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Acting Speaker: The Hon. Peter Kattuk, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday April 26, 2000

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable James Arvaluk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Mr. Donald Haviyok, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irqittuq, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Honourable Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning. This morning just before we begin I will ask the Clerk to ascertain the Commissioner's availability to assent to Bills.

>>*Commissioner Irniq enters chamber.*

Assent to Bills**Bill 16 – An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act - Assent**

Commissioner Irniq (interpretation): Good morning Mr. Speaker, Premier Okalik, Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. As the Commissioner of Nunavut this is my first time to give assent to a Bill. I am extremely happy to give assent to the following; Bill 16 An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act.

Mr. Speaker in closing I would like to wish you a safe and enjoyable spring and summer with your family and friends. While you are enjoying the warm days on the land, please keep in mind Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Teach your children about the Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun languages and culture and take an elder on the land once in a while. Thank you very much, Ma'na, Merci Beaucoup, Qujannamiik.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Commissioner Irniq.

>>*Commissioner Irniq exits chamber.*

Speaker: Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 124 – 1(3): Policing in Nunavut

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the Legislative Assembly about some positive developments with respect to policing.

First, I am pleased to say that two more Inuit recruits recently graduated from the RCMP training program in Regina. They are Ian Monteith and John Tagak. Ian Monteith has been posted to Igloolik and John Tagak to Iqaluit. These graduates follow the six Inuit recruits who graduated last October and are now on active duty in various communities. We should all be proud that our young people are choosing to take the rigorous RCMP training so that they can make real contributions to their communities as RCMP officers. I wish to extend my personal congratulations to Ian Monteith and John Tagak.

Second, Mr. Speaker, I want to inform the members of the Commanding Officer's Inuit Advisory Committee. Chief Superintendent Bothe of "V" Division has recently established the Inuit Advisory Committee to provide him and his detachment with advice on Inuit culture and community matters. The committee will also serve as a link between the RCMP and the communities by explaining the procedures of the RCMP to the communities. The committee has six members, two from each region. The members will rotate every two years. Chief Superintendent Bothe will select the committee members on recommendation from community leaders and Detachment Commanders.

The present members of the Inuit Advisory Committee are, Leah Metuk from Pangnirtung, Alesuk Idlout from Resolute Bay, Jeannie Iqaluuq from Sanikiluaq, Guy Kakkianuin from Pelly Bay, Fiona Corey from Cambridge Bay and Mariano Aupilardjuk from Rankin Inlet.

(interpretation ends) I believe the RCMP Inuit Advisory Committee is another way that relations between the RCMP and Inuit communities will be strengthened. I welcome this initiative by Chief Superintendent Bothe.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to report on the Community Constable Program. Members will know that the Community Constable Program was started in 1986 to enhance the role of By-Law Enforcement Officers. Funding for Community Constables, By-Law Enforcement, is normally the responsibility of the community in partnership with the Department of Community Government & Transportation and the Department of Justice. The RCMP provides a four week training course at a training academy in Regina.

Once the training is completed, Community Constables may receive an appointment as a Supernumerary Special Constable under the RCMP Act. This allows the Community Constables to assist the RCMP while on duty and under the supervision of the RCMP member.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, there are presently 25 Community Constables in Nunavut. The RCMP have indicated that they are pleased with the service being provided by the Community Constables. Whale Cove, Chesterfield Inlet and Repulse Bay do not have RCMP detachments. The RCMP, in partnership with the Nunavut Department of Justice, agreed to fund Community Constables in each of these communities for a two year period under the Inuit Policing Program. Repulse Bay and Chesterfield Inlet presently have two Community Constables each, while Whale Cove has one Community Constable.

The Community Constable Program is continuing to grow and to work well in our communities. I am pleased to say that in all the examples I have given you today we can see positive steps in the services being provided to Nunavut by the RCMP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Ministers' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Minister's Statement 125 – 1(3): Task Force on Housing – Final Report

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Good morning Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House that I will be tabling the Task Force on Housing's Final Report under Tabling of Documents.

Mr. Speaker, the final report is a very comprehensive report that contains a total of 15 recommendations. A cursory review of the recommendations reflects the hard work and dedication of the Task Force members.

Mr. Speaker, the first recommendation, supporting a stand alone Housing Corporation, was achieved on April 1, 2000. I am very happy that we were able to achieve one of the basic recommendations at the outset.

Mr. Speaker, we must be realistic and recognize that the remaining recommendations will take time to properly analyse before implementation.

(interpretation ends) Let me state for the record that this report will be carefully reviewed and will not gather dust on a shelf somewhere. We are very serious in wanting to make fundamental changes where possible, that will benefit Nunavummiut.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the fifth recommendation, to complete a "Housing Needs Assessment" is also a priority. The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation completed the last needs assessment in 1996. It is essential that we have current information to adequately address the housing requirements within Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I will be asking the Nunavut Housing Corporation to complete this assessment on a priority basis.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, it is important to recognize that some key recommendations within this final report, such as changes to the current rent scale and

the high rates by public housing for municipal services, cannot be implemented by Nunavut Housing Corporation in isolation. It will be necessary to ask for co-operation and agreement from other government departments in order to achieve these recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, we support the Bathurst Mandate objective to "open and maintain a public dialogue on housing issues, while developing and implementing immediate and long term plans to respond to housing shortfalls...". Mr. Speaker, you have my commitment that the community housing experts in the local housing organizations and the empowered Hamlets will be included in the analysis of these recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, the Task Force on Housing's Final Report has clearly outlined the many challenges that we face. (interpretation) This will not be a simple task that can be completed overnight. This will take time and will need to be reviewed and revised as we proceed. We must make a commitment to work together to meet the housing needs of Nunavummiut.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank, once again: Enoki Iqittuq, Hunter Tootoo, David Iqaqrialu, Uriash Puqiqnak and also Darrin Nichol, David Akoak and Sandra Turner for their hard work as members of the Housing Task Force. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Minister's Statement 126 – 1(3): Bobby Suwarak

Hon. Jack Anawak: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Legislative Assembly about the accomplishments of Bobby Suwarak, an inmate of the Baffin Correctional Centre. Mr. Suwarak has been at the Baffin Correctional Centre since September of 1999. He is unique because he is deaf and is limited in his use of sign language. While he does not use the American Sign Language which is common among the deaf, he and his friends and family from Baker Lake have worked out a special sign language for his use.

(interpretation) Mr. Suwarak needed his interpreter from Baker Lake, Mr. David Kautaq, if he was going to be able to participate in treatment programs at BCC. I am pleased to say that the staff at BCC made arrangements with Northern Stores, who employ Mr. Kautaq, to allow him to move from Baker Lake to Iqaluit on a temporary transfer as an interpreter. Mr. Suwarak then worked with the psychologist at BCC and Mr. Kautaq and was able to engage in treatment programs.

Mr. Suwarak then indicated that he wished to attend school. He has limited formal education because of his disability. With the help of the teacher at the Baffin Correctional Centre and his interpreter, he enrolled in Arctic College for upgrading.

(interpretation ends) I am pleased to report that last Thursday, Mr. Suwarak received the Literary Council Award for Student of the Year at a ceremony at Arctic College. This was a well-deserved award that paid tribute to Mr. Suwarak's hard work and dedication.

(interpretation) I would also like to point out that this kind of success story is a good example of what could be accomplished when the staff at the Baffin Correctional Centre get co-operation from private interests such as Northern Store and community members like Mr. David Kautaq. I also want to congratulate Arctic College for their willingness to take Bobby Suwarak as a student, and Mr. Dan Page, Mr. Suwarak's teacher, for his dedicated work. With this kind of co-operation between the government and community institutions and individuals, we are going to achieve more successes like this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 358 – 1(3): Respect for All Dialects

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few comments on an issue that is very important to me, our Inuktitut language.

Inuit have many different dialects. When we start talking about other people's dialects negatively it contributes to the loss of the Inuit culture and language. When we are making fun of other people's dialects or the way they pronounce certain words, the only language that they revert to is the English language.

The Inuit language is unique and I would suggest that we do not mock other people's dialects because it is unique to their region. It is very important for the future and for generations if we are going to preserve and protect our culture and language.

We are starting to lose our Inuktitut language because people, especially young people, are shy to speak their language because somebody else might make fun of them.

I believe that we should respect other people's dialects because there are various dialects out there. I am trying to suggest to everyone that they use their own unique dialect if we are going to preserve and protect our own language. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 359 – 1(3): Access Road for Grise Fiord Hunters

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I would like to add my condolences to our Commissioner, for his family's tragic loss over the long weekend.

Mr. Speaker, it has been almost three years ago that I went hunting in Grise Fiord while visiting my constituency. The sea ice has just left in Grise Fiord although the other communities had been boating for quite a while.

Mr. Speaker, we were stuck at a point for two days, at a point just little distance past Grise Fiord. I realized Mr. Speaker, that the hunters of Grise Fiord do not have the same advantages as hunters of other communities. When we went out there we had already loaded our catch but we were not able to go to the community itself because of the ice conditions.

Mr. Speaker, the access road in Arctic Bay is very beneficial to our community because the people of Arctic Bay can use that access road to go hunting during these types of conditions.

The people of Grise Fiord do not have that same benefit and they get stuck when the ice comes back in or when the ice is eroding, where you can't go by snowmobile or out by boat. Mr. Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent from the members to continue my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is asking for unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Any nays. Proceed.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to my colleagues for giving me consent.

As I was saying for this reason Grise Fiord residents are requesting to get an access road. This request was given to the Minister already and I would like to state my support today for Grise Fiord to get this access road. It would be very beneficial to the hunters and the community as a whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Members' Statements. Mr. Haviyok.

Member's Statement 360 - 1(3): Films by Kugluktuk Elders and Youth

Mr. Haviyok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about some good and some not so good news. Many of our young people do not speak Inuinnaqtun anymore and our elders are having a hard time communicating with them.

Sometimes they get shy because the way they speak the language. When the elders see this they wonder how can we teach them in Inuinnaqtut so they can get their own language back. The elders' culture and the young people lives are different today. It is not the same as long ago.

I would urge the young people and the elders to get together so they can see how they can work together as they did a long time ago. We should do the same today. Mr. Speaker, I am asking for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Havioyak is asking for unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. Go ahead Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will finish my statement.

The elders came up with a project to deal with these important issues.

(interpretation ends) They were hired for 7 weeks to write several plays. They are called; As we were, Life on the land, Survival, Travelling and hunting, Contact encountered with Qallunaq, Health and social services, education and missionaries and so on. The good and the bad. Drinking and gambling. Changes in lifestyles. The wise one sleeps. Violence, suicide and family breakdowns. Culture heritage for future generations.

(interpretation) The elders are Jack Allunak, Nellie Iqquq, Joan Klengenberq, Bessie Alluquq, Buster Qailiaq, Eedeth Arluq, May Allgunark.

The young people that acted in there are Clifford Talliqtuk, Darleen Ailiraq, Nichol Bullduck, Halina Bolt, Barbera Qaburatuaraq, Jack Kiarjak, Daniel Adjun, Stephan Qauluq, Kathleen Arqanaq, Miles Petersen..

They were really happy to show the old ways, our language and our culture. The programs will be aired this summer on APTN. So the people can watch the elders and the young people on how they worked very well together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 361 - 1(3): Youth Abroad Programs

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise today to voice my support for a worthwhile and valuable experience for youth to gain experience and understanding through travel aboard.

Miali Coley, a student from Iqaluit has written to ask me for support for her Canada World youth proposal to travel to Ontario and to Ecuador to live in each area for 3 months while she works on a volunteer project related to social services. Recently other Members and I met with students who are participating in the Nunavut Youth Abroad program in Rankin Inlet.

One of those students Ms. Gloria Kowtak has written to me and is working towards a trip to Swaziland Africa to work for the summer. From Iqaluit, Chris MacLellan who may be known to you as author of the Nunavut poem that was read on April 1, is busy

fundraising for an opportunity to participate in a tall ship program to sail from Bermuda to Virginia this summer.

Mr. Speaker, not only are our young people like this ambassadors for our territory but they will return with the knowledge and experiences to share with other members of the community. Opportunities such as these give Nunavut youth positive experiences and wish to grow and develop. This knowledge and experience will build their abilities to become the leaders of the future. In this way opportunities such as this can benefit all of Nunavut as well as to the individuals who participate in them.

Mr. Speaker I will be making an investment in our future by donating one hundred dollars towards each student's goal. I encourage other Members of the Assembly to encourage and support youth from their communities and from across Nunavut to take part in programs such as these that will provide them with invaluable experiences. The future leaders of Nunavut will need learning, knowledge and experience to carry on the tasks of running this Territory to the best of their abilities. It is up to the leaders of today to make every effort to ensure that opportunities are available to support the leaders of tomorrow.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 362 - 1(3): Anglican Church Layperson Promotions

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I am going to make my statement about an event that occurred recently in Hall Beach, the community that I live in.

On April 5 the Anglican Bishop Paul Idlout came to our community and two laymen for the Anglican Church were promoted from the blue ribbon level to the red ribbon level. The two gentlemen are John Nattuk and David Kanatsiak. Also Helen Nattuk a young person became a layperson.

I would like to congratulate all these three people and thank them for promoting healthy lifestyles. No matter what religion you are in it helps to live a healthy lifestyle. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. We also congratulate them. Members' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 363 - 1(3): Easter Tragedies

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to 1999 when we started establishing the Nunavut Government the people told us what they wanted during the pre-consultations tours to the communities. The Inuit wanted to have a transparent and open government and we are still very sensitive to that. They wanted the government to have a heart.

There were two tragic incidents that happened during the Easter break. Our Commissioner Peter Irniq's daughter who was very young tragically died down south. We send our condolences. It is very evident that the people of Nunavut feel the same sorrow and they have expressed sympathy for the family. We are with them through our prayers and our sympathies.

Right after that tragedy there was also another tragic death in Cambridge Bay. One of the instructors at the Arctic College, Mrs. Margaret Lyall passed away. She was with her husband Johnny Lyall, who survived. We have sent our condolences to the family.

I want the public to know we are sensitive. I do not want people to think that because we are a new government that we do not have a heart. We are human beings and we still have the same feelings as anyone. I just wanted to point that out.

I would like to send our condolences and sympathy Peter Irniq's family and also to the family of Johnny Lyall. We will keep them in mind through our minds and prayer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Members of the Legislative Assembly, I would like to urge you to think and pray for these families who have lost their loved ones. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 364 - 1(3): Changing Ways

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to rise today to make a few comments. When we were just hunters it was totally different from the way we live today. When we were living out on the land although we enjoyed surviving off the land. I know myself because I have experienced it. The way we live today is totally different from the past.

Even though we went to our respective communities on the long weekend. Because my life has not changed from the past and I am very pleased to say that. I wanted make a brief comment on that. When I got home I was exhausted. During the weekend just like the time when I use to go out hunting out on the land I would come home totally exhausted. That is how exactly how I felt when I went home. I told my wife I am exhausted the same way as I use to go when I went out hunting. Although my life has changed in a way it is still the same. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 365 - 1(3): Joamie School Anniversary

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker last Thursday Joamie school, here in Iqaluit, celebrated 10 years of excellence in learning and teaching. The staff and students invited many parents, teachers and community supporters as well as students to celebrate with them at a concert and later a feast.

Mr. Speaker, Joamie School is named after a well-known hunter, Joamie who helped selected the town site of our community. Over the past 10 years Joamie school and staff have been recognised for many National and International awards.

For example Mr. Speaker Joamie staff have been honoured recipients of the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence. Florence Slinny, Darlene Nuqingaq, Catherine Herzige, Paul Maggs, Sheila Longsdale and Lesley Serkoak were rewarded in 1993 for environmental project that lead the Joamie school in Iqaluit being the first Earth School in Canada. In 1997 Elizabeth Tumblin was awarded for her work in Technology in the classroom especially for the knowledge forum.

Mr. Speaker several of the Joamie staff have been named outstanding educators from the Baffin Regional Education Council. They include Lesley Serkoak in 1991-1992, Darlene Nuqingaq in 1993-1994 and Paul Maggs for 1998-1999.

In 1994 Joamie school was the first school in Canada to reach Earth status after completing 1000 environmental projects under the Seeds Foundation. Joamie is a Green school which is why the school background in green.

Joamie was featured in several magazines in that same year. Also Mr. Speaker a textbook on Nunavut features Joamie's accomplishments. Joamie staff received a Hillside fellowship award for greening of Joamie school. In 1996, Joamie was the first Baffin school to have a website. Joamie also received a Burke Environmental Award from the NWT Recreation and Parks Association.

Mr. Speaker Joamie School represents excellence in education and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the students and the staff of Joamie School on their 10th anniversary. The Joamie school family is a great model for schooling in the north and the south.

And at this time I would like to take special note, a special thank you to Elizabeth Tumblin's class who hosted me and my guests for the day and to Premier Paul Okalik for an excellent meal of Ujuk and bannock last Thursday. Thank you Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 366 - 1(3): Rankin Inlet Youth Abroad Participants

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say hi to the people of Rankin Inlet especially my brother Misa if he is listening.

During the sitting of the Legislative Assembly we had a meeting with the youth of Rankin Inlet. Some of us also made a trip to Whale Cove for a presentation to youth abroad. I would like to thank the Members who attended.

As well I would like to express my support to the statement made by Mr. Tootoo to support the students who go abroad to work on different programs. It is very good to see this. I want to congratulate Gloria Kowtak and Jeff Tulugak who is the son of Michael Tulugak and Jacqueline. They will be travelling out of the country on this program.

As the Member for Rankin Inlet South/Whale Cove I would like to congratulate them and say I have given them a camera to take pictures. I will be bringing the pictures to the members to view. They are taking pictures to raise funds to go abroad.

I am sure that in the future that the things they learn will help us in Nunavut. The youth right now in Rankin Inlet are taking pictures of the events that are happening in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 367 - 1(3): Cambridge Bay Delegation

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker yesterday a delegation from Cambridge Bay made up of elder Frank Analok and Martha Angulalik of the Kitikmeot Heritage Society and Mayor Keith Peterson had an opportunity to meet with the Regular Members Caucus. They made a small presentation on the cultural heritage centre being proposed in Cambridge Bay.

I believe Mr. Speaker, that there was a good exchange of information between them and the regular Members. I just want to acknowledge and thank the regular Members to take the time out to meet face to face with the representatives from Cambridge Bay. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ng. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 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, it gives me great pleasure today to welcome to the Gallery actually in the audio booth a person who needs no introduction and had been introduced in the past. I understand he is celebrating his 40th birthday today and that coincides with the selling of his 40 millionth record, our own Elvis Presley, Mr. Jimmy Ekho in the booth. Happy birthday and welcome to the gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Happy birthday. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 508 - 1(3): Payment for Grave Workers

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have asked this question numerous times when we became Members of the Legislative Assembly. It is in regards to an event that happened in 1968, this event happened in my community.

There were some people that moved or transferred some graves sites to another location. I asked the Minister Mr. Anawak as to what is happening to the payment of those workers. These questions were asked by previous Member of the legislature of the NWT, Mark Evaluardjuk. I think it was in 1998 that he was asking these questions to the Federal Government through the GNWT.

Mr. Speaker I am trying to ask the question again. The response was that the person that was in charge could not be contacted or was lost somehow. So I am wondering what is happening with this issue.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Justice, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some correspondence stated that after six years the papers are destroyed in accordance with the rules of the Federal Government. But I am sure the individuals that requested the transfer of the gravesites would like to be compensated.

I am sure there have been other incidences that happened that the Inuit would like pursued. Although this is not the responsibility of the Nunavut Government perhaps we could relay this message to the Federal Government and state that the Federal Government's response was not adequate for us.

I will be pursuing this and to try to contact the person that dealt with this in the first place and I will speak with the member and we will deal with this as soon as we can. Like I mentioned that the people feel for this project that was started earlier on. We as well have to have a feeling for the requests of that community and I will speak with the member and resolve this.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 509 – 1(3): Community Policing

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is a question directed to the Minister of Justice in regards to community policing. We really enjoy hearing about this type of news especially in regards to the young people entering the police force. I just want to ask the minister if the guidelines for northern policing are changing.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Justice.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to northern policing, the guidelines have to be followed. At the same time I would like to assure the member and the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the people of Nunavut that the "V" Division in Nunavut, I met with Chris Bothe of the "V" Division in Iqaluit and he informed me that because he lives in an Inuit community and lives in Nunavut he will make sure that he will not break the law or the guidelines but he will be promoting the Inuit culture by providing northern police constables.

I believe in Chris Bothe's wishes about what he wants to do in regards to northern policing in the north and I mentioned earlier that they have a committee in place who are the people named earlier. This advisory committee will be working with the RCMP as to how they can best get Inuit constables and to respect the culture of the Inuit people while doing their job and they will try to use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit while doing their work as an advisory committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 510 – 1(3): Housing Subsidies for Elders

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question for the Minister of the Housing Corporation. There are many people who own their own homes and the elders also own their own homes. The elders only receive a pension and they have to pay for fuel, utilities, water, and other things.

I just wanted to ask the minister how the elders who are on a pension could get a subsidy for paying their monthly mortgage, fuel and other utilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. The Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation is not here. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From what I know we do give them support with income support and I believe that we should look into it and give you a written response on what other subsidies they receive from the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 511 – 1(3): Federal Government Funding for Housing

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, two days ago I heard something on the news about housing and I will be directing this question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. Is the federal government providing funding to the Nunavut Government for housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologise I was rushing around. The CMHC provides money to the Nunavut Government through an agreement that was signed between the Nunavut Housing Corporation and on top of that, the CMHC provides funding to the Nunavut Government. I believe it is around 16 million dollars. That is shown in our main estimates because of course it comes from a third party. We receive those funds from the CMHC.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to supplement my question, are we going to be reducing the amount of services provided to the elders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Madame Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The money that used to come to the Housing Corporation for renovations, maintenance and so on for our rental units is already depleted as I said before. In 1993 that was the last time we got funding to build housing. The money has no longer been provided for capital projects since 1993. The money for operations and maintenance again will gradually be depleted in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since the money will gradually be reduced for the people living in social housing that receive benefits, for example

getting their utilities paid for, are these benefits still going to be paid out by the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The money comes from the department of social services and I believe it is thirty-two dollars per month per tenant to pay for utilities and so on, which is paid to the Housing Corporation. The monies that are paid for utilities are very large and like I said earlier we will be setting up a 5 year plan and I will be tabling that plan in the fall. This is something that is of major concern when we are talking about the O&M dollars that will gradually be discontinued.

The O&M dollars are used to pay for utilities and not for maintenance and neither are they for capital. As there is going to be a gradual decrease it is a major concern to all governments. There are also the fifteen recommendations that were made by the housing task force. We are going to be considering those and I will be working with the various government departments to talk about the provision of water and other utilities and see how they can help us with the payment for these houses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the payment of the operations for housing, I also believe we should include the employees. They end up paying a large portion of their salaries for their rent. How are they going to be included when you are considering all of housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are fifteen recommendations included in the housing task force report. There are fifteen recommendations and on the seventh one it states that we should look into the rent scale. This is one of the major concerns of the people of Nunavut and like Mr. Iqaqrialu stated, we know exactly where this concern is coming from because there are a lot of employees or people in the work force who can't meet the rent scale.

Since this is one of the recommendations we will be reviewing it, but then again we cannot do this on our own. We have to work with the CMHC and since we operate under the policies of the CMHC we have to come to an agreement with the CMHC to deal with the rent agreement. Coming in June we are going to start working on the recommendations that were made by the task force. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 512 – 1(3): Repulse Bay Health Centre

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services in regards to the Repulse Bay health centre. When are you going to start working on the health centre in Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Minister of Health.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. As the member knows in the capital planning budget for the Department of health and Social Services, which passed this House last week. There is money in there for the facility in Repulse Bay and that work will now proceed to the next stage and that will be tenders and so on. So over the next couple of weeks the people of Repulse Bay will see advertising in place for that preliminary work to begin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response. Does that mean that you are going to start working on the health centre this summer. That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. What it means is that right now in the budget we have money for planning and design and preliminary work and so on for the new health facility for Repulse Bay. That money has been approved in the budget. We will be making the advertisement for that and we hope to have the work done this construction season, this summer. The actual building of the facility will probably be next year after this preliminary work is done this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 513 – 1(3): Changes to Housing Rent Scale

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. She stated that there is going to be a gradual decrease in the amount of money they are going to receive from the CMHC for their O&M. With housing still very expensive up here and with the gradual decrease in money from the federal government, my question is, will there still be an increase in the rent scale with the gradual reduction from monies coming from the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitoq Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The money we receive from the CMHC there will be a gradual decrease, not right away. Sometime in the future there will be a gradual decrease and we probably will not feel the effects right now with this present government. It is very gradual but there is going to be a gradual decrease right until there is no more money coming in from the CMHC. With that we are very concerned and are looking at options on how we can deal with it as a Housing Corporation and the fifteen recommendations that were tabled, are going to be tabled by the task force.

The task force on housing has been working extremely well and looking at options and recommendations. We are going to start taking this gradual decrease into consideration and look at ways and means of how we can work with the Federal Government. The Minister of Income Support will be considering this. The Minister of Education is going to be doing a tour and I am sure there are going to be comments made on the issue of housing. We will have to work with the various government departments on the housing issue and to make a plan on what we are going to be doing because of the amount of dollars we receive. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since those are already going to be taken into consideration are you going to be working with the Federal Government to determine how you can better provide assistance. Are you saying that you are going to be working with the Federal Government to look at other options. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitoq Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this has been an ongoing process and the Federal Government has already told us what their plans are. The Housing Corporation has known for quite a while, since way back in 1993 when the capital dollars for building new housing was cut off. From then on we had an understanding that the O&M dollars, in the future, were going to be decreased until there was nothing coming in.

With that understanding we have been working with the present government and the government of the GNWT to look at options and also to provide access housing because we believe that the Inuit should not be only renting units. In the Nunavut area there are many people renting and we are working on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome Mr. McLean we have missed you. Mr. McLean.

Question 514 – 1(3): Leasing Public Housing Units

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. It is good to be back, I had a weather delay and it is good to see the Speaker of the week. I hope this is not a trend that is going to continue. I hope everybody had a happy Easter. My question today is to the Minister responsible for Housing. Mr. Speaker, where there is a strong private sector and strong housing market from the private sector and with the recent announcement of 100 construction units being built in Nunavut, would the minister consider in centres like Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay to cancel building those units and go to the private sector for those housing units. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am sure the member for Baker Lake was rushing here to ask me the question and I am glad he walked in before the question period is gone. Yes I have been doing that, as you know we do have some money allocated for the leasing of housing in Nunavut. I have put forward a request for people or individuals that might be able to lease houses to us. That is something that we are doing right now. This is an issue we were dealing with as soon as my budget was approved.

Speaker: Supplementary, Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. My supplementary question to that is, that is a good answer and the minister recognizes that there is a strong private sector out there and a surplus of private homes to rent. Would she also consider the communities like Clyde River where there is a desperate housing shortage if she is going to reallocate housing units from Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay.

Would she look at the neediest communities like Clyde River and other communities that do not have a large housing market. For example, Hall Beach and Pond Inlet that she would look at relocating those units to those communities that need them most.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We would consider that if there are housing units to lease from the private sector. We know that everybody has a waiting list of people for each community that has been allocated housing and that is something that we would consider but we have to find affordable housing for leasing.

We have to be within reason so right now what we are doing is asking the private sector for units available for leasing. I do know that Clyde River especially and Kugluktuk and Arviat have the highest waiting lists according to the survey that was done. If it is at all possible to find some units to lease from those communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. On that note could the minister agree that when she is doing this that we are not held to ransom on exorbitant leases and high costs. Because we know there is a lot of high cost housing and I wouldn't like to see this government get into leases that they can't afford. Can the minister assure me that she will look at this and she will look at the price factor and make her decision based on price and not just because there are some empty units in a community. Because it is very important that she look at the cost factor and not get caught in that whole trap again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Yes I will look into that and we are only going to be leasing units that are affordable to this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 515 – 1(3): Relocating New Public Housing Units

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Housing. She just indicated to the member from Baker Lake that she is looking at some of the construction of public housing units that she talked about from the regional centres to the communities that need them. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask her if she plans on consulting with the MLAs and the LHOs from those communities prior to making any of those decisions on whether that is going to happen or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Housing.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I would do that.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe that it was during committee of the whole that I asked the minister in regards to these units and the money that she had referred to in her budget for the leasing of units. She had indicated then that it was on a five year, they were looking at five year leases or something short term fix until, the plan was to eventually move people from those units to government owned units over time.

As we know leases are an ongoing thing and a public housing unit once it is built is an asset to the government. So I would just like again to ask the minister as a result of her comments here today, have those plans changed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nothing has changed except that we are looking at options to address the housing shortage in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Third and final supplementary. Sorry. One more. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It may be my last one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to ask the minister, from what I just heard this morning in the minister's response to the member from Baker Lake, is that the minister is planning on some changes already to what she had already indicated earlier in the session and what the recommendations were, to my understanding, that the Task Force had made and she had accepted.

It sounds like to me that there have already been some suggestions or some move to change that. I would like to ask her if she would, one, meet with the members and inform them prior to any more changes or any further changes or any finalisation of changes before she does. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Housing, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are very good ideas from other members that we can address and that's all I indicated, is that the member here just asked me earlier if we can lease from other communities and put some units somewhere else where the need is. If we can lease six units for instance in a bigger community right away, instead of building those units we can do that. Because recommendations are just that, they are recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in light of the minister's comments, then would she be willing to provide this house with a cost/benefit analysis as to looking at the feasibility of leasing units over a long term as opposed to building the units and having them as an asset for the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Housing, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The bottom line is we have empty units out there and we have people on the waiting list that can get into those units. So we have to find an affordable way of using those units. Do we keep those units out there empty and not do anything about it, or do we do something about it if we can afford it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 516 – 1(3): Location of Vacant Houses

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is a question to the Minister of Housing. I think there are about 40 empty units. I just wondered which communities these 40 vacant houses are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Nunavut there are about 100 empty units presently and I got my staff to do a request on the number of empty units. There are approximately 100 empty units in Nunavut. I know in Iqaluit there are some short term leases that are being utilized by the members presently and there are not just 40 empty units, but there are approximately 100 in all of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral Questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 517 – 1(3): Laws on Vehicle Insurance in Nunavut

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice or Transportation. Mr. Speaker, I will ask the question in English to the minister.

(interpretation ends) People in Nunavut are just beginning to learn about Canadian laws but too many still don't know how to use them for their benefit. Lawyers too are not readily available and many don't know how to seek their expertise. Other Canadians in the south use the courts when they need to. Whenever one is involved in a vehicle accident, we in Nunavut are still not doing this as many are still not aware of their rights.

There have been many various vehicle accidents and deaths but many people do not seek the court's help to collect on vehicle or operator insurance. In Nunavut vehicles and drivers are required to have insurance if they will be driving.

My question is, do Nunavut Government laws require loss of life insurance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Minister of Justice, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All the people have to have insurance for their vehicles but I am not really sure about the question that he is asking. I will get back to the member. Thank you.

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

Question 518 – 1(3): Re-allocation of New Housing Units

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. My question again is to the Minister of Housing. When the Minister of Housing is re-evaluating what she is going to do with lease backs and maybe re-allocating units, will she go to the Standing Committee for their approval before she does this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have just a small window to make changes but I will certainly inform the members either by letter or some other way of giving them that information. Because, Mr. Speaker, I don't know how long this session is going to go, I know that members are going to be going home very soon, as soon as we finish this session. So I will inform them in some time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 519 – 1(3): Ownership of Vacant Houses

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry but I had a supplementary question to the Housing Minister. The houses that are approximately 100 but are vacant, who do they belong to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The houses in question belong to the public or people that left the community to pursue employment in another community. Those houses are vacant at the present time Nunavut-wide. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the communities that have vacant houses, perhaps the minister could advise me through correspondence which communities those empty units are in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Amagoalik and Associates was asked whether they could look into or do a survey in regards to renting those empty units. They found the communities, and using just one day to phone the communities, I am not exactly sure where they are located at this time. Perhaps I can give the member through correspondence an incomplete list of the vacant houses and also to inform him about leasing procedures, because this leasing procedure was not dealt with through the Housing Task Force.

The only thing that the Housing Task Force concentrated on was building 100 houses and I have asked Amagoalik and Associates consultants to look into the vacant houses in the communities. Perhaps some of the units are already rented out but I am not sure exactly what communities they are located in. They did the survey in one day so I will be able to give Mr. Iqaqrialu a draft. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 520 – 1(3): Amending Nunavut Housing Corporation Policies

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is also a question to the Minister of Housing. The Housing Corporation used to belong to the GNWT but now we will be having a stand alone Housing Corporation. I have a question for the Minister of Housing.

The guidelines or the policies that the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation had, are they now the guidelines or the policies of Nunavut. I just wondered whether those would be followed by the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the recommendations, out of the fifteen that the Housing Task Force requested, in recommendation number 2, it states that the guidelines and the policies of the Housing Corporation they requested them to be amended. We will be dealing with them this fall as requested by the Housing Task Force. We have the policies and the guidelines but we will be amending them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Supplementary, Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Also a question to the Minister of Housing. The Task Force on Housing recommended under recommendation number two to change and amend the policies and the guidelines. I wonder how long the minister will take to amend those and change the guidelines. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I mentioned earlier on, under recommendation number 7, it states that the casual and full time employees, we will be reviewing those recommendations and those guidelines. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation will have to be involved if we are going to change the guidelines because they are in an agreement with us and providing funding to the Nunavut Housing Corporation. If we are going to change the policies and the guidelines we will have to work with CMHC in doing this and we will start on this Housing Task Force recommendation 7 to change the policy and guidelines this coming summer.

I am not sure exactly how long it will take us but we will attend to it as soon as we can.

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

Question 521 – 1(3): Funding for Relocating Power Plants

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question will be directed to the Minister of the Nunavut Power Corporation. Mr. Speaker, I believe that we will be using 4.5 million dollars for the relocation of NTPC to Clyde River, to relocate the plant. If the other communities have similar problems would we use that same amount of money to relocate the power plant to another location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Minister responsible for the Power Corporation, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Power Corporation, and I just want to make sure that I am clear on the question asked by the member, is not relocating in Clyde River, Mr. Speaker. In actuality what is happening is that we are building a new plant in Clyde River. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand exactly why you have to build a new plant. I would like clarification on the other communities. How many communities want to relocate their power plant to another location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Minister responsible for the Power Corporation, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the cost of the new plant in Clyde River is about 4.5 million to 5 million dollars. So it isn't actually locating the plant, relocating the plant. There has been some concern, Mr. Speaker, where the power plant is located in the middle of the community. I would not be able to say at this time Mr. Speaker, how many communities actually have come forward in a formalised way with a proposal to have their plant moved.

In actuality Mr. Speaker, in some cases some of the communities would like to keep the plant where it is because we are using it as a benefit to the community. For example, in Taloyoak, the plant is in the middle of the community and the last time I was there, about a month and a half ago, the plant was being used for the reheat of the water. So that is working well there.

In some other communities there has been some concern about noise and some of the smoke from the plant itself. However, I would not be able at this time to give the member the actual number of how many communities have come forward with a formalised concern about moving their plant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his appropriate response. Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is in regards to the communities that would like to relocate their plant, because they could always recycle the waste heat for other facilities. For those communities that would like to relocate their plants, is there money set aside so that there could be relocation of their plants so that there could be an improvement in the pollution coming out of the plant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Minister responsible for the Power Corporation, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, actually there are two kinds of questions there. One is on the emission standards of the power plant. As the member know the Power Corporation as any other organization or corporation has to follow the emission standards set out by the Canadian Government which regulates Federal emission standards for smoke and so on.

Mr. Speaker, on the second question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, as you can see that Mr. Ng would like to get back home. Mr. Speaker, on the second part of the member's question, no there are actually no dollars allocated within the budget or the capital budget of the new Nunavut Power Corporation for the actual relocation of a plant in the 20 year capital plan for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation and the Nunavut Power Corporation. We have different items that have to be replaced but there are no specific monies allocated for the relocation of a plant.

If a particular community made a formal request to me as the Minister responsible for the Power Corporation, if there was a health concern, if there was a safety concern and so on that a plant had to be removed then I would look at it in that respect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Final supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the Nunavut Power Corporation has a plan in case of an accident like an oil spill that is major. However, I have noticed that in some communities in case their plant burned down, there are no emergency backups for other generators to keep the community functioning. Are there any plans to put emergency backups in the communities that don't have emergency backup generators. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Minister responsible for the Power Corporation, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member brings up an interesting point. Sorry Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult sitting here with some of my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, the member brings up a very interesting point. That point being the location of emergency power at a time of an incident where the power would be unavailable, for example with the power plant burning down.

In Iqaluit for example we have located, because the community of Iqaluit is a bit older, two power plants, one located on the Federal Road and one located as the member knows, on the top of the hill. In each of our communities, Mr. Speaker, under emergency preparation, which I believe is under the Honourable Mr. Anawak's office, we have in conjunction with the Department of Education, we have allowed for emergency shelters.

So for example, Mr. Speaker, if the power went off for two or three days we know that the nursing station for example, has a standby generator for their operations. We know that the schools for example, Mr. Speaker, have a standby generator that would be able to house individuals and so on.

The costs Mr. Speaker, of putting extra generators and locating them at a separate point in a community based on a plant catching fire or some other catastrophe occurring right now is not fiscally available to us as a government, or indeed to the Nunavut Power Corporation. So I hope that helps answer the member's question.

I guess I should also add, Mr. Speaker, on that point. When you are looking at the power plant itself, the power plant does not have a backup generator adjacent to it in most cases, or located near it. Therefore and thus, Mr. Speaker, we would have to spend more money to relocate and allocate other resources and other generators. In our case, Mr. Speaker, in the case of diesel generators, storage facilities somewhere else in the communities so that we would be able to provide that backup emergency plan.

Mr. Speaker, there is no budget for that. If again, if the member would like to bring forward a proposal, that is something Mr. Speaker, that we would be able to look at in a very serious manner. I hope that helps answer the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqittuq.

Question 522 – 1(3): Required Distance from Power Plants

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Power Corporation. Quite a few plants are located right in the middle of the communities. Is there a policy on how much distance there should be between the plant and adjacent buildings. What is the closest that you can be to a power plant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Minister responsible for the Power Corporation, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in most of our communities when the power plants were built, and they were originally built by the Northern Canada Power Commission, NCPC, our communities were much smaller. They were located in a central location which would allow for a quicker and most effective way of providing transmission lines and so on to the house.

Over the years, Mr. Speaker, in many of our communities, our communities have expanded and I know the member's town very well because I lived there. The power plant is located in the middle of the community and the community has expanded along the beach in Hall Beach as an example, away from the plant. After saying that, Mr. Speaker, the power plant is still in the middle of the community. I don't know Mr. Speaker, what the limitations are or what the regulations are on the construction side of what the adjacency of buildings and so on would be. I would suspect Mr. Speaker, that they would have to follow the building code, have to follow the fire code and so on.

If that is something that the member needs, we would be able to get that information for the member and provide it to him and other interested members in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Question Period is over. Back to our agenda. Item 7. Written Questions. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Petitions.

Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 16: Motions

Motion 23 – 1(3): Appointment of New Standing Committees

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Whereas the Legislative Assembly has chosen to make revisions Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to this motion.

WHEREAS Section 38 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act provides that the Legislative Assembly may establish Standing and Special Committees;

AND WHEREAS Rule 89(2) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly provides for the Striking Committee to recommend Members to fill vacancies on Standing Committees;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly has chosen to make revisions to the membership of its Standing Committees:

NOW THEREFORE I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit Centre, that the following Member be appointed to the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services:

Levi Barnabas, Member for Quttiktuq, to replace Glenn McLean, Member for Baker Lake.

AND FURTHER that the following Members be appointed Alternates to the Standing Committee on Government Services and Operations: Glenn McLean, Member for Baker Lake. Donald Havioyak, Member for Kugluktuk.

AND FURTHER that the following Members be appointed to the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health: Donald Havioyak, Member for Kugluktuk, Glenn McLean, Member for Baker Lake.

AND FURTHER that the following Member be appointed an Alternate to the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health:

Levi Barnabas, Member for Quttiktuq, to replace Glenn McLean, Member for Baker Lake.

AND FURTHER that the following Member be appointed to the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development: Donald Havioyak, Member for Kugluktuk.

AND FURTHER that the following Member be appointed an Alternate to the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development: Olayuk Akasuk, Member for Baffin South.

AND FURTHER that the following Member be appointed to the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit: Levi Barnabas, Member for Quttiktuq.

AND FURTHER that the following Member be appointed an Alternate to the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit: Enoki Irqittuq

AND FURTHER that the following Member be appointed to the Striking Committee: Glenn McLean, Member for Baker Lake, to replace Kevin O'Brien, Member for Arviat

AND FURTHER that the membership of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges be reconstituted with the following Members: Hon. Kelvin Ng, Member for Cambridge Bay, Uriash Puqiqnak, Member for Nattilik, Hunter Tootoo, Member for Iqaluit Centre, David Iqaqrialu, Member for Uqqummiut, Levi Barnabas, Member for Quttiktuq, Ovide Alakannuark, Member for Akulliq.

AND FURTHER that the following Members be appointed Alternates to the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges: Enoki Irqittuq, Member for Amittuq, Jobie Nutarak, Member for Tunnuniq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akesuk. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried. Motions. Mr. Akesuk.

Motion 24 – 1(3): Extending the Review Period for Bill 11

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Amittuq that Rule 68(1) be waived and that the period for the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services to report back to the House on Bill 11, An Act to establish Nunavut day as a Holiday be extended to the fall sitting of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Akesuk. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to speak to this motion. As Members are aware, Bill 11 was introduced during the Rankin Inlet sitting of the Legislative Assembly. After its introduction, the Standing Committee decided to place ads in the northern media, requesting input and feedback from Nunavut residents on this initiative.

(interpretation) Members of the Standing Committee have also been undertaking consultations within their own communities. To date, Mr. Speaker, I can advise the House that the feedback from our constituents has been mixed. While some agree with the initiative of making July 9 a holiday, others are upset that they will be losing a long-established August long weekend. Members have also been told by some of their constituents that they would prefer to see April 1 be officially recognized in some way.

(interpretation ends) During its meeting last week with the sponsoring Minister to review the Bill, the Standing Committee was advised that there would be significant cost implications to the Government, hamlets and the private sector if the Government were to add a new public holiday to the calendar, rather than just replacing the first Monday in August with July 9, as the Bill currently sets out to do. The Standing Committee is also aware of the fact that negotiations with the NEU are still in progress.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Association of Municipalities will be holding its Annual General Meeting in early May. The Standing Committee has directed me as

the Chair of the Committee to meet with Nunavut's mayors to formally seek their views and input on this initiative. I am hopeful that a consensus will emerge from this meeting.

(interpretation ends) I would also thank the sponsoring Minister for his commitment to providing the information that his department used to calculate the different cost implications associated with this initiative, and for any information on how hamlets and their employees would be affected. This will be useful to present to the Mayors.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that issues like this, issues that affect the daily lives of all Nunavut residents, be fully discussed and debated, and that the widest possible consultations be held before final decisions are made.

And Mr. Speaker, given that it is almost May, and given that many families will have already made their summer plans, I believe that it is appropriate that any changes that occur to the calendar take effect with ample time for individuals and families to plan accordingly.

Mr. Speaker, it is possible that no consensus will be achieved on this initiative. However, these further consultations in the coming weeks will ensure that as many voices as possible are heard, and that a wide understanding is achieved of the options available and their implications.

Your Standing Committee looks forward to reporting the Bill back when we reconvene in the fall. At that time, I believe that this House will be in a better position to make its final determination on how to proceed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akasuk. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologise I have forgotten something. I forgot to table a document. So therefore if I could get unanimous consent to go back to Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson is requesting unanimous consent to make a comment to go to Item 13. Are there any nays. Go ahead Ms. Thompson.

Revert to Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 94 – 1(3): Task Force on Housing - Final Report

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, for your patience my colleagues. I forgot to table a document.

(interpretation ends) I would like to table the final Housing Task Force Report. Mr. Speaker, there are a number of excellent ideas that all members should review so that we can get a broad range of feedback from all MLAs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to note

that I have an English copy and a syllabics copy. I need an Inuinnaqtun copy which is still at Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. We will give it to the members as soon as possible.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Back to Item 17. First Reading of Bills. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 13, Tabled Document 41-1(3), Tabled Document 61-1(3), Tabled Document 85-1(3), Tabled Document 87-1(3), Tabled Document 93-1(3). The Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out, with Mr. Iqaqrialu in the chair. Prior to the start of the Committee of the Whole we will break for lunch. Members are asked to return by 1:15. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 12.06 and resumed at 1.17 p.m.*

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

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you members for coming back and welcome members, interpreters, CBC media people, and public in the gallery. We will now get back to Committee of the Whole, comments and questions on Bill 13 and on Tabled Documents 41-1(3), 81-1(3), 87-1(3) and 93-1(3).

When we had our last committee of the whole we are under the Department of Justice, general questions and comments. Minister Anawak you are now ready so go down to the witness table with your staff.

Mr. Minister and your staff, perhaps maybe you can reintroduce your staff for the record. Thank you.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. On my left Nora Sanders, who is my deputy minister for the Department of Justice and Rebecca Williams who is my assistant deputy minister and we also have staff in the gallery and if we need them we will ask for their assistance. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak, we are on general comments before we get to the main estimates we have Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister and staff, just a short comment in regards to the smaller communities that want to take in some inmates out on the land. In Igloolik there has been a request to the Department of Justice to take in some inmates to the camps. But they could not do it because they did not have any equipment to take people out on the land. They did not have any transportation equipment and they could not be provided with equipment.

To take in inmates that are not going to be incarcerated long and young people could also be taking out to the land and the camps for rehabilitation especially those that have substance abuse problems. They should be given the opportunity to provide them with people that they can take out on the land.

Under the main estimates or under capital estimates there does not seem to be any funding to help those communities to take out people to the outpost camps from the BCC.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. For those communities that want to take those inmates out on the land, we are in support of this program and we have started to take requests to take prisoners out on the land. We expect that many people will be requesting to take out inmates out on the land. We cannot take them all. I know there are many people who are incarcerated who want to go out to the outpost camps.

This is a very good program for other youth that are having problems in the community, but we have to talk with the community involved. Perhaps we will not be able to provide all funding but we can give the people a little bit of money to subsidise for their gas and their supplies.

We are in a process of trying to do this at this time we have to be able to provide as many communities as possible in providing assistance to the inmates or to the youth who have committed crimes in order to rehabilitate them at outpost camps. We are in support of this program. We expect that there would be a lot more people requesting the people who are out in the outpost camps who have committed crime.

We are not going to approve everybody who requests to do this program. However, we can review the communities that want to take people out on the land but at this time if they could have their equipment already in place we would probably approve them faster than the ones that don't have the equipment. We would like to look into what types of equipment they would have in their community.

Some communities have equipment and some communities do not have as much equipment as the others do. But we can speak with them but we cannot say that no we refuse to let you go into the program with us. What we can say is that we have to look into what they have and the equipment they have in their communities before we approve what they have to do. We are open to the public but we have to see what type of equipment the community has or the people have that would like to take those inmates out on the land for rehabilitation and if the individual wants to be enrolled in the program then we might be able to help them with food and gas.

If they already have these boats and transportation equipment in place already. We are not going to be shutting the doors for anybody. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Mr. Irqittuq(interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a brief question. We have to take care of people who are incarcerated although I don't want to talk about people committing crimes but these people need help and they have to be sent to the outpost camps and the correctional centre.

The people who are responsible for these inmates, like how many people do you need to take care of that many inmates. Is there a guard inmate ratio. So that is my question. Are they paid by the number of inmates or are they paid annual salary. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes they vary from community to community. If we have one guard who can work with inmates we would have to work with the guard and see how many inmates he would be willing to take on. If that is going to be the case then we would be definitely paying the guard when he has three inmates to take care of so we would be paying the guard 95 dollars per person a day. Not for a year. Sometimes it might be the case that the guard will be taking care of that inmate for three or four months at a time, we will pay the guard for four months if that inmate is incarcerated for four months and we pay them by per inmate. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to comment and it might be a question too. I'm not sure how closely you are working with Sustainable Development as to what Mr. Irqittuq was just talking about. I also see this a business opportunity for some of the Inuit in our communities for employing our elders as counsellors.

I'm just wondering if you have the criteria to say maybe this is the business opportunity for the individuals in each community. I think in the long run that they might see this as a good way as creating a business in one of the communities in the future. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): I guess the thing to do is that we don't necessarily see this as a business opportunity but at the same time as much as we want to support people who have the willingness to do this kind of thing. If we had somebody on the contract to do this what we would also want to make sure if there is other opportunities for this person to do other things outside of looking after people in the outpost camp.

We would not want that person cut off from other business opportunities such as through Sustainable Development. We might not want that person deprived of other applications

for assistance say to start a business on other stuff. We want to make sure that if we put somebody in a home like that we would want that person to feel like they are at home with the home care healing program.

So we would want this to be more of a home environment type rather than a business opportunity. But at the same time we want to make sure that this is an individual that might have other things that they want to do outside of what they are doing in terms of private business. We would not want that person deprived of that opportunity to go to sustainable Development say for an economic development program. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister Anawak. Mr. Haviyok.

Mr. Haviyok: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The reason I said that was that lets say I know that you talked about the start of the costs as to what Mr. Irqittuq was saying before. I can say the reason I said that is it is in small communities you do not get this type of opportunities to start a business. When I say business I am also including the things that you said about healing and counselling and so on. So you will be hiring some elders to do that also aside from your own business for example. In outpost camps they want to develop before they can look after themselves by making some let say making good profit out of it and then go on to something else. I am also saying that there is also an opportunity, I hope you are not saying it is not, but I can see it coming in the future once you say that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak: We are open to suggestions because I am sure that maybe a person is about to look after some people, maybe they don't have the wisdom for lack of a better word, to provide counselling or home care type. Those are the kind of things that we would want to look at.

While we maybe are not doing it right now, we want to look for ways to lessen the population in the correctional facilities. If there are opportunities where we could provide a better system that is what we look for. We are open to any suggestion and any discussions on how we could provide a better service then in place of a correctional facility. But we realize there will always be a need for correction facilities but the more we can do things outside of a correctional facility as long as we ensure their safety we are open to ideas. Thank you Mr. Chairman

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Any further questions or general comments. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This is more of a comment then a question. At times some people have been incarcerated for years. What can we do to provide support to children of these inmates because a lot of the children do not know whether they have fathers because their father had been gone for a long time.

In the Inuit tradition there is always room for improving a person but when a person has been incarcerated for years you have pity for the children and the mother's of these children and the wives of these inmates might get married to somebody else. It is not always the case but it does happen. What kinds of plans do you have to provide a support system for the families of the inmates. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We have realised it for a long time and it finally sunk in while I was a Member of Parliament and I went to go visit the Borden Penitentiary in Alberta. I went there twice to see the inmates and afterwards I realised some of the inmates or all of the inmates that I went to see never got visitors.

These were the Inuit population and there were about sixty in total in the Borden Penitentiary. There was one Inuk elder who worked there and went to see the inmates but the rest of the population never got a visitor from any of their family members. At that time I realised that they did not only not get visitors from their families but you realize that when these inmates finally went home there was going to be no improvement.

There was going to be a deteriorating environment for inmates returning home. Sometimes when they went home, I am not saying all of them, but some of the inmates when they returned home would have a deteriorated setting. No more material things. All the things that they had were gone and those who were married might have separated from their spouse. If the wife had the children and the father would be alienated from the family that he once had. It finally sunk in to me when I went to visit the penitentiary and the total Inuit population was about sixty and the total population was about 7 hundred.

The total population of Inuit was sixty and some of these inmates who did not come from the Nunavut area would get visitors from their families. They would get visitors from their wives and their children and their relatives and friends. But the Inuit population could not get visitors from their friends and relatives.

But they weren't visited because the expense was too high to go and see them. Because of these profound effects at the penitentiary we have been doing something better than the lifestyle of the inmates through our healing programs and that is one of the reason for saving up for a facility in Nunavut. For summary convictions and possibly while they are here and the facility is established in Nunavut they will stay in touch with their families or family members. Because a lot of the population down south get separated from their immediate families because of the length of their sentences their spouses find somebody else.

So we have to look at ways and means of how we can improve the lives of Inuit inmates and how they can come back to a better environment or possibly having visits from their relatives so they can come home to a friendlier environment. We also have to realise that

if the man was sent to a penitentiary without resolving the problem, the spousal problem they might very well come back to the same situation.

So we are looking at the ways and means to improve the lifestyle of the inmates. I am not talking about all of them but some of them are sentenced to years of incarceration and even when their lives could have improved if they had alternative means of being sentenced they could improve. If they are just put in a penitentiary and if they got visits things would not deteriorate as bad.

But because they do not get visits from their relatives, they deteriorate so we are looking at ways to improve the facility we want to also look at how the inmates can get visits. Sometimes we go see the inmates down in Pembroke and we are looking at how we can improve the system because to many inmates who could have had a better environment don't have anything to come home to. It is a friendless environment and having been in jail for a while is a shameful thing in front of the people. Not only for the inmate himself but the whole community. So we have to look at ways that we can improve the system.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak for your wise words. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. That is very clear, thank you. At times I think about the men being incarcerated and sometimes their wives find somebody else and the children are left somewhere in between. They are not bonded with their mother and they have a stepfather. There are social ills. Thank you for responding to my question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. I do not see any more comments or general questions, but if you would like to respond Mr. Anawak please do so.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): The reason I mentioned the spouses is for a reason but of course there are the children that are hurt possibly because their father is taken away for five years and they can't go see him. The facility is too far away. If that child is small he might forget who his father is and if that child was in the south they could have weekly visits with their fathers but when you are up here sometimes inmates don't get visited for 5 years either by their wives or their children.

So we are looking at how we can improve that. Inuit family ties are very strong and it is an abrupt cut when contact with the immediate family of the inmate is severed. I do know that we will never have enough money to do what we want to do in Nunavut. We have to be close to the people of Nunavut and make improvements. I realize that some of the inmates did very hurtful things but not all of them.

Some times there is a hurt point and you overcome it and in the justice system a person is charged and usually at that time there is always room for reconciliation between the

man and the wife but they are not given the opportunity and they will not see each other anymore.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): If it is ok with the Members. I would like to put Mr. Akesuk as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole. If you do not mind if you can take the Chair. I have some questions I would like to ask. Thank you.

Mr. Akesuk: Hot seat. (interpretation) Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I will talk about my community in particular. There has been a mistake made and this individual has been arrested and charged. It was a mistake done and it must be very hard for the individual. If somebody makes a mistake, what happens to him or her.

Chairperson: Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): This is separate item altogether and I am not in the liberty to say anything about it at this time. If there has been a mistake and the individual is charged then it is the responsibility of my staff taken on individual bases. If the person is charged and has to go through the court system, yes they could say it was a wrongful arrest and wrongful incarceration.

But this has nothing to do with us. It has to go through the other system. Perhaps if the individual could talk with our staff besides myself then they can talk one to one. Because we can not talk one to one to the individual but the MLA could talk with my staff to resolve this problem that happened to the individual. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Yes ok I understand that. When we were meeting in Rankin Inlet during a session. There is an elderly person that bumped somebody else's vehicle. When he did not know what happened. He was charged and because he bumped into somebody else's vehicle and without the individual knowing what he did wrong. Then it is very wrong to charge somebody and for someone to go to court. What happens to those people. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson: Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Those are the types of things that we can not do anything about as long as they have been charged already. There is nothing that we can do as a Justice Department. But perhaps people have been charged for petty things such as this. Wrongfully charged because what they have done. What they do is they are dealt with the Justice of the Peace.

The individual that is elderly or older person and without intentionally doing something for us the Inuit people it is easy for us to apologise for not doing something intentionally.

Once the person is already charged there is no other way but to go through the courts. I understand where Mr. Iqaqrialu is coming from.

Because the Justice system is so different from the Inuit traditional way of doing things. These are the things that we are looking into. But we can not do anything about it once the person is charged. But they have no other course but to go through the court system. What we are doing is we are trying to look into this so we can do it in a better way. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Yes I understand what he is talking about and I have no more comments. I think you can come back to your chair. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. My question is about the laws of the Federal Government. I guess the Federal legislation is it impossible to amend the Federal legislation as a Nunavut Government. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): In English it says we can not change the Criminal Code of Canada. I know that if there is someone that is going to perhaps amend the Criminal Code of Canada then we have to be involved as a Government. We can not do anything about it. We can amend the legislation that we as the Nunavut Government provide to the people.

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

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Because we can not change the legislation and if the Federal Government does not like the legislation we make here in Nunavut. I guess we will have to amend our legislation. I guess. Would we be asked to go to court in order to if they were to sue us something like that because of the legislation that we make.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. We are under the Federal legislation as the MLAs. So as a Government if we are going to produce a legislation we can not break the Federal Laws. But the laws we are making as a Legislature of Nunavut we still working with the Government of Canada. So we would not be getting into the problem of Mr. Akesuk is talking about because we have to work with them. We have to look at the legislation carefully if we are not breaking the Federal laws.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Mr. Chairperson I will be asking this in English to the Minister of Justice. It is about the Hay River drug treatment program.

(interpretation ends) To residents of Nunavut through Government of Nunavut Health and Social Services. People from all walks of life can go there. People going to this treatment centre from correction institution keep getting a weekly allowance while those are going to their court are not receiving any allowance.

Could the Minister perhaps with the assistance of Health and Social Services Minister clarify for us how the situation came to be. Why would a correctional institution inmate get preferential treatment over people that are not there under court order or such other order.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Minister Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Perhaps it is the Department of Health and Social Services responsibility to take care part of the question your asking. If there were going to be a program such as the one in Hay River then it would be under the responsibility of Health and Social Services Minister.

As the Department of Justice dealing with drug and alcohol treatment. We can not do it at this time. Perhaps it would be under our jurisdiction if we were asked to provide assistance in regards to anything related to Justice system. But we can not. If there were someone that wants to go to Hay River treatment centre then it would have to go through the Department of Health and Social Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Is there anyway to say for instance an individual from Nunavut would they be able to attend that treatment centre. Or an individual that has been incarcerated and they get 30 dollars a day. Would that individual be able to or for anyone from the public. I just wonder why they would not be able to go down to the treatment centre for treatment.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): The ones that have to get some assistance through our Department are the ones that are at this time. Say for instance. I will use this as an example. We have been discussing with the Department of Health and Social Services. There is a place called Inusiqsirvik and we would like to be able to utilise this. We were recently in talks with Health and Social Services. We will look in other directions to see whether we can assist the people that might go through the Justice Department that have

problems with drugs and alcohol. That want to get assistance. We have nothing to do with them at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Any more comments. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I am looking at the Department's business plan. The environmental scan states that Nunavut compares badly in relation with the rest of Canada. Specifically with the following crime rates. Notably the violent crime, number of persons remanded before trial, incarceration rates and the youthful age of the offender population. It goes on to say without improved social and justice related services for all the people of Nunavut in communities, particularly for the young, these problems will not likely decrease or will it continue to increase. In the Department principles, one of them is on crime prevention and community wellness.

It talks about the co-operation with other Nunavut Departments. The value of harmony of working together with other stakeholders. I am just wondering if the Department has initiated any types of plans to work with other Departments. Health and Social Services or Culture, Language, Elders & Youth in trying to come up with some type of a joint concerted plan of attack to try and help address these issues. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Again, we look for ways to see how we can help those to cut the crime rate down. We do have applications for more funding for crime prevention programs. We have not yet got to the point of full discussions with other Departments. Again part of it is that while we are pretty well set up and running. I am not sure whether other departments are fully set up yet.

Once that happens say a department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Then we would want to get into a full discussion about how do we compliment each other in crime prevention or assistance or whether the Department of Health and Social Services how can we help.

Right now the one thing we have done is in the budget we are asking for 450 thousand dollars to place to have 4 probation officers for Nunavut. One of whom would be in Iqaluit. Another one would be somewhere in the Baffin. One in the Keewatin. One in the Kitikmeot. Realising that is not enough at the same time that is the only amount of money we can get right now. What we would like to do is continue to get more money in the later years to get more probation officers in order to work better with say the Department of Health and Social Services.

Because right now what happens is the social workers in most communities act as the victim support helpers as well as counselling the perpetrator, which is a contradiction. So what we are trying to do is assist and get full probation officers which would have responsibilities outside of that community. In order to elevate the work that is done by the

social worker. So as I said right now we have not got to the point of full discussions with other departments. But we expect to do that as soon as the Departments are up and running fully. As I said we are doing this.

We are continuing to try to get more funding for crime prevention. What we want to also make sure is that we are looking at other ways of dealing with crimes and not necessarily. I mentioned in Rankin Inlet at the time. Rankin Inlet was trying to do a diversion protocol where in some cases and only with the approval of the victim. If a spousal assault occurred we might try to work out some other ways of coming to a conclusion. A positive conclusion.

If it can be done with the spouse. We are continuing to seek funding under the community wellness program. So what we are trying to do is make a positive spin into this. The kind of things that always tend to work against the population as a whole. Because of the Justice System they are not culturally relevant. In some cases not culturally relevant. We do have the Justice System that is what we have to live with. But we are trying to find ways to do more to cut crime but also to put more emphasis on healing and treatment.

So again we hope to have full discussions with the Health and Social Services and Culture, Language, Elders & Youth and Sustainable Development to find out more ways of cutting down on crime and assisting more with healing and treatment. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: I can appreciate the Minister comments on the magnitude. I know it is not an easy thing that can be dealt with right away. I am just wondering if my guess the approach would be to sit down with the other Departments and trying to find areas that are a common concern or common nature the Department of Justice shares with some of the other areas in coming up these.

Probably the hardest part would be just sitting down to try to identify these areas of what they are. Once that is done maybe give a clearer picture or a better idea what can be done in those areas. I do not mean a commitment of time whatever right now. I would like to ask the Minister if that is the stage the plan they are trying in the future. At some point in the future could they provide the Members with a list of areas like that that are common to share a common concern with the other Departments.

If anything just for you know where we may have some ideas or suggestions once we see that information and we can pass it on to the Department. Something that might be helpful. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Anawak. He stated that it does not mind if you do not have a response for him. If you like to respond Mr. Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): To assure Members of the Legislative Assembly that yes we will be continuing to have discussions with other Departments and any measures we are going to put forward. If we want to make sure of course we want to make sure with the support of the Members. The way we will get it is by keeping the members informed. So any measures we will undertake in terms of what we just discussed. We will not only provide the Members with the information but also ask for assistance. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. At this point I do not have any more names on my list. I do not think there is anybody else to make a comment. Before we go on to the details. I would like to take a short break. 10 minute short break. When we get back we will get to the details.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome back to the House. Before we begin, Mr. Akasuk would like to make a few comments. Mr. Akasuk.

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The people from my community are here sitting behind me. I would like to recognize Lucy, Louisa, Martha and Elisapee. I would like to recognize these people from Cape Dorset. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I have one question that was just given to me recently. Why is it that the Department of Justice pays 30 dollars per day per inmate. Is this for when they are in a detox centre. The reason this question came up was that the people who go to the detox centre are paid a per diem but the inmates who take the program are paid 30 dollars a day.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): We misunderstood a little bit. We do not have any per diem payments for inmates who take the program.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Anawak, supplementary.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): We will just look into it because I do not believe that we pay a per diem for inmates.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Since I do not have any more names on my list we will go on to page 5 – 5, Department of Justice. In the 2000/2001 Capital Estimates. Page 5 – 5, Department of Justice, Registries and Court Services. Detail of Capital, buildings and works, Baffin region. Total Baffin region, 100 thousand. Any comments. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In the Department of Justice new courthouse planning 50 thousand, what are they planning for. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Any one of the witnesses can respond to that question. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. The 50 thousand dollars is for planning for a new courthouse. The other 50 thousand dollars is for maintenance and renovations of the courthouse. The other one is for planning for the building of a proposed new courthouse. It is just in the planning stages.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman for that explanation. Is that for the architectural drawings or blueprints of the new courthouse. What kind of planning are we talking about here. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Well we are not even at the architectural designs yet, just the initial planning stages of the proposed new courthouse. It is the stage before the architectural drawings. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. We will then move on because there are no other names. Baffin region. Total Baffin region, 100 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total building and works, 100 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total capital expenditures, 100 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. It is carried. We will then move on to the next page.

Page 5 – 7, Department of Justice, Community Justice and Corrections. Detail of Capital, building and works, headquarters region. Total headquarters region, 90 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. It is carried.

Baffin region. Total Baffin region, 310 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. It is carried.

Total building and works, 400 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. It is carried.

Contributions, headquarters region. Total headquarters region, 100 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Approved.

Total contributions, 100 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Approved.

Total capital expenditures, 500 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Approved.

Page 5 – 8, Department of Justice, distribution of budget. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Approved.

The capital estimates are completed with the Department of Justice. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Moving to the Main Estimates 2000/2001. Page 5 – 7, Department of Justice. I apologize it is page 5 – 4 in the Main Estimates that we are going to start with.

Department of Justice, 5 – 4, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 394 thousand. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Approved.

Total expenditures, 1 million 394 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Page 5 – 5, Department of Justice, branch summary. Any comments. Agreed. Carried.

Department of Justice, Law Enforcement. Total operations and maintenance, under 5 – 6, 13 million 964 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Total expenditures, 13 million 964 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Turning over 5 – 7, Department of Justice, branch summary. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Department of Justice, Legal Services Board, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 780 thousand. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Total expenditures, 2 million 780 thousand. Comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Department of Justice, Legal Services Board, branch summary, page 5 – 9. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Page 5 – 10, Department of Justice, Lawyer Support Services, branch summary, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 474 thousand. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Total expenditures, 1 million 474 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Page 5 – 11, Department of Justice, Registries and Court Services, branch summary, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, 4 million 106 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Total expenditures, 4 million 206 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Turning on to the next age 5 – 12. Department of Justice, Community Justice and Corrections, branch summary, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, 12 million 819 thousand. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Total expenditures, 13 million 319 thousand. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Turning to the next page 5 – 13. Department of Justice, Community Justice and Corrections, branch summary. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Page 5 – 14, Department of Justice, detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Any comments. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turning to page 5 – 15, Department of Justice, distribution of budget. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Then we will go back to page 5 – 3, Department of Justice, detail of expenditures, program summary, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, 36 million 537 thousand. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Total capital 600 thousand. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

Total expenditures, 37 million 137 thousand. Any comments. Agreed. Opposed. Carried.

The Department of Justice budget has been agreed to. Thank you Mr. Minister and your staff for being at the witness table. I will give you an opportunity to say your closing remarks. Minister Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you very much to my colleagues and also to Rebecca, Nora and all my staff. Also to the people who work in the Department of Justice, I would like to thank them very much because they have been working very hard and trying to stick to their mandate and to integrate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Also, with the review of the legislation I would like to thank our Premier for getting that going.

With the Department of Justice we are going to keep looking at improving the Justice system and we will always try to keep you informed and up to date on what we have been doing. We will also be looking for ideas from you. Thank you.

>>Applause

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Tabled Document 85 – 1(3), Department of Justice business plan has been completed. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): At this time what is the wish of the committee. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to move on to the Department of Sustainable Development. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. There is a motion to start the Department of Sustainable Development. Agreed. Thank you. We will then move on to the Department of Sustainable Development. I don't see your staff here, did you want to start with your opening remarks. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I have everything all ready in front of us and would like to start with my opening remarks. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk, Minister of Sustainable Development. Since he is ready, do you agree. You can then begin. Mr. Minister.

Department of Sustainable Development: Minister's Opening Remarks

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to present the Department of Sustainable Development's Main Estimates for 2000/2001. Before beginning my remarks I would like to introduce you to my team of officials who will be supporting my appearance today. I am sorry some of them are not present at this time. Perhaps when we get to the witness table I will introduce them to you.

There will be Katherine Trumper, Deputy Minister. Peter Ittinuar, Assistant Deputy Minister, Jim Martin, Director of Corporate Services, and Mr. Joe Tigullaraq, Assistant Director of Wildlife.

A year ago I spoke to the committee about initiating a review of this Department's programs, policies and its legislation. To do this I needed to talk with Nunavummiut. So this year I travelled to each region of Nunavut and heard about the issues and the opportunities. Throughout this past year I began formulating a map for the Department of Sustainable Development, the beginning of which is the 2000/2001 budget, which you have before you. I am not really sure who I am talking to.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Sustainable Development's budget for 2000/2001 is 33 million, 835 thousand, which is 5% of the total government expenditures. On pages 11 – 3 to 11 – 5 of the Main Estimates you will find the department' operations and

maintenance budget. We have made adjustments to the operations and maintenance budget this year to accommodate some new initiatives in the department's budget.

I just want to ask the Chairman whether I should continue or not with my opening remarks.

Chairperson (interpretation): We have many items to cover. Perhaps if we could take a brief recess and then continue with the minister's opening remarks when we have a quorum. We will take a ten minute break at this time.

>>*Committee recessed at 2:54 and resumed at 3:12 p.m.*

Chairperson (interpretation): Members of the Legislative Assembly we create problems when we do not have a quorum. Perhaps when the rest of the Members get into the House I will give you a brief message. For those members that are over here. I wonder if they can come into the House, back into the House. We have the obligation to deal with the Main Estimates. We have to continue with the Orders of the Day. So I wonder if the Members could come back to the House. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I do not mind to go ahead with the opening remarks by Sustainable Development Minister because the rest of the Members have other items to deal with. So we will not have to vote at this time. The Minister of Sustainable Development can continue. It is a short day, it is not a long day. So I think we should continue.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier for your comments. During the voting of members. The members have to be present in the House. After the minister makes his opening comments then usually questions come from the members. We were voted into Nunavut Legislature in order to do our job and we have to sit in the House in the meantime. So according to that I think all the members should try to be present in the House when we are discussing very important topics such as the Main Estimates. Thank you. We now have a quorum. The Minister of Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk can you go ahead with your opening remarks.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Perhaps if I can start where we took a break. The operations & maintenance budget. Mr. Chairperson I made brief comments about the 2000-2001 Main Estimates. 33 million 835 thousand. On pages 11-3 to 11-5 of the Main Estimates. You will find the Departments operations & maintenance budget. We have made adjustments to the operations & maintenance budget this year to accommodate new initiatives in the Departments budget.

One of those initiatives relates to the Bathurst Mandate. Commitment of capacity building. Mr. Chairperson one of the topics that were raised in virtually every community I travelled to this year was made for the Department to provide greater support community based staff that deliver the Department's programs.

These are the community economic development officers who we support through direct contributions to Hamlets and our Wildlife Officers. Who are Government of Nunavut employees. The 2000-2001 budget sets aside 175 thousand dollars for strengthening or supporting to community economic development officers. Three hundred and fifty thousand for training and development in Nunavut Wildlife service.

And Mr. Chairperson we have reduced the 2000-2001 headquarters operations & maintenance budget in order to support 3 new economic initiatives for this Government.

The first of these initiatives is the implementation of our Nunavut Sealing Strategy. Which I have previously announced in this House and the Fisheries Strategy aimed at gaining greater access to the fish stock off our shores. We have budgeted 100 thousand dollars for this purpose. The second economic initiative relates to Nunavut Mining sector.

Last year Members will recall the Department's budget set aside new dollars for Canada-Nunavut Geo-Science office. For the Nunavut prospectors program. Over the winter we completed analysis of opportunity in Nunavut's mining sector. In addition, the investment of this Government must make to prepare in Nunavummiut for these opportunities.

In 2000-2001 we have set aside 125 thousand for mobilisation initiatives for the mining sector. The third economic initiative deals with giving Nunavummiut an opportunity at work experience. Mr. Chairperson almost 20 years ago I gained my first experience in the labour force through a short term employment program known as the Step Program.

Last year I directed my officials to examine the range of existing programs that support the entry of people into the labour force and how we can facilitate access to those programs for community projects.

In 2000-2001 we have set aside 175 thousand dollars to continue to set up our Nunavut job Corp network so that more Nunavummiut can gain experience in the work force. Mr. Chairperson 11-6 to 11-10 you will find the description of the Departments Grants and Contribution which totals 13 million 168 thousand dollars or 43 percent of the Departments operations & maintenance budget.

These Grants and Contribution form the core of the Departments core grant commitment. As Members are aware on April 1 1999, we assume responsibility for the community-based business operating under the Nunavut Development Corporation. We are proposing a budget of 2 million 865 thousand for the Nunavut Development Corporation this year and we will undertake of the operation.

I am pleased that our contracting arrangement with the Government of the Northwest Territories for the administration of the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation is now concluded and we have this important loan program home to Nunavut this year.

We are proposing a budget of 371 thousand dollars to establish and administer its operation in year 2000-2001. The Nunavut Business Credit Corporation is currently reviewing its role in lending environment in Nunavut. So I hope to be able to report on this progress of this review this fall.

We are also proposing to continue support for the Community Futures program this year. Which provides loans under 75 thousand dollars. Mr. Chairperson the Department of Sustainable Development delivers a number of programs in partnership with other agencies.

The list of Grants and Contributions on page 11-7 to 11-8 reflects on-going commitment to those partnerships. In 2000-2001 our partnership will include the Nunavut Arts and Craft Association. 100 thousand. Nunavut Tourism. 1 million 185 thousand. And the Canada-Nunavut Geo-Science office for 450 thousand dollars.

Under Grants and Contribution on pages 11-6 to 11-9 you will also see that we are continuing assist programs, individuals, and communities in realising their ideas for developing the economy.

Our expenditures in these areas remain almost stable at 330 thousand for Grants to small business program. In the amount of 150 thousand for the Nunavut Prospectors Program, 859 thousand for the Business Development Program and 240 thousand for support of commercial fisheries.

Mr. Chairperson we are also extending our funding commitment to Nunavut communities to develop and implement their own economic plans and projects by allocating 2 million 890 thousand dollars under the Community Initiative Fund.

During Standing Committee and throughout my travels this year I have heard general support for my Departments partnerships with communities and service deliver agencies. Providing we are clear in the purpose and performance objectives.

Thus Mr. Chairperson early this year I will be releasing a policy on program partnership that will seek to strengthen the terms under which we will support these partnerships. Mr. Chairperson I have also incorporated in this year's budget a major initiatives in wildlife.

As Members know this Government along with our partners Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board is committed to the development of wildlife legislation. That is appropriate for Nunavut.

200 thousand dollars have been built into the budget this year for the extensive consultations that will be required to develop Nunavut's own Wildlife Act. The first wildlife legislation in Canada to reflect a co-management regime.

In addition, Mr. Chairperson the Department 2000-2001 budget also reflects our on-going commitment to our partners in wildlife management. The Grants and Contribution budget

on page 11-7 details our commitment to Hunters and Trappers Organizations in Nunavut. 303 thousand dollars. Regional Wildlife Boards for 223 thousand dollars.

Last month I launched a review on Harvesters Support Programs. The results of which I expect to have this fall. In the interim we are maintaining our level of support to individuals harvesters through our policy on grants and contribution in support of harvesters.

Mr. Chairperson before I conclude. I want to speak briefly about the Department's capital plan for 2000-2001. The Department has a capital plan for three purposes. The first purpose is to support the on-going requirements of the Nunavut Wildlife Service in replacing equipment used in monitoring enforcement and training.

We have budgeted 860 thousand for this year 2000-2001. The second purpose of our capital plan is to invest in the developing Nunavut Tourism Industry. Mr. Chairperson a successful tourism industry is built up through small investment in such things as information signs and the development of attractions such as Thule sites and camp grounds and exhibits in our airports and visitors centres.

We have budgeted 1 million 665 thousand in this 2000-2001. I am also pleased to advise you that we have commenced our negotiations with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated on the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. For our Territorial parks and hope to be able to conclude these negotiations later this year.

The third purpose of our capital plan is to support our traditional economy through the display of arts and crafts in public buildings throughout Nunavut and we have budgeted 175 thousand for this purpose.

When the public interest is building they should be greeted with showcase of artists that brings recognition to the important contribution they make to our economy. Mr. Chairperson this is the summary of the Department of Sustainable Development budget for 2000-2001. I would be very pleased to answer questions at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Sustainable Development. Chairperson of the Standing Committee Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I am pleased to be able to make some opening remarks as we begin the debate of the 2000-2001 Main Estimates for the Department of Sustainable Development.

Over the past year the Standing Committee has had an opportunity to meet with the Minister on a number of occasions.

Mr. Chairperson the Standing Committee has been impressed with the energy that the Department has placed in a number of initiatives over the past year. Given the high

importance that all Members place on building economic opportunity in all of our communities large and small and given the need to address the unacceptably high levels of unemployment in Nunavut, the Standing Committee is supportive of the thrust the Departments efforts.

Over the coming year the Standing Committee will follow closely the progress made in both the Nunavut Economic Forum and the Minister's Forum on the Economy. It is our hope that both initiatives generate concrete action plans. We would express the same sentiment with respect to the Nunavut Job Corps initiative.

Members of the Standing Committee are also interested in the status of the Department's review of the operations of the Nunavut Development Corporation.

Members of the Standing Committee have expressed concern over the issue of the Grants and Contributions programs of the Department. The Committee has taken note of the commitment in the Departments business plan to review the Grants and Contributions policies of the Department. In the past year Members of the Standing Committee have expressed concerns over the accountability of the dollars spent in grants and contributions.

Mr. Chairperson Members of the Standing Committee are aware of the positive role that tourism plays in the development of Nunavut's economy. However Members of the Standing Committee have expressed concerns on a number of occasions with the Minister over the value for money that Nunavut receives from the 1.1 million dollars that the Department provides annually to the Nunavut Tourism in core funding.

With respect to the Department's 2000-2001 capital plan the Standing Committee will seek clarification as to the criteria that will be used to determine in which community the centre will be located.

The Standing Committee has also taken note of the fact that the final capital estimates document does not lay out the future years' cost of a number of projects. Individual Members are also likely to raise a number of concerns regarding the capital priorities of the Department. Mr. Chairperson these are some of the general areas of concern that we have had as a Standing Committee. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Chairperson of the Standing Committee. We are now on Sustainable Development. Perhaps the Minister and his two officials can go down to the witness table. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Mr. Chairperson we will be asking questions once the Members go to the witness table.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Minister for Sustainable Development and the rest of his officials can go down to the table. Thank you for coming

down to the witness table Mr. Minister for Sustainable Development Mr. Kilabuk. Could you introduce your officials for the record please. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. As I stated earlier that I will be with Kathryn Trumper to my right and to my left Mr. Ittinuar the Assistant Deputy Minister. And also couple of more officials sitting at the gallery Joe Tigullarak, Assistant Director for Wildlife and also the person sitting next to him Jim Martin, Director of Corporate Services. So these are my officials for today Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister for Sustainable Development. The floor is open for general comments. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Mr. Chairperson I know we will be dealing with the Main Estimates but I would like to make a general comment Mr. Chairperson. We were able to make an agreement between Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay about the proposed parks when they were working on the proposed parks. But Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay residence if they could use the parks for commercial purposes. That was the only way we could approve it and looking at the budget. They are only allocating some funds to Pond Inlet. There is none for Arctic Bay. So my question is why that is the case. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister for Sustainable Development Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Perhaps just to elaborate to you why they are not included in the Main Estimates. The Territorial Parks within Nunavut under the jurisdiction of the Nunavut Government. Yes we do have responsibility for those but for the parks are under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government on National Parks. They have that responsibility too to allocate funds because they are under the responsibility. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister Kilabuk. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like to ask a different question. It is 225 thousand on the proposed natural resource centre the first time and now it is different with 225 thousand is still the same. Is that going to be used for the feasibility study. My question is when the government initiates a feasibility study it can easily expend 15 thousand dollars. You have 225 thousand dollars for a feasibility study. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is the same when we appeared before the standing committee. I know for some units being built it is more expensive units this is for the most expensive figure but it will be used for a feasibility study and the operation will be in there. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. 225 thousand for one fiscal year would be used for a feasibility study what kind of plan are you going to be studying for 225 thousand. Usually 15 thousand dollars is expended for such studies. Why do we need such an expensive feasibility study. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Minister for Sustainable Development.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, the department of Sustainable Development would not be working alone but they would have to be working along with other people if we can come up with a natural resource training centre. We would have to work in partnership with education and as to these people are working in the training centres will be used and how the design will be and all these are for that planning study.

We recognize that the development officers and the renewable resource officers are part wardens as to who would have to utilise the training centre and how much planning and everything is included that is why you see that kind of figure. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairperson, yes we approved under the department of education budget I had not seen any funding from the department of education. Whether the department of education would work in partnership with the department of sustainable development for training purposes. Perhaps the minister for education did not allot money to your department or maybe you have not negotiated with the minister for the training part of the training centre. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We still have not initiated any study yet but we have budgeted for 225 thousand dollars for the feasibility study and we will work with all the people we will be collaborating with. We will find out who we should be collaborating with at this point. I would like all the people we will be working with to approve the plan after a year.

Especially after a year the Department of Fisheries and Oceans under the jurisdiction of the federal government in Ottawa and we will also be appearing in front of that federal department on how we can find the best solution for Nunavut. We will be working with the departments that will have an impact on our department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): As some of the members represent smaller communities, we are looking at initiatives that are implemented by the government and what we are looking for is to get more benefits going into the communities and therefore more jobs. This money is set aside to build a proposed natural resources centre. I would like to know what type of criteria you will use in order to find out where you will build this training centre. That is my question thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Like I said earlier I am going to be working with the other departments when we are talking about the proposed natural resource training centre; on the location of the centre, where it is going to be located. During these discussions we are going to figure out who we are going to be working with. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like clarification from the minister. I do know that our Premier has this portfolio, the decentralization portfolio and there is going to be benefits going out to the various communities and with the decentralization plan the ones who lose out are the smaller communities. They have lots of renewable resource officers and offices but it is usually one person that is employed by that department.

When the Nunavut Construction Corporation was building staff housing there were more people employed from the larger communities than the smaller communities. The smaller communities that did not get decentralized departments did not even get some of their population employed by NCC. They were ready and willing to work but they could not pay for their airfare or their expenses that were required in order to gain that employment. I would like to know what is going to be in this for the smaller communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to the discussion about the smaller communities. We are not just concentrating on the smaller communities we are looking at the operation and the location of this training centre. We are going to be looking at the feasibility study, part and parcel of that is the location, and of course we will be considering the employment factor. Like everything else and then form there we will be taking all these into consideration. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Haviyok (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. For those in the communities, they do not have any jobs and they have trouble with money and by trying to get a job or

start their own business. They have problems with equity when they want to have their own business.

(interpretation ends) Also, to put the application through the system, let us say sustainable development or the regional economic development offices, I am wondering if the department has looked at this before. How do we help individuals that have a really good idea. A business plan that they can put in place.

Before they come up with that equity a business comes up from down south, I just given this as an example, coming from down south and saying I got the equity I will do it. So the people in the community lose out on that opportunity. So I am just trying to get some information or some ideas so you can address that in the future. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is a very good example with what happens at the communities with many people out there that have excellent business ideas and plans but the only problem they have is start-up funds, which are lacking.

There is many ideas that do not get started because a lack of equity. In the Nunavut Regions, the Kitikmeot the Keewatin and the Baffin there is the regional Inuit associations and the funding agencies that provide contributions or part of the funds for small businesses. They are able to give financial assistance to the people who have business ideas. We are also going to be looking at the issue to support the people out there. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Haviyok: Maybe I should just give an example here and it might be able to help both of us so we can be on the same level there. Okay, the individual has a 100 thousand dollar project in total. The individual has to have equity of ten percent, hopefully it is 2 percent in the future. 10 thousand dollars is a lot of money and people cannot come up with that 10 thousand dollars.

I am wondering if there is a percentage that you will be working with in the future or working with the other organizations that work with economic development projects. I guess I am just looking for an answer where we can say are we looking at these equity percentages lowered so we can assist these individuals in the future. Thank you Mr. Chairman

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to remind everyone that our grants and contributions from our department are going to be reviewed

this coming year. Of course, your comments are going to be included in this review as we have stated earlier to the members.

Also, to the mayors in the upcoming months we hope to have a closer working relationship so we can redirect or re-route our grants and contributions that come from our department. The example that Mr. Haviyok used is going to be part of the review, but I cannot say at this point exactly until that review is done. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. I am the Chairperson so I cannot very well ask you some questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Axel Hieghburg Island is going to be provided 25 thousand dollars and I do know it would not be funded if it did not go through the media or if we did not bring it up as an issue. Iqaluit is growing at a rapid past as the capital of Nunavut.

There is almost 500 thousand that will be used and there is 275 thousand for the development of the Sylvia Grinnell Park and 200 thousand dollars for the renovation for the Unikaavik Visitors Centre. That is approximately half a million dollars that will be used for Iqaluit where there is a lot smaller portions slotted for the other communities. Why is that the case, that is my question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In our review we have found out that tourists that go up to the arctic from the south usually don't come back if there is no facilities or attractions in the community that they visited to.

One thing that we have heard from the tourists is that Iqaluit is the transportation hub and we thought there has to be something for the tourists to see so that they will want to go a little bit further to the smaller communities.

In our plan we are looking at ways and means of how we can attract tourists and how we can have the tourists stay up here longer and we have found it is going to be an incentive for the tourists to stay longer. So that is what we are building on. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Looking at the 5-year plan, the smaller communities are trying to generate some revenues through tourism. There are businesses in Iqaluit and outfitters and there is Baffin tourism here. Although we try to build up on our tourism level in the smaller communities there have to be facilities and attractions built for the tourists. Why is it that the smaller communities have 20 thousand to 50 thousand in the plan and there is one for 275 thousand for Iqaluit and again 200 thousand for another project.

Looking at the 5 year plan it is about 3 million dollars that will be used and then looking at the smaller communities are they not going to get any funding in that 5 year plan. They will need that money in order to attract their tourists and build up their tourism. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. With these entities we are working together and I am not going to belittle the smaller communities. The smaller communities in Nunavut are provided with funding, I will point out the smaller communities have been given money to build campsites.

There are some that have better established camp sites and if you look at the capital estimates there are different camp sites. Looking at Iqaluit we are setting up a park and that is a little bit different than the campgrounds that are established in all the communities.

Looking at the plans we have to help the tourism sector in Iqaluit because it is the transportation hub and everything passes through here before they enter the rest of Nunavut. It is for Iqaluit, the money is set aside for Iqaluit but it is an attraction that will decentralize to the other communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Before we move on to Mr. Barnabas somebody would like to make a comment. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you for passing that over. Mr. Chairperson I just like to briefly a few individuals that have come over from Cambridge Bay. We have with us Charlie Evalik who is president of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. Mayor Keith Peterson who members met with last night. Also Claire Basler who is the general manager of the Kitikmeot Corporation. A former constituent and one of the EIA staff right now David General who is accompanying them right now.

>>*Applause*

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Ng and welcome to the gallery. Mr. Barnabas I am sure you remember your question.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Again in the standing committee on Sustainable Development in the opening remarks it says here there is going to be 225 thousand dollars set aside for the visitors centre in Rankin Inlet. 2.2 million dollars will be spent on that project. Why is it so expensive. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. That will be an excellent question when we start the going line by line in the capital estimates. Mr. Kilabuk if you would like to respond to that question.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In our 5-year plan we have 250 thousand dollars. I believe that is the question that you are referring to. We wanted to set aside some money for this particular project because there has to be renovations and replacements done on campgrounds. There are quite a lot of lakes like that in the Nunavut area. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson Thank you Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): I do not think that minister and I understand one another. I am talking about the 125 thousand dollars that will be used this year to build a visitors centre in Rankin Inlet. It is 2.05 million dollars in the capital plan. I believe there is already a visitors' centre in Rankin Inlet what is that money going to be used for.

Chairperson (interpretation): I apologise at this moment I will give you general discretion Minister of whether you want to ask that question or not.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): I apologise we were on different wave lengths I did not know that he was talking about Rankin Inlet's visitor centre. Rankin Inlet is the transportation hub in the Keewatin and it is one of the communities that do not have a Visitors' Information Centre and the facility that they have, which is located in the airport, is quite small. As Rankin Inlet is the transportation hub in the Keewatin we have included it in the plans. We have recently agreed, if you have heard, that we are in the negotiation stage to develop a proposed park in Wager Bay. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Thompson, I believe would like to supplement that. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to note that in Rankin Inlet there is no Visitors' Centre or Tourism Centre. The reason why they put it in the Rankin Inlet airport is because this room was used for security, but because Tourism did not have an office they put the office in there. It is supposed to be a security area for the airlines going down south. I just wanted to make that clear to the members. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Barnabas do you have any more questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, during questioning of witnesses I have not had much opportunity to ask questions and I would like that opportunity now. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, right now the smaller communities don't have any money set aside for them in regards to economic development in their communities but there is a lot of money for the renovations of campgrounds and other areas in the Nunavut region. I just wanted to find that out.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, perhaps if he could clarify his question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Barnabas he would like you to clarify your question.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, there is money set aside for tourism and there is a lot that is being done for tourism in other regions. I just wanted to know if smaller communities would have the opportunity to get some money. They only have about 25 – 30 thousand to renovate the existing campgrounds in smaller communities.

I just wondered whether they have plans in place for smaller communities to get more money to upgrade their campgrounds and tourism sites.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I cannot really say at this time whether we have any plans in place for the smaller communities but we have some money set aside to promote tourism in those communities that we mentioned. We have to have plans in place to promote tourism so people from the south can start visiting those larger communities in order to get the smaller communities.

It is a lot easier to start up in the larger communities first before we get into the smaller communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Yes you are true, Mr. Kilabuk. The communities have the opportunities for their needs as well. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The last response that he had is very sensitive for us as well because the smaller communities would like to have the opportunity to get some money to receive tourism dollars as well. The first item that the minister talked about, the study that is going to be done and it will cost 220 thousand dollars over a five year period, or the Natural Resources Training Centre, that will cost 225 thousand dollars. It is going to be approximately 3 million dollars to do this study.

I think that Natural Resources Training Centre was going to be located in Pangnirtung and thinking about decentralization, this is just a comment not a question. In accordance with the decentralization plan, the government stated that they would look at the smaller communities for decentralization, but it seems like the larger communities have everything and with more jobs have more money allotted for themselves.

You can see it in the budget that is before us. The larger communities that have been given jobs or have more jobs, such places as Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Baker Lake, Rankin Inlet and Kugluktuk and Cambridge Bay, are the places that have the most jobs

and more decentralized jobs. You can see it by looking at the comments that are made on this paper.

If we were to do careful planning the places that should get tourism dollars should have been given elsewhere into the smaller communities, but they are given to the larger communities. This is just a general comment and a concern that I have. There is not enough money set aside to help people develop small businesses. If we were in the 1970's if the community requested 500 thousand it would have been available to the community.

Now today, because there is not enough money to develop communities and because there are so many rules about spending the money, there are not enough dollars for smaller communities. Looking at the plan of Sustainable Development and the five-year capital plan, there is more money for the larger centres, somewhere in the range of 3 million dollars. For the communities that don't have any infrastructure and communities that are not getting decentralized jobs, such places as Repulse Bay, Coral Harbour, these are the only small communities that are given some money.

It is somewhat embarrassing to see something like this, especially in view of the fact that the ordinary members have asked for spending but are not given it. I would propose that the Natural Resources Training Centre be located in a smaller community anywhere in Nunavut, if we are going to be spending that amount of money. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqittuq. I did not hear a question. Mr. Kilabuk would you like to respond.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The comments made by the member, I just wanted to give him a clear understanding, and the members of this House that when we were looking at who we were going to be in partnership with in regards to the training centre...I am sorry we were not clear. We will be working with the Canadian Coast Guard, universities and Arctic College and fisheries people.

We are not exactly sure where that location might be for the Natural Resources Training Centre but when we discussed the location of that training centre, the members will have the opportunity to voice their concerns and to be involved in picking the location of that training centre. You will have the opportunity to be involved in the decision of the location.

In regards to the comments made about decentralization, there are communities at this time that could be the location of decentralized jobs but they have no infrastructure at this time. For the money that they would be requesting to start up a small business, when I became the minister I had those concerns as well in this regard. I just want to make it clear to the members that our department is one of the departments that deal with the funding for small businesses. There are also other organizations such as the Business Credit Corporation and Kakivak and Aboriginal Business Canada and the banks are some of the places where you can acquire some funding for starting up small businesses.

So what I proposed was to work with those organizations to assist people to start businesses and we are starting to work on this now but we are in the early stages at this time and my staff is also aware of what we have been doing. We made an agreement and I have told the members that the Department of Sustainable Development is just starting up their department at this time and any questions from the members to deal with starting up businesses will be welcomed by our department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I do not want to have a negative impact on private businesses in Nunavut, but I am going to speak that I believe in and something that I have experienced. I will not be asking questions just making comments. I just want you to be aware of that.

In Nunavut for those of us who have been living here for a very long time, it is not our tradition or culture to work at making money. In spite of this we have been abused as Inuit people because we are ignorant of economic issues and business issues. In the past we have realised that we were abused and we learned from our mistakes from the past.

In spite of the actions that have been taken against us, for example by temporary residents from the south, they did have the opportunities in the past and those opportunities were taken away from the Inuit. Today we are now learning how to do the administration stuff and being a middle aged Inuk person we do not know how to do bookkeeping. I know that when you do not know how to do all the administration stuff I know that in the past Inuit people have been used.

Therefore I would like your department to make a plan to treat everyone, no matter what race they are to be treated equally and so that opportunities will be equal to all people of Nunavut. In the past it has been hard when you run into problems, like when people started getting their own private businesses and the staff who worked for the private company would start working for another person or another organization so that they could make more money. I know that business people are very wise and intelligent and they do things behind your back to make money.

For that reason, as we are learning the business world today there should be more equal opportunities for all the people of Nunavut. A problem that I have seen in the past as well is that the correspondence and documents are only written in English. As a unilingual Inuktitut speaking person when you cannot read English it has been a hindrance for us when we want to start up a business. This will have to be resolved too so that unilingual Inuktitut speaking people can apply to start up their own businesses.

One of the problems that I have also seen in the past is the banks. The financial institutions. When people start borrowing money from the bank, I know that this has been a problem area for us because when you try to run your own businesses and due to ignorance of administration we were losing money and going bankrupt. So these are the

experiences that we have seen. I think as Inuit people we should be standing up on our own two feet and should have the equal opportunity to start businesses without being abused.

Today in Nunavut in the smaller and the larger communities, I know that it is getting harder and harder to make money in the smaller communities because the other people from the outside get the opportunity rather than the local person. That hinders the development of the community. Those communities would have been developed far more than they are today if the community had been given a fair opportunity. I am sure that the smaller communities would have had more opportunity, but due to ignorance it did not happen. But as we are learning more and more about the business world we should be given the opportunity to take part and be involved so that unilingual Inuktitut speaking people have the same opportunity as English speaking people.

Even all the documents in the system will have to be clear so that our people will understand it and that way there could be a close working relationship and a better social life. I just wanted to point that out, I know that I might have effected some businesses but I wanted to speak my feelings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Any general comments Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to point out that we will make the application forms available both in English and Inuktitut and they are both available in both languages through our department. The application forms will be uniform all across Nunavut and one thing that I understood when I became the minister is that we needed clearer application forms.

I am very pleased that this has been completed and these application forms have been sent to the communities. If any of the communities did not receive copies of the application forms they will be receiving them. However through our department, our staff in the department understand that the funds that are made available for people will ensure that everyone is treated equally. The Economic Development Officers are available to assist anybody and we would like to train them further so that they will have more knowledge and so that they can assist the people better. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to talk about Sustainable Development in the Kitikmeot region because in the past they have helped a lot with wildlife and they have carried out the West Kitikmeot/Slave Study. Near Kugluktuk Bay they have helped us a lot too. I am sorry I did not see that person in here.

The animals, how can we find out how to work on these. I just wanted to find out more about this as to how the Federal Government and the GNWT who also receive money from them so they can finish off what they are doing with Sustainable Development.

We cannot say some of those words so we will try to help them. Some of the work that they have is near Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay, Bay Chimo. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyak. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes it is entirely true that it is not included in the budget. The West Kitikmeot/Slave Study is not included in the budget but the review has already been ongoing. We do plan to complete it but we will review it outside of our main estimates. It is true that it is not in the main estimates but we will review it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. I am now the Chairperson, Mr. Haviyak.

Mr. Haviyak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say that if they did get a budget it would be done. It is important for our future in the Kitikmeot because we can never find out how our resources are going to be used or planned for, but it cannot be done without a budget.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyak. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am sure that we will be able to respond to you by next week or the week after as to what kind of plans we do have. I will be able to respond to you by next week or the week after. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Kilabuk. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't want to ask too many questions to my friend, to the rookie minister but that is the only way that I will be able to get clarification is by asking questions. I think it was last year or the year before when we wanted to enhance the carvers and arts and crafts people why did that budget not change. The Nunavut Arts and Craft funding for 100 thousand dollars did not even go up. We stated that we want to assist or give support to the arts and craft people.

As Members of the Legislative Assembly we stated we want to give more support to the carvers of Nunavut. Because it is the only means of their income. We said we want them to give further support and yet the budget has not increased yet. If we can give them further support by increasing the budget. Why did you not increase the budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Yes, the 100 thousand dollar program for the Nunavut Arts and Craft Association. Last year we budgeted 400 thousand dollars for that. But I am very pleased today that the Nunavut Arts and Craft

Association can lobby. They have been able to sustain themselves and although this 100 thousand dollars may look small. But once we have to recognise Nunavut Arts and Craft Association can sustain themselves. They have raised 514 thousand by themselves. Which the Nunavut Government would not have been able to contribute to. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kilabuk. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivauta. I will keep my comments brief, I do not need an answer, and I will not talk too long to the light of Mr. Picco. I was very pleased with your statement regarding the launch of the Arctic Traveller. I think that shows a lot of foresight for getting that magazine to the masses to promote and highlight our tremendous new Territory.

I was extremely pleased to see that Nunavut Tourism achieved 40 million dollars with additional spin-offs of 10. Which brings us to a total of 50 million dollars that Nunavut Tourism had a hand to bring into the new Territory. I have been one of the harshest critics on tourism asking as you know in the Standing Committee meetings and other meetings. Are we getting a buck from this organisation.

Seeing this figure of close to 50 million dollars of Tourism dollars brought in from the south or from outside, those are new dollars that create economic opportunities in this Territory. I am extremely pleased that Nunavut Tourism has contributed. They are not fully responsible for this 50 million dollars brought in.

However, I think I am satisfied now for that 1.1 million dollars that we gave to them. That they brought in close to 50 million dollars worth of economic spin-offs. How you come to that figure or how they came to this figure I would certainly like to see it. You can probably justify it or they can justify it how they brought in that 50 million or contributed to bring in that amount. They also seem they were going to bring in have some survey done this summer at the airports. How many tourists we bring into Nunavut. Try to approximate how many dollars. I will ask a question later about if they brought in 50 million dollars.

I think that is one of our best investments that we ever done. We have only been in business for a year in this Territory. But if they brought in that kind of money we should give them 2 or 3 million dollars so they can make 150 million dollars. I would certainly approve that if I was on the Standing Committee. I have to commend you that 50 million dollars does not sound like a lot of money outside of this Territory but inside this Territory if that money is indeed being spent on hotels, airfares and arts and crafts things like that. It is a certainly job well done.

You all know what I was saying about Nunavut Tourism over the last year. So you know if they generated 50 million dollars or they were instrumental or they were involved in generating this kind of revenue into Nunavut, I think they are doing a good job at this point. I would like to certainly see them give an extra boost or some added help to

increase that. Because like your statement says that the tourism business is estimated at 455 Billion US. Which is probably 700 Billion Canadian. If we can get one percent of that we would be further ahead than most organisations.

I will be looking to see next year how much that increases. Like I say we have been getting a lot of promotion from the world on the creation of Nunavut and I can suspect it will increase. It says here that Sustainable Development has been discussing with NTI and Northern Affairs Canada that the development of an economic agreement with Nunavut. The business plan states that an economic package for the three Northern Territories expect to be considered by the Federal Cabinet late this year and early next year. Do you anticipate that there will be an additional dollars from the Federal Government into this program and how much. Ma'na Itsivauta.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like to thank the Member for asking that question. The Department of Sustainable Development is not going to be the only Department working on this issue. The contributions that we got from the Federal Government are the ones that are requested are going through negotiations at this time with the Federal Government.

Our leaders will again be speaking with the other party sometime this month. We are just going through the negotiation stage at this time and I can not give you a definite answer at this point. I can tell you we are negotiating and if we do come to an agreement. I will keep Members up to date.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivauta. There was a comment you made in May in setting up the Minister's Forum on the Economy. The old government did about 15 of them every 5 years and we studied the Territory to death Nunavut and the NWT. All it has benefited Minister Forum on the Economy is the high priced consultants walking away where between 300-500 thousand dollars for studies that sit on desks and shelves and other offices. It really never get around to what is really going to accomplish or what it going to do. Maybe wish, will, can, may.

Can you guarantee to me that this Minister Forum on the Economy is not going to be another one of these dog and pony shows that goes off travels Nunavut and we are all going to hear the same thing. We need to create employment. We need more money for the traditional economy. We need more benefits for the smaller communities. We can go on and on and on. Is this another study that is going to cost us 2 or 300 thousand dollars that could have been spent wisely someplace else. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. (interpretation ends)

No. There are no consultants in this process. All the Mayors and the Members of the Legislative Assembly are invited to this meeting. This is one we identified the need. It is to revisit our program delivery in grants and contribution to see if we should be looking at making improvements in some of the programs or services.

At the end of the meeting we want to use this information and input from the Mayors and the Members if there are recommendations to start adjusting our programs. To meet the needs of Nunavummiut. So we are really confident and looking forward to holding this meeting. Which is our commitment as part of our identifying the Government and operations in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McLean. You can keep asking questions until they are finished. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivauta. You are very generous to me today. You must have got a good Easter. On another topic is. I do not know if anyone else has experienced it but in my region there is a little frustration with the role where this Department is going and what it is doing. People are confused between the Land Claim Agreement and their roles financially and the roles of this Government. We all know that the Land Claim was settled for 580 million dollars and people set aside.

NTI set aside a certain dollar amount that was used for the beneficiaries only to start up small business. Incidentally, I have to disagree with my colleagues Davidee that Inuit are ignorant. If you look around they are running very successful business now. Canadian North, NTCL, SIR, Nunasi. If you look in the Kitikmeot you have the Development Corporations. In the Keewatin you have Development Corporations. Over here you have the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and stuff like that.

I think they made very wise investments. Ten or fifteen years from now they will probably be up there with the Royal Bank and organisations like that. So there have been very successful businesses in Nunavut and they are continuing to grow. Yes there is controversy in business. All masses anywhere in society feels they are being trotted by big business. I do not think it is different up here.

However, getting back to what he was talking about. I agree fully with him and I run into that frustration all the time from people in the street, on the complicated process that is involved in starting a small business. Sometimes it is easier to start a larger business than it is a small business because of the paper involved and the planning and things like that.

I for one say ok you should not throw money at a person who wants to start a business because you set them up to fail. Put I know where he is coming from. There are many people out there who have good ideas. Whether it is setting up a small carving business, a dried fish or dried meat business, a wall hanging business, a taxi business or whatever. Clam digging business. Whatever. There seems to be a myriad of bureaucracy that we throw at them.

We have CEDOs in every community and most cases they are bilingual. They are starting to be better at administering programs now they have in the past. I can speak for region that I come from. There are some very good people at the local level involved. The CIP program is working effectively as well. I know my frustration comes from when an individual, a unilingual individual goes into an office. They come out more perplexed than most people because of what we have. To our benefit the bilingual people in many cases do help.

I know in my region there is a quite a few bilingual people that help the unilingual people. Most of the time it is just to answer the questions and things like that. It is information that people need. We are suffering from a high unemployment rate even the larger communities as the smaller communities. We have more people in our schools than many these communities have in their population. I have to deal with that coming from a community with a high unemployment rate.

So I can understand what my colleagues says when they a lot of paper and stuff like that. It may not be very complicated what they have to do but to have the resources there to make it easier for them to apply or just not discourage them. Let them know what they are getting involved in before they go off on a wild goose chase and spend three weeks trying to set up their meat drying business or something like that.

The department can look to the Hamlets can look or the Government can look at if it is a small business under 30 thousand dollars a year or 25 thousand dollars a year. It should be very simplified for them and not get into GST and taxes things like that. If there is someway we can assist the very small individual that want to make a seasonal business. It may be supplying fish to a hotel.

We all know what that is like trying to get a permit for them to do that. For a business licence and a grant they need a 5 thousand dollar grant. What they have to go through. It is just little people out there probably appreciate a small grant or a loan just to get going so. I am going to sit here for another three years hoping that their lot will get a little bit better in Nunavut because we have promised them that. I really do not need any comments. I think I got my message through to you people.

The partnership policies and programs. I fail to accept them yet for some reason. Part of the reason why I fail to accept these programs is that it is confusing again. To a point where we get this money transferred through third party funding from the Federal Government but there seems to be another bunch of hoops and stuff people have to jump through and most of it goes back.

I was talking to a person in Yellowknife last year and he says Glenn there is 11 million dollars available. You are probably going to use six or seven. So 5 million dollars goes back to the Federal Government. It does not go back because they never gave it to us. But it is there for us to use. Their comment was if you do not use it you are going to loose it. It is probably because of the bureaucratic shuffle again.

The Federal Governments historically throw up everything they can because they design their programs for where the high unemployment is in Southern Canada. They sometimes try to transplant them here. It does not work but they try to make them work. I think this Government has to bend a bit.

The Nunavut Job Corp. I really would like to see that again. I think that was a good initiative. It helped. Here again the smaller communities that are not affected by decentralization. This would be a benefit to them. I come from a decentralized community. We are getting 40-50 jobs. We got 16 hundred people and I am getting. We got 600 students in the schools. Fifty jobs is a drop in the bucket.

That is not going to do it. It is going to be the mining sector, it is going to be the tourism sector, it is going to be a diversified economy that creates a healthy community. I think I can speak for many communities. It has to be a diversified economy to make it healthy. Like the smaller communities like Clyde River or Arctic Bay or something like that. It can not be just one thing it has to be two or three little things.

I hope the department will focus and I do not want to put all the emphasis on your department Minister Kilabuk because you are a small part of the solution. You have the least amount of money to have to come up with the biggest group of answers. I know the members will be here to question the Premier on what they are going to get for the smaller communities that are not affected by decentralization. But we have to do a little bit more concentration on this. I hope your forum going into those communities and how you can help them because I genuinely feel for them too. Because we know unemployment affects all of us in Nunavut.

Not just the smaller communities or the larger communities. I hope this can come up with a plan working with the community to develop some sort of job strategy in the Nunavut Job Corp could basically help there. Along with a bit more money but into tourism training, job development because I know these communities out there. I do not want to say who they are. They have a lot to offer in regards to their size and what they can do and seasonal work means a lot.

I know when people make two, three or five thousand dollars at a seasonal job it means a lot to them because it may be a down payment on a snow machine or an outboard motor. I will be saving myself for some questions later. Ma'na Itsivauta. Taima. No response. No answer.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. At this time we would like to have a short break because we made great progress and we will have a break for a 10 minutes.

>> *Committee recessed 4:57 and resumed 5:11 p.m.*

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you for returning. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I am sorry I forgot my question. I will use this as an example. The communities that want to take on commercial fishing. I wonder how a commercial fisherman would ask to be assisted in a way of funding. For example perhaps to the Hunters and Trappers Association or would they go other departments. Would they go to your department to ask for some assistance to get started on commercial fishing. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. The commercial fisherman in Nunavut. If they want to start up a business in commercial fishing they would go to economic development officers in the communities. If they want to pursue commercial fishing. The economic development officers would give us information as to who would like to start commercial fishing in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister Kilabuk. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Yes thank you for the response. I just want to make a comment for those communities that are less populated, the communities that do not get decentralization. For the larger communities that are getting decentralization employment, I feel that it is just a comment. Not a question. In the smaller communities they do not have any hunting equipment.

Perhaps because they have other equipment that are traditional but in bigger communities. Some Inuit people have less equipment for hunting. Just using this as an example. We would like to help all the communities. In the Kitikmeot region larger communities some Inuit people do not have any equipment what so ever to hunt. I can see the smaller communities have the same problem but at the same time they do more hunting than the larger communities.

They have more equipment in what I have seen. But at the same time we have to help or assist support them all. Whether they are bigger communities or smaller communities. That is just my comment at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alakannuark. Mr. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. This is not really a question but more like a comment. Like many members I have mentioned it in the House. That the smaller communities will not be getting decentralised jobs and the Members wanted to know how they would be supported just like the larger communities. We will consider the smaller communities as well as we considered the larger communities.

For them to plan their needs as well as the needs of the larger communities. I have mentioned before that there is more than one community that we are doing planning for. We have different ways of creating economy for each community. Not just to the

economy of the communities but also to provide some assistance for their hunting and to be able to provide for themselves by making money by hunting and other means.

For those smaller communities that do not have very much of hunting equipment. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has some money set aside to provide for their hunting equipment. But they could get assistance if their application is approved. The NTI has their own assistance program. We would like to be able to help them as well. But we are working with those other agencies to provide them with funding when we are asked to assist the agencies that provide those kinds of funding.

The Department of Sustainable Development you know what kinds of funding that we have. We have operations & maintenance total Government budget of 5 percent. We do not have any extra money to provide for the Members comments. We have been thinking about doing something to help those hunters that the Member is talking about. We do not have any extra funding at this time. We will not forget the communities. The smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. This is not really a question but a comment. In those communities that have sport hunting. They have to use the dog teams to go polar bear hunting. Some communities are given the opportunity to get sport hunters to go out caribou hunting. Sport hunting is very important to the communities for their economy. But there are many people that do not have dog teams in the communities. Although some have. Sport hunting has to be open to every community.

We would like to give each community an opportunity to do sport hunting for their own economy so whoever wants to be involved in sports hunting and who can provide those services. So the people could have an economic base in their community. I expect that if there is sport hunting available for all the people.

Chairperson (interpretation): That was just a comment but if Minister Kilabuk would like to make a brief comment on Mr. Alakannuark's comment.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. When people in the communities take the sport hunters out polar bear hunting it is a very good economic base for the people of Nunavut. It provides about 3 million dollars a year to the communities of Nunavut. There are about 125 people in the Nunavut region at this time that provide sport hunting. We have put aside 3 million dollars for sports hunters for the Nunavut residents.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Alakannuark. Mr. Irgittuq.

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I have two questions for the minister. The first question is, in the business plans of Sustainable Development I understand that there is money for advertising for arts and crafts. Will the arts and crafts

made by local people be displayed through advertising to people that might be prospective buyers. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We know that there are people that are buying arts and crafts from the communities and some communities do not have any opportunity to do this. So we have set aside some funding to advertise the sale of arts and crafts in the communities.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The reason I asked is because sometimes the people that bring their crafts to the Co-op, and this is an economic base for some of the people in the communities, I just wondered if we would have any problems with the Co-ops if we were to sell to other people. Do they just purchase, I am just thinking about the Co-op that should be provided with the selling of arts and crafts in the communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The government will not compete with the Co-ops or other agencies to sell those arts and crafts made by the people in the communities. I just wanted to say that the arts and crafts that we do sell at this time are just for the sake of advertising at this time. Thank you.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, thank you very much for the response and I will not worry about this any more. The other item was already mentioned by Mr. Alakannuark. Our community has a lot of fish, lots of arctic char and I know that there are other communities that have a lot of arctic char. They used to have commercial fishing in the Igloolik area but today the commercial fishing is not being utilized enough. They just go fishing for their own use.

I just wondered whether a study has been done to see which provinces or places or businesses would like to purchase fish to sell in the restaurants. I wonder whether Ottawa has made any request, I know that there is a lot of demand for arctic char for marketing in the other centres.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I used to work for Fisheries and Oceans, and I will just answer on their behalf. The business of marketing fish is running very well in some communities and not very well in other communities. Just as an example, for those people that do commercial fishing, the people that want to

buy them are in need of those kinds of fish and we are looking into subsidizing the freight for those commercial fishermen.

We have not done any review on the market, or the people that would like to buy those fish from the communities. We have heard the problems that the communities we encountering in regards to the high cost of living or the high cost of freight when they want to ship their fish to be bought in the south, even though there is a lot of fish in the communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Pangnirtung Fish plant, does that plant buy fish from other communities.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. At this point I am no longer working at the fish plant so I cannot tell you what they do at this point. When I used to be at the Pangnirtung fish plant, when appropriate we were able to get some fish from the surrounding communities as long as there was a market for them, but at this time I cannot answer you.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am not saying that I am blaming the fish plant, but perhaps according to my thoughts the fish plant in Pangnirtung, no wonder it has to be a viable business. They requested that all the fish that is sold commercially in the Baffin region has to go through the fish plant in Pangnirtung.

Ever since then, in Hall Beach and Igloolik, ever since that fish plant was established it was even harder for the fishermen to sell their fish. I do not know whether this has been a good idea, but that has been my thought so therefore I asked it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. If you would like to respond I will leave that up to you Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, I can only talk about the past operations of the fish plant. For the communities that are not adjacent to Pangnirtung if they tried to send their arctic char it would have been too expensive to send it by freight. At this point marketing the arctic char from Nunavut to the south, the health regulations and inspectors are very rigid. The people who buy the fish want to get the best fish that has never been frozen, they want it as fresh as it can be.

I know that they would like to buy more fish in some parts of the year so there are different reasons but the communities if they would like to apply for funding for fisheries we have no choice but to look at their application.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Yes that is entirely true that the food regulations are very powerful and rigid. I know that since I have seen it myself. Mr. Irqittuq do you have any further comments. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Commercial fisheries and the arctic char, when you take them down south and when you make a trip down south, many southerners would like to buy arctic char and they have a large interest in it. Perhaps you can do a study or a review as to who we can market the arctic char to.

For example, the big fisheries plants would like to buy a certain kind of fish. Perhaps if you can do a review as to where we can market the arctic char. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. There are various problems that we encounter. We do want to do a review and we need to train the people on how to handle fish properly. Because we did not have the staff capacity to do that last year, as I have stated before, I would like to see a new position in the department who can work on the fisheries and sealing side.

The position was advertised in regards to the questions that you are posing, and I know that the issues that you are questioning could be included in the position responsibilities. I know that due to a lack of capacity I had requested that there be a new position established within our department so that person could look into the sealing and fisheries side. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. When it was with the previous government, the GNWT, when the hunters injured themselves or were injured they were able to apply for Workers' Compensation or to insure their equipment. However, within the Department of Sustainable Development the budget says...(interpretation ends)...hunters and trappers to replace the equipment lost as a result of natural disaster.

(interpretation) That is what it says but it is only 15 thousand dollars budgeted for that purpose. Last year there was no funding but this is 15 thousand dollars. Mr. Chairman, if my brand new skidoo went through the ice and I were to replace that skidoo it would cost about 10 thousand dollars. This 15 thousand dollars is only good for one person as disaster compensation. Aren't you going to increase that amount or is this just an initial stage.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know that it is small and I agree with you. In spite of that we have not received any applications as of yet for

disaster compensation. If there was compensation for some accident the policies were inherited from the GNWT. For example if they lost their goods because of weather, that is what this disaster compensation is geared towards, natural disasters. I have been working with my staff to review how we can improve this or come up with different options. At this point in time, because we have requested people that can work on this issue, we are reviewing it at this point to find out who would be the most capable person to work on compensation.

The policy was inherited from the GNWT and does not reflect Nunavut.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This 15 thousand dollars is only enough for one person to buy one snowmobile or to buy hunting equipment. I find that this is very small, looking at the 26 communities of Nunavut and looking at the number of hunters that we have. I know that once these hunters realize that they can apply for this compensation I know that they will say that this amount is too small.

It has occurred that more than one hunter has lost equipment at the same time. It is already evident that this figure is going to be too small. Perhaps the minister could consider in the future increasing that amount or perhaps request other departments to provide further funding for this particular item. I was wondering if he was willing to increase this sometime in the future.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Perhaps you and I will be fighting over that. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Before everybody fights over that, yes, I knew that this amount was much too small. If we had lost three or four snowmobiles, then this amount would already be too small. This is already in our proposed review and I know that within our department if we are going to be including that compensation part that is the only way we can proceed with that is if we receive support from the other departments.

In our reviews that have been done, for example, if we budgeted 100 thousand dollars here I would have a concern. If we are going to make this funding available just like that, the hunters might put themselves in danger because they know that they will be compensated if they lose their hunting equipment. That's the kind of question that I ask myself, if they lost their snowmobile for example, through thin ice the hunter would know that he would be compensated if he lost his skidoo.

That is why I am a bit leery about as I have stated before. Perhaps if we can look at insurance rather than compensation I think it would be more beneficial. But it is already going to be reviewed. As I have stated before this is not the last and final decision. We will be able to make a final decision only after the results have come in from the final report.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I agree with the minister and we understand, it became a little bit clearer when we realised that our hunting equipment and we became aware that there is insurance required on hunting equipment and so on. But then again there was a problem, Mr. Chairman. When some of the hunters lost their equipment they tried to get their money back and the only response that we got from our government is that the money set aside for compensation was used for chartering airplanes to look for the hunters. Therefore there was no more money available to pay for the hunters who lost their equipment. Is that still going to be the case with this present government.

For example, if they were provided gas would the response be that there was no money available because the money was used to buy gasoline.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. If I understood the member correctly, the money set aside for compensation, I believe his question was whether we were going to have the same practices as the past government. This money is not for search and rescue. We will have to find other money to pay for those types of operations.

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

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. My question, as I have not seen any figures in front of me for the soapstone quarries. Some of them are getting very dangerous and I am sure that the soapstone quarries between Kimmirut and Cape Dorset are not the only ones that are dangerous.

My question is, do you have any money set aside for soapstone quarry sites so that they will be in safe conditions or would you have any money to be made available if an emergency case arose. Or if the soapstone quarries became a safety issue, would there be any money to be used for reviewing those soapstone quarry sites.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. For soapstone we have set aside some money through the Community Initiatives Program. Last year we spent about 37 or 38 thousand dollars for quarrying. The major portion of the money was used in the Keewatin region but they are provided money. One of the concerns that we have is the safety of those soapstone quarry sites. Because of that we are reviewing those sites. We have safety issues that have to be considered and we are reviewing whether to insure the carvers just like the regular work force.

They do need to have soapstone made available to them. We are reviewing this as a whole, as the Department of Sustainable Development. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Any further questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is not so much a question as just a comment. Listening to and reading over the minister's opening comments and reviewing the business plan, you see a lot of concentrating on areas of capacity building at the community level. I think that's important if we are ever going to have more self sufficient communities that is where we are going to have to concentrate our efforts on and I agree with my colleague's comments earlier on ensuring that we do develop those areas.

I see things like the sealing strategy, the fishing strategy, the prospectors program, Nunavut arts and crafts, Nunavut tourism, those types of things and under the harvester's program. Those are more of the traditional type of economy and it's a fact that a lot of the population in Nunavut that is unemployed right now is due to a lack of education and opportunity in the communities for those people.

I think a good example of a success story almost or the potential of things is the clam diving going on in Clyde River. That is an example of a way to some individuals that don't have any formal education in anything but have the capabilities to learn these skills and the potential to turn it into something that they can become self sufficient and sustain their families. It also provides a huge economic boost to the community. Another thing that one of my colleagues said earlier was about diversity. I think if you look at Nunavut there are so many untapped resources we have that have not been capitalised on. These are the types of things that we need to take a look at exploring and finding ways to promote them and develop new programs and services that will expose those markets and those opportunities that we have.

When you look in Newfoundland where they are selling ice for water and vodka and everything else, last time I looked we have a big chunk of ice up here. Those types of things that you don't need a really highly skilled workforce to take advantage of. I believe in anything the success of whatever it is that you are trying to do is to capitalise on the strengths that you have and I look at Nunavut and I see our strengths that we have and the resources that we have. We have to find ways to help individuals capitalise on their strengths in the traditional economy and things like that, the sealing strategy makes it very clear the effect that the movement against furs had on the traditional economy and the way of life here in Nunavut.

I think we have to look at ways through carving, through crafts, through tourism, fisheries, not only our natural resources but our non-renewable resources that are here. We have to find ways to culture and develop and foster them so that they grow and provide opportunities in all our communities to help them become more self sufficient. To help Nunavut diversify so that we do become more self-sufficient and create an

economy that is not just based on government employment in the communities. It is something that is there in every community.

As I said, if I could be paid to take someone out to do something that I love that would be a bonus. Those are the things that the people of Nunavut can do and can do well and they love doing it. So, if you can do something that you love doing and it is a part of you and make some money at it then I think those are the types of things that we should try to develop. I see some of those things in here and I realize they can't be done overnight.

I look forward to see some of the things along those lines of developing and fostering those types of industries. There are opportunities for people of Nunavut. That is it Mr. Chairperson I just wanted to share those thoughts with the minister and his staff I don't need a response I just wanted to share that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Just to make a point in regards to clam digging it is not in Clyde River it is in Broughton Island or Qikiqtarjuaq, I am sorry. Just for the record. There were no questions but excellent comments that were made by Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Minister if you would like to make additional comments.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to give others an opportunity to ask questions or I would like to ask what the committee would do at this point.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. At this time I have no further names on my list. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Looking at the clock it has been a long day and I would like to ask if we can report progress and continue on with Sustainable Development tomorrow morning. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress. All in favour, opposed, the motion is carried. Mr. Speaker will be asked to enter the house and to the Department of Sustainable Development and Mr. Minister Peter Kilabuk and your officials, we will see you again tomorrow. Mr. Speaker.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Report of the committee of the whole Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. First, we had an excellent meeting and I would like to thank my colleagues for a productive meeting. Mr. Speaker your committee has been considering Bill 13 and Tabled Documents 41-1(3), 61-1(3), 85-1(3), 87-1(3) and 93-1(3) and we would like to report that Tabled Document 85-1(3) is concluded and Mr. Speaker I move that the report of the committee of the whole would be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. There is a motion on the floor and the seconder is Mr. Barnabas. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Meeting of full caucus tomorrow morning at 8:45 am. Orders of the Day for Thursday, April 27.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 13
 - Tabled Document 41 - 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 61 - 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 87 - 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 93-1-(3)
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Thursday April 27, at 10:00 a.m. Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 6:00 p.m.*

