefits the big company. This has been the case in the past. Perhaps we should be saying that we are going to be utilising local businesses for construction purposes. This way we will be able to help small businesses in the communities to develop.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq that was more of a comment than a question, but I'm sure the Premier would like to comment.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I too have seen it that way when I worked at a local law firm. The big companies bypassed us because we were northerners or Inuit. That's why I have pushed for this Nunavummi Nangminiqqtunik Ikajuuti, because once we utilise this policy it will become beneficial. So I understand where you are coming from. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Are there any more comments. Mr. Tootoo

Mr. Tootoo: Mr Chairperson I just noticed while going through the budget address that a very small amount of corporate income tax was collected in Nunavut. I would like to ask the Premier or his staff if through his consultations did he hear from anyone if Nunavut corporations paid their taxes, and is there anything we can do to benefit those firms.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Premier if you want to respond to that.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. This policy did not focus on taxes. We want to promote as much opportunity as possible for businesses in our territories. So that is one of the reasons we have such a low corporate tax rate, probably one of the lowest in the country. We want to promote more investment and opportunities for Nunavummiut. That's all I can say. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Tootoo if you have any further comments.

Mr. Tootoo: I guess I was just wondering if we could provide more of an incentive to corporations who do pay their taxes in Nunavut. Looking at the numbers and how much money gets spent up here it is quite obvious that a lot of those corporations do work up here but are based somewhere else. I was wondering if we could look at implementing some type of incentive for businesses that do file their income taxes in Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Premier or one of his officials can answer. We are dealing with the Nunavummi Nangminiqagtunik Ikajuuti policy. So if you want to elaborate more or one of your officials, go ahead.

Hon. Paul Okalik: the focus of the policy is to create incentives for businesses in Nunavut. If they are not based in Nunavut then they won't be covered. For those companies that are situated outside of the territory who were once covered under the old Business Incentive Policy they have 2 years to fall into line. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Tootoo go ahead.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Section 3, under the authority which allows cabinet on an exceptional basis to depart from the application of the policy, Mr. Chairman a couple of questions. Why is that policy there and what are the types of situations that would warrant an exception. I need some clarification there.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: If you look at just about any policy there is always a clause for the authority to make an exception and override what is there. So I think this is the reason the section is included.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess the deputy minister indicated it's there because it's always been there. But what are the examples, if he has ever encountered any other than it has always been there.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you Mr. Chairman. There is nothing hidden providing that a paragraph or statement is there, and I cannot give you an example or envision what could happen in the future. It is there because every policy has the authority statement. I would like to make sure that Mr. Tootoo understands that it has not been put into the policy for any particular reason.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr Mrazek I just wanted to get some clarity for that. Section 11.1 and 11.2 of the policy outlines the detailed bid adjustment values for Nunavut firms, Inuit firms and Local status firms, and Inuit content criteria. Has the government calculated an approximate cost for implementing this policy based on those values. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Yes we have.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Would the premier be willing to let us know what those numbers might be. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: I don't have those numbers with me but they can be provided. The old policy was around an 8 percent adjustment. This new one should be around 9 percent. So about a percentage increase in government costs.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Premier, but I would just ask if he is stating that it will be just a one percent increase I would like a total dollar value so we know what it is costing us to implement the policy. I have another question Mr. Chairperson. Will this policy affect the P3 projects. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The policy applies to all Nunavut businesses regardless if it is a contract for construction, a grocery store or something like that. So Mr. Tootoo is right it will apply to P3 project contracting procedures.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. If you can use the last names. Mr. Tootoo do you have any other questions.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Section 11.5 allows the responsible department to develop evaluation criteria for specific professional service contracts. I'm just wondering what types of contracts are envisioned here. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek or Premier, I don't know which of you wants to respond to the question.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman this policy covers every department in our government and any type of contract. It could be for legal services or an engineering contract or it could be for a construction contract. So, each department will address each contract for each case. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. So do you mean any consulting contracts also are covered by this and they would apparently just be put out and tendered as well. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Yes, this is the case.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you Premier. I really appreciate those types of answers. Under section 14 it directs that each contract authority will be responsible for monitoring and enforcing the policy. What consequences will be in place for departments or officials that don't adequately apply the policy in their contracting. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: We will be the one enforcing the policy so it will be up to each department to decide what mechanism to use. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know that if a department is for some reason or another hypothetically is not following the policy, I don't know if I can see that

department disciplining itself or catching itself to try and make sure that they don't do that again. Is there going to be some type of a monitoring or audit to make sure that the policy is being followed by that department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: We have set up some mechanisms. For example if a business is aggrieved then they can use the appeal process. That can then expose non-compliance by a department. So, there are provisions NTI and the government will be responsible for monitoring and enforcing the policy. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I see this as a very crucial area of the policy. There needs to be a way of monitoring and enforcing the policy. I know that in the previous government and I'm not sure if it is still in practice in this government. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. As I said there is an appeal process that we have set up for any aggrieved person or a given contractor. They can refer to a board and we looked at the possibility of setting up a centralised agency, but we also looked at the costs of doing that. So for the time being we are relying on the aggrieved person filing an appeal to an appeal board. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess as the Premier stated, unless the contractor knows to appeal, or decides to file a grievance there won't be any whether one is required or not. As he also indicated it is up to us as the government and NTI to monitor the policy. It may be worthwhile maybe developing some type of a review system within an existing division of government accounting that may be there already. That's just a suggestion. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. We have set up a review process in the policy itself. So the policy itself will be reviewed in due course. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. As a new government of course we would like to set up policies that are Nunavut friendly or people friendly. I would like to say that as Inuit it is not our tradition to make money. It is something that is

new that has come about to the Inuit. I think it was around the beginning of the 70's that we started looking at economic development and gaining financially. So because of that and because making money is something that is new or almost new to the Inuit, we have been taken advantage of and with the creation of the Nunavut Government I would like the Inuit to use that past experience and to benefit from it.

I think that we as the Nunavut Government could be a new beginning for the people of Nunavut and that we can be better prepared. So with that in mind, I think that we should use past experiences to learn from it and be able to make changes to this policy so that it is a living document. My question is then, are we going to be given the opportunity to work on it further.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you very much for that clarification. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. As it states here there will be an ongoing review process with this policy. It is stated here already that there will be an evaluation process and possibly what we can do at the end of the year after it has been in effect we can review it again.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman, for those excellent responses. I believe this was a question brought up by Mr. Irqittuq. The tender documents are huge, there's a lot of documents that you have to go through and Mr. Mrazek stated that it's going to be almost impossible to translate all these documents into Inuktitut because of the volume of the documents.

So I am asking the Premier if we can start producing these documents with Inuktitut translations available already and not use the old documents. We might as well produce new documents that will come out in both English and Inuktitut. Since we are a new government I am sure we can do that.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I can't respond to your question because of course there has to be work done first. We could possibly do that some time in the future. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. That's it.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. One little piece of highlight I missed near the back of the document. On section 18.9 it states that "notwithstanding an appeal may be

pending the contract authority may award the contract." I just need some clarification there, does it mean that they could or they couldn't or how would one determine whether they do or not. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The reason that point was written in there, Mr. Hunter is because as you are no doubt aware in Nunavut we are governed by a shipping season and a short construction period of time. So rather than hold up a job to be started it was felt that the contract can be awarded and if there is an appeal, Mr. Tootoo, then there would be an adjustment. Hope that answers your question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess if there's an appeal and it is won Mr. Chairman, by a different party, what would happen in a case like that if the contractor is going to one supplier and through the appeal process someone else got it and they were going to get their supplies somewhere else. I was just wondering in that case what would be done. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you Mr. Chairman. My understanding is that if something like that were to happen, Mr. Tootoo, is whatever their profit lost, the winning company on appeal, they would be awarded the profit lost is my understanding. If they had a legitimate complaint. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Questions, comments. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Premier in reference to RFPs, would this policy effect the RFPs. How do you plan on working them into the scenario. Secondly how will the policy be enforced or overseen in reference to the Hamlets.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. RFPs are covered under the policy. Under Hamlets, Community Government will be the body that enforces these issues. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Premier could you be a little bit more precise in reference to how you see the policy interacting with the RFPs.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. If you look at section 11.2 of the policy, there's a process in there for requests for proposals. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): He's doing some heavy reading there. Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I will finish reviewing this and get back to the Premier with my other questions. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any further comments. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I believe that's it for the questions. Now that we are done with our questions on this issue in dealing with the NNI, I would like to thank the Premier for responding to our questions. I think we will return briefly to this item tomorrow during committee of the whole. I believe some members will be preparing motions to move at that time with regard to the NNI policy and recognizing the clock I don't believe that we'll have enough time to deal with Bill 14. So I would like to move this aside and I would like to report progress.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Akesuk moves to report progress. The motion is in order. All in favour of Mr. Akesuk's motion. Opposed. The motion is carried. Mr. Premier, closing remarks.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to know if you are just going to be dealing with the motions or if my staff will have to be here. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Mrazek and Mr. Cornthwaite, and also the Premier. I apologize if I say your name incorrectly. At this time I would like to ask the Speaker to return to the Chair.

Speaker (interpretation): Going back to the orders of the day. Item 21. Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 21: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Minister's Statement 50 – 1(3), Tabled Document 27 – 1(3) and Tabled Document 41 – 1(3) and Bills 10, 13 and 14 and would like to report progress. 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. Irqittuq. The motion is in order. Is there a seconder. Mr. Ng. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. Item 22 on our orders of the Day. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22, Third Reading of Bills. Item 23, Orders of the Day for tomorrow. Mr. Clerk.

Item 23: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tomorrow morning meeting of full caucus at 9 o'clock in the morning.

Orders of the Day, Tuesday, March 28.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Replies to Budget Address
11. Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
13. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
14. Tabling of Documents
15. Notices of Motions
16. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
17. Motions
18. First Reading of Bills
19. Second Reading of Bills
20. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Minister's Statement 50-1(3)
 - Tabled document 27-1(3)
 - Bill 10
 - Bill 13
 - Tabled document 41 - 1(3)
 - Bill 14
21. Report of the Committee of the Whole
22. Third Reading of Bills,
23. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Clerk. The house stands recessed until tomorrow at 1:30 on Tuesday, March 28, 2000. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 5:47 p.m.*

