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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Akulliq)

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Thursday April 27, 2000

Members Present

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

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Mr. O'Brien) (interpretation): I would like to ask Mr. Iqaqrialu to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Good morning members. Before we proceed I would like to thank Mr. Kattuk for standing in over the last few days and Mr. Puqiqnak for your assistance.

Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 127 - 1(3): Change of Name Project

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform the legislative assembly of some positive developments in regards to a problem that many Nunavummiut face when they try to register a change of name. In the past this was always a difficult process because of the complex forms that had to be completed and the documentation that had to be provided.

Many people for one reason or another were not able to complete the process and have their name legally changed. I am pleased to say that our Court Services Division and the Department of Justice have been working on some practical solutions to the problem. For example, we are designing a new form that will be much easier to use than the old one. Second, there will be an Inuktitut speaking person who will travel with the court to the communities to help people with their applications.

Also, there will be a 1-800 number that people can call in order to set up an appointment with that person when he or she is in the community. Third, radio announcements will be made in the communities to inform people about the timing of assistance in their community as well as the 1-800 number.

We will be offering the services first in Iqaluit. The project start date is some time in June. Our radio announcements are planned to begin around the end of April or early May.

It is important to remember that Maliganik Qimmitit is addressing the issue of name change. For now our Court Services Division is working to put in place some practical and immediate steps. The recommendations of Maliganik Qimmitit can be incorporated into the program when they are made.

Mr. Speaker this is an important project that will helpfully remove a bureaucratic problem that has faced Nunavummiut for many years. Changing your name should be much easier in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 368 - 1(3): Importance of Carvers

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, I want to inform members that although I did go home for the weekend it was a short one as I had to travel on Good Friday and travel back on Easter Monday, besides the fact that I got ill but I did have an opportunity to see my children which was a joyous occasion.

This morning I stand to speak for the carvers of Nunavut. At this time the carvers are having a better time working outside, the weather is warming up and the sun is staying longer. It is very hard for carvers to work outside in the winter and before I became a member of the legislative assembly I was a full time carver and that was my livelihood so I know what the carvers have to go through during the winter seasons.

When you are working outside the machinery and equipment do not operate properly because they get frozen. Electrical appliances just get burnt and become useless. When your equipment breaks you have to get replacements and they are expensive.

They do have to look at the safety issues because they are working with electrical appliances. They also have to wear masks to prevent the dust from being inhaled. Sometimes in the winter seasons it is minus forty or fifty in Nunavut. The masks tend to freeze up and since the moisture condenses in the mask they become frozen and become quite useless.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Proceed Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker and colleagues, for giving me this opportunity to voice my concerns on this very important issue. As I was saying earlier the equipment masks become useless. They are our protection and we have to look how we can have a better program for carvers.

Since carving is a livelihood for many people they work under extremely harsh conditions. We carvers are very important, their art is made in Nunavut and it is unique. The carvers of Nunavut go out of the country to art shows and at the same time they are representing Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. They also depict the legends of the Inuit through their artwork. I am very proud of the Nunavut carvers because they keep our tradition alive today. We as the government of Nunavut will have to look at how we can improve the conditions of the work environment of the carvers.

They also have to go very far to quarry their soapstone because the deposits are not in the communities. We have to support our carvers because they are extremely talented and we as the government of Nunavut will have to help them because they do showcase us to the rest of the world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 369 - 1(3): Name Changes

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome back we are very glad to see you again. I would like to thank the Minister of Justice for making his statement earlier in regards to name change. In most cases the Inuit surnames or names are written with misspellings. My father's name is Mikituk Bruce and his father was Tommy Bruce.

When the surname project with Abe Okpik went out he wrote the surnames and what he did with my father's name was that he changed the names around so the children's surnames all became Mikituk, so he became Bruce Mikituk. He was employed but when he retired he could not get his pension because of the change in the names. He was Mikituk Bruce at one time and then in the department of Justice he was Bruce Mikituk.

This created a problem when he tried to get his pension. He had to go to social services for income support because he had to keep up the daily expenses because he had worked for a lot of his life. Our names are very important to us as Inuit and at times even people who are related especially men have different surnames although they had the same father.

I am sure those mistakes will be corrected shortly. I am very glad we are going to have this project because our names are important to us as Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Just a reminder to members of the house on both sides, we all agreed this a beautiful chamber and I think it is somewhat disrespectful if the members leave the house and jump over the ropes to get out. I think they should wait for the pages to take the gate off so you can depart more gracefully, thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 370 - 1(3): Clyde River Iceberg Water Bottling Project

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to talk about an initiative that was discussed in Clyde River, on November 16, 1999. Mr. Speaker the people of Clyde River and the HTO were talking about a project related to icebergs.

Because of the large number of icebergs the ice has been going out later than usual residents wanted to figure out what kind of opportunities were possible. The people of Clyde River decided to started planning to set up a business were they would bottle water, iceberg water.

It is a very good initiative Mr. Speaker. The ships and the airlines, I hope, will be more than glad to help us in transporting or exporting the iceberg water outside of our community.

We would like to get this business going and we will be planning and establishing a plant where we would bottle water. The people of Clyde River would like to market water of iceberg ice water. It is not established yet but we are looking forward to setting up one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 371 - 1(3): Inuktitut in Schools

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy that the people in Rankin Inlet had a meeting yesterday in regards to education where they also talked about Inuktitut curriculum. They feel that it is very slow being established in the schools and they strongly feel that we should use Inuktitut curriculum. Inuktitut language should be taught the same way as English is in the school.

It would be very good to have Inuktitut curriculum and language schooling in the schools in Nunavut. I think it should be promoted in the school as well. It is part of the parent's responsibility in promoting the Inuit Languages in the school as well as in the home.

For those people that feel Inuktitut language training in school would slow their academic schooling should think about it a little bit more because they could use the Inuktitut language in many different areas.

It will not slow down the schooling of the younger children and I want to say that I am in support of Inuktitut language curriculum in the school. For example in Kugluktuk they use Inuktitut, French and English and they are very capable of successful schooling using those languages. I do not think it should be just English in the school, Inuktitut should be in the curriculum as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. McLean.

>>Applause

Member's Statement 372 - 1(3): Appreciation to Secretaries and Assistants

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I rise today to pay tribute to a group of individuals who don't seem to be recognised or appreciated enough throughout Nunavut. They are our secretaries.

These hardworking, underpaid, overworked individuals don't seem to be appreciated enough by all of us. Yes, Mr. Speaker, they know everything that is going on in our offices and in our communities.

I would like to recognize today in my community David Annanout, Susan Niuqtuq, Elizabeth Himga, Ellen Rumbolt, Michael Mautarinaaq, Ruth Tapitai, Annie Aanautalik and I would like to apologise for any of the secretaries or assistants I didn't mention today.

I would like to say again that we all should really appreciate our secretaries and assistants. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean, well said. Members' Statements. Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 373 - 1(3): Appreciation to Cambridge Bay Delegation

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker I rise today to thank the Honourable Member from Cambridge Bay yesterday for making a statement thanking the Regular Members for taking the time to meet with a delegation from his community. Mr. Speaker, the delegation consisted of Frank Annaluk who is a respected elder, the mayor His Worship Keith Peterson and Martha Angulalik. I would like to thank the Member from Cambridge Bay for bringing those people to meet with us.

I believe that it was a very informative meeting. The members got some good clear information from the meeting. I would encourage all members if the need arises to try to do the same thing. I believe this type of action is what a lot of Nunavummiut hope to achieve or accomplish with the creation of Nunavut. That type of openness and accessibility to their government, and again I would just like to thank the Honourable Member from Cambridge Bay, Mr. Ng for providing us with an opportunity to obtain that valuable information from his community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Members' Statements. Mr. Barnabas.

Member's Statement 374 - 1(3): Pension Benefits

Mr. Barnabas: I rise today on behalf of the pensioners. I believe that they have to be more informed about their retirement benefits that they have accrued. I believe that they should be informed about all the benefits that are being made available by the government.

I have noticed that past government employees who have been long time employees when they retire from their jobs, especially the people who used to work for the department of Public Works, did not have certificates of their benefit coverage that came in with their cheques. Also the majority of the time they couldn't fill out forms.

There were some past Department of Public Works employees who never got their severance pay, some of them are deceased. I believe that this present government should take every opportunity to inform their staff of what kind of benefits they have because past employees of the GNWT never got their benefits. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Members' statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 375 - 1(3): Support for Hunters

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise today to discuss some of the issues that we are dealing with in Department of Sustainable Development. A lot of the full time hunters need more support from our government because of the low cost of the seal skin pelts and also fish that are not always marketable. Narwhal tusks are in demand but we can not get sufficient income through the sale of these natural resources.

The hunters of today work extremely hard to provide food for their families and it is still a tradition of today even though there is a lot of difficulties that come with it. The hunter's equipment are extremely expensive but still the full time hunters, through perseverance, still keep the hunting tradition. I know that Mr. Speaker, looking at the rest of Canada there are the farmers who get subsidies from the government and also benefits so that farming will keep on going.

However, the hunters of Nunavut do not get any benefits or subsidies from the government and they get very little from the Nunavut Tunngavik through the hunter support program but it is not sufficient.

It is also obvious that parks and recreational activities are provided a lot of money, for example the camp grounds outside of the communities parks which will be provided with lots of money over the next 5 years.

We are talking about millions of dollars here and that is just for recreational activities. Mr. Speaker I would like to get unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. Please proceed. Mr. Irgittuq.

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you my colleagues and Mr. Speaker. Looking at it from the hunters and trappers point of view, if we are rich we go out to the parks and the campgrounds and we have our picnic and have our tea and that is for the well off people.

But look at it from the other side of the coin. There are the hunters and trappers who are working extremely hard. It is up well over twenty dollars for bullets and if I lose one it means that I lose a dollar.

Look at the price of gasoline which in my community it is considered cheap if it is seventeen dollars per five gallon can. In the other communities it is probably twenty-eight dollars per can.

Although that is the case Mr. Speaker, the hunters of Nunavut are working very hard. The Inuit of today do not participate in the wage economy enough. If there is food we will give to our neighbours. We still have that tradition of sharing. Because of that the hunters of Nunavut should be a priority in our discussion in this house. We should provide them benefits and subsidises. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Akasuk.

Member's Statement 376 - 1(3): The Songs in Stone

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise today to say recognize two people from Cape Dorset who are in Switzerland. They are with John Houston and are at the Expo to see a film that was created by John Houston called "The Songs in Stone". Their names are Uvilu Tunnilee and Kananginak Pootooguk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 377 - 1(3): Nunatta Campus Graduation

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Good morning. Last Thursday many members of this house were able to attend the graduation ceremonies at Nunatta Campus here in Iqaluit. The graduates were from all over Nunavut. We are aware the Bachelor of Education degree from McGill University in Montreal. Mr. Speaker, unlike the south most of our students are mature students with children and family responsibilities. To successfully complete their studies takes dedication and support from the college and from their families.

Mr. Speaker, an Honorary Diploma in Adult Education was also awarded to a long time northern resident and Adult Educator, Ann Freda. Ann used to be an adult educator Mr. Speaker, in Cape Dorset. Actually she provided my first on the job training as an adult educator in Cape Dorset several years ago, when I was an adult educator and she is well known as a hard working person and dedicated to adult basic learning.

Mr. Speaker, Premier Okalik was a guest speaker and the valedictorian address was quite moving. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Arctic College graduates and the staff of Arctic College for their dedication and professionalism. A special congratulations to Mrs. Ann Freda on behalf of her many colleagues and former colleagues and friends. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Ms. Thompson.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions**Return to OQ 265 – 1(3): Contracts for Purchase and Supply of Fuel**

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Good morning Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to respond to a question posed to me by the MLA for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo, on March 22nd, 2000.

The member requested clarification on two responses I had previously provided concerning the contracts for the purchase and supply of fuel and fuel in the change in fuel transportation costs.

The current contract for the purchase and supply of fuel was signed in April 1999. This contract is in effect for a 3-year resupply season 1999, 2000 and 2001. The 1999 resupply was the first under this new contract. The overall transportation cost of the new contract is fixed over the 3-season term.

However, the unit cost will fluctuate depending on the volume of fuel that is ordered annually. Resupply volumes will depend on capacity and annual sales volumes, which fluctuate with weather conditions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Kilabuk.

Return to OQ 506 – 1(3): Status of Polaris Mine

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond to a question posed to me on April 25 by the Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Barnabas.

Following the closure of the Polaris mine, Cominco will be required to re-claim the site back to its original condition. Over the past two years Cominco have been conducting an environmental site assessment. Based on that assessment they are now preparing a closure and reclamation plan. The requirement to reclaim the site is part of Cominco's water licence and land lease of the Polaris mine. Cominco will soon have a draft of this plan available for review and comments. Their goal is for their final plan to be completed by September 2000 that reflects consultations with affected communities. Cominco was recognised as a world leader in mine reclamation and I am confident they will do an excellent job of reclaiming the Polaris mine site. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Moving on to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Premier.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not risen for a long time and I am very glad that you are able to come back Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to recognise a person from my constituency also one of the graduates. Jeannie Manning. Glad that you are here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognise people from my constituency of Kugluktuk. I would like to recognise Dorice Illatiak, and Agnes Allen from Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognise a person. There was a time I posed a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services and I mentioned two elders. My son-in-law Peter Iqalurjuak is one of the escorts. His

mother is very sick right now in Iqaluit and although that is the case, I would like to welcome him to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognise two people. Paul Okalik recognised one of them who completed the Interpreter training program, Jeannie Manning and beside her is a relative of mine from Cape Dorset Mukshowya Niviaksie. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This person is not from my constituency but I would like to recognise Peter Iqalujuaq. At the last campaign for the MP position he was extremely supportive of me and helped me a lot. Thank you.

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. There are no Oral Questions. We will move to Item 7. I thought that would get your attention. Mr. Nutarak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 523 – 1(3): Housing Subsidies for Elders

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I think it was yesterday I asked a question which I will bring up again to the Minister responsible for Housing. Elders who have their own private houses and who live on a pension have to pay for utilities like land rental, water and other utilities. Are there no subsidies or benefits that are provided to elders who own their own homes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is an ongoing concern to the elders who are homeowners because they are not able to keep up with the monthly Bills. I can use an example of people who are living in rental units. If they are over 60 they do not pay for rent at all because they are elders and because they are respected. However, for the homeowners that are over 60, although they are elders, if they are homeowners they pay for all the Bills, be it land lease, water, or operations & maintenance of the house.

It is very obvious some of these elders are having a hard time keeping up with the monthly Bills. I was watching TV last night and I found myself fidgeting around the pen. So I will put it down. I do know when they pay for fuel, their fuel can be reimbursed by Social Services if they fill out a form. I believe we will have to review this as the Nunavut Housing Corporation and how we can look at providing benefits for subsidies to the elders.

The Housing Corporation are not the people who deal with land leases or water delivery or those sorts of things. I think the Nunavut Government departments should work together to review the whole process because this is an ongoing concern by the elders. I would like to thank the person who posed this question because sometimes elders are intimidated and do not ask their own questions. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 524 – 1(3): Community Contribution to Capital Project

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti, like the honourable minister I watched myself on TV too last night and noticed I was giving people an evil eye and I will try not to do that either. My question today Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Education. We all know we had a trying time approving the education budget. There was a lot of controversy around it but we finally got it through. I would like to thank the minister for approving the design money for the Jonah Amitnaaq school because our light fixtures are falling and it's full of asbestos because it is the oldest school in Nunavut.

I wonder if the minister would commit to my community that if my community raised an extra 20 percent for the larger gym, would he commit to having that in the plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We certainly would look at the community needs in that arrangement because we already set a precedent on it and individual communities could negotiate what kind of arrangement they would like to have, including the community's involvement in funding the larger gyms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. It is no secret that the Jonah Amitnaaq school has been cancelled or put on hold for the last eight or nine years. Like I said earlier, it is the oldest expanding school in Nunavut at this time. My community when they did the initial community consultations and the early stages of the design said they would like to have a larger gym. It is a larger community and they knew there would be extra cost involved. Would the Minister be receptive if the local DEA got involved in it within the next week to start the design. The design is being started and we know designing takes weeks sometimes years. Would the Minister commit to meeting with the DEA to start discussions immediately on the enlarged gym in our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Education.

Hon. James Arvaluk: We will do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 525 – 1(3): Adult Technical Training Courses

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also would like to welcome you back to the Speaker's position because we missed you. You had a very good reason to leave the session and thank you for coming back. At this point in time Mr. Speaker I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

The Nunavut Arctic College I believe, I understand that given the opportunity they could have training programs, plumbing programs, training programs and small engine programs because when we do these adult training courses they are very beneficial for the communities. I would like your department to clarify that to me.

Looking at Nunavut as a whole, especially my community in the Nattilik area, today the students who dropped out of school do speak English but they have not completed their high school yet. We would like to see them given training because in Nunavut we now have new things that we are not used to, such as snow machines that need welding. So we have this new equipment and new technical stuff in Nunavut and I do know a person in my community can do training on welding and who can be an instructor and who can train a person to be a mechanic. We do have people who know about plumbing in our communities. My question to the minister is, do you have any plans in place to train for these kinds of opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Just to remind my good friend to keep his preambles short. Mr. Minister.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Different programs are offered by Arctic College. We do provide training courses through Arctic College and they are given funding by way of applying directly from the communities for training programs. I am sure that your community can do the same. For example guide training, we do have guide training programs for people even though they are unilingual. We can look at the communities' requests perhaps by way of third party funding. So we are open to the communities needs and applications. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. If I understood you, yes I understand now. Thank you. In regards to the third party, I think you are saying they could have third party funding. My community or my constituency would have to fill out a form and give it to your department. Do you have any application forms available for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They are not actual application forms. They are proposals. That is what we go through. That is what we use. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary.

Mr. Puqignak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My two communities in my constituency are quite small and usually the instructors rarely go to my community, to those two small communities. They usually go to larger communities to hold training programs. Why do we not use the smaller communities for training programs. Usually that does not happen because my two constituencies do have capable people who can instruct. For example in Pelly Bay and other communities they do have very capable people who can be instructors. Why do you not use the smaller communities as training centres through Arctic College. I think we should make those training programs available to the smaller communities. I would like the minister's department to be sensitive to that. Thank you.

Speaker: That was just a comment. I do not think that requires an answer. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 526 – 1(3): Land Claim Five-Year Review

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier. I would like to ask the Premier, I know that there was a five-year review done on the Nunavut Land Claim Final Agreement forwarded to the Department of Executive for review.

I am just wondering if they have received it and if the Premier plans to table that document for the rest of the members to look at it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes we have received a copy of it and hopefully tomorrow I will be in a position to table it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased that it will be tabled and I am just wondering if the department has had it for a while. Are there any plans for the Department to do some type of review on some of the concerns that were raised related to the Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There were numerous issues raised in the report and it was produced before our term was started. It was a five-year review from

1993 to 1998. So it was before our Government came into force. I can say as the Nunavut Government we have done quite a bit to rectify some of the concerns raised.

We have been in office for just over a year. We have a new contracting policy in place, which implements the Land Claim Agreement. We have set aside 1 million dollars for Inuit employment and training. There are plans within our government through the Minister of Sustainable Development to negotiate an IIBA for Territorial Parks. We made this commitment that we will do our part in implementing the Land Claim Agreement within the Bathurst Mandate. The Minister of Sustainable Development is also setting up a Fisheries Division to assist in getting our fair share of fisheries along our coast. So I believe we have done quite well. That is one of the areas where we have done considerably well as a Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I commend the Premier and the government for their actions on that and I realise the report does pre-date our government. I am sure in the discussions that I had with the members from NTI they are happy with the direction and the relationship between our Government and NTI. Would the Premier commit that if there are any on-going changes or recommendations, these are things that are planned or being made throughout this ongoing relationship, would he commit to keeping the members informed of these new and upcoming possible changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Certainly. I think we established a precedent in working with the members on the NNI. I think the Minister of Sustainable Development is doing a review of the Wildlife Act to implement the Land Claim Agreement. So I am sure we will keep the members informed. I should mention that we keep in regular contact with NTI in accordance with the Clyde River Protocol. I believe the President of NTI also meets with regular members. So I am sure we will keep everyone informed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 527 – 1(3): Support for New Hires

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I think it has been two years or over if I remember correctly since we were trying to pay off our 100 million dollar deficit. The government equipment was being sold to pay off the deficit. So I will be directing my question to the Minister responsible for Housing. My question is, we do have staff housing for Nunavut staff employees. If an employee is coming from Sanikiluaq to work in Iqaluit would they be given equipment or would they be given some funding to buy equipment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the Human Resources Minister is responsible for this question. Mr. Speaker moving to another community usually the Human Resources Department will work with the new employees. They discuss what kind of equipment and how many pounds of their property they can bring in when they are moving to another community.

For example, furniture, tables, chairs, in regards to those things I would have to take your question under notice. I understand that for people who are hired usually the Department of Human Resources discuss these items with new employees. So I will take your question as notice and I will be open to the member if he has any further questions. In regards to the furniture in the house I will have to take your question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members just to note that our practice is when a minister takes a question as notice there will be no further supplementary. Mr. Barnabas if you would like to raise your hand I will put you on the list again. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 528 – 1(3): Break-in to Finance Building

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti I was watching the news last night and there was a statement about the break and entered one of our most important buildings in Nunavut. They had a picture of a large safe and I was immediately alarmed that, I know that we don't have crown jewels in Nunavut, but can the Minister responsible for Finance give the members a brief update on what was absconded with last night or the night before. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member is correct. From my understanding it was a smaller household type of safe. Obviously it was taken right out of the building and from my discussions with my officials there were some cheques to the Government of Nunavut for some payments of accounts or some invoices.

Right now there is a reconciliation being done. There were cheques on hand that hadn't been deposited. There was approximately 200 dollars of petty cash and from my understanding some taxi vouchers were kept in there. There are rumours that these taxi vouchers are appearing on the streets of Iqaluit being discounted for 2 dollars, from what I understand. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Supplementary, Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I will sleep a lot better tonight knowing that I'll be paid tomorrow and the people in question didn't abscond with our payroll. Can the minister assure me that proper measures are going to be in place and proper security is going to be

in place in the future in all Government of Nunavut buildings. Because we know that crime is on the rise, to make sure that sensitive documents or other such paraphernalia won't be taken. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes after incidents like this we always review all the security provisions to see, obviously wait and try to find out what did happen and try to take some corrective measures to minimize the possibility of it happening again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Minister I would like to suggest that you keep Mr. McLean personally updated as to the investigation as he is quite concerned about these taxi chits being stolen. Mr. Akesuk.

Question 529 – 1(3): Communication Systems for Decentralization

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Decentralization. Some jobs are going to some of the communities. My first question is, are the communication systems being linked at this time. Is that a priority in setting up the offices.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that the Department of Human Resources would be more informed on this issue. In regards to Cape Dorset there will be offices and furniture from what I know and we will hear what is happening with the communications systems and the telephones. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize, if it is okay with the Speaker, I will re-route this question to the Minister for Human Resources, as I should have done in the beginning.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): There are also the office supplies and the furniture. Are they also being sent to Cape Dorset.

Speaker: Minister Thompson perhaps you can respond to that question.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is best if I am responsible for all departments. Yes, we are working on it, if there are going to be moves, for example in Baker Lake some of the staff have already moved over and there are different times set for moving staff and furniture. If he would like more information on this issue and particularly on his community I can give him that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Qamanittuaq people be working to set up and ship all of this furniture and things. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I misinformed you in what I said. It was that some of the staff have been relocated to the communities. For example, we have some that have gone to Baker Lake. That is what I said in case you misunderstood me.

(interpretation ends) Just to clarify the interpretation, I was just saying that some of the decentralized positions have been filled, as an example in Baker Lake.

(interpretation) My staff at the regional offices of Public Works, have staff and they are working on these issues for example in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay we have regional staff so they are working with the communities in their respective regions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Supplementary. No. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 530 – 1(3): Update on Clam Divers

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister responsible for Human Resources. I have been asking this question on numerous occasions. To date I have been asked by many people to bring clams from Broughton Island to Iqaluit. I have received many requests up to now. What kinds of plans do you have for the clam divers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if the member could be more specific about what plans he refers to. I have mentioned in the past that the Minister of Sustainable Development is trying to put together some training initiatives to allow those divers to be upgraded for commercial purposes.

I have stated on other occasions in respect to trying to get the WCB officials to meet with the municipality and the divers or the Hunters' and Trappers' Association. We will try and work out some kind of arrangement that would make things more accommodating, but recognizing that it can't be done overnight. So those are a couple of things in response to the concern that the honourable member brought up on numerous occasions now.

So if he has any more specific questions I can try to answer them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary to the member.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He has responded to my question but my question is, when is the training going to take place so that the clam divers will be able to do commercial diving. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I understand that a training program, as I indicated, is being put together. I don't have the specific date as it stands now as to when that training will take place. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How are you working with the WCB in regards to the clam divers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I indicated that I was trying to co-ordinate a meeting of concerned parties including the WCB personnel to see if some kind of an accommodation can be made. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Question 531 – 1(3): Kugluktuk Docking Facility

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to get an update from the Minister responsible for Community Government & Transportation combined with the Department of Justice, which is Mr. Anawak.

I wanted to get an update on a meeting that took place about a month ago with the Hamlet Council, the representatives the Mayor and a Councillor about the docking facility proposal that was submitted to him and the Corrections facility. I just wanted to get an update and a response on that. Koana.

Speaker: Minister Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): I can probably respond to his questions at the same time. (interpretation ends) We are awaiting word from the Department of Transportation Canada for more funding to enable us to do some capital projects in Nunavut on docking facilities.

On the proposal that was put forward to myself on the issue of corrections, I would like to inform the member that our officials at Justice are now presently setting up meetings with them to further discuss this issue with Department of Justice Canada officials. After the meeting is done then they will be setting up a meeting between myself and the Solicitor

General of Canada to further discussions on the issue of corrections facilities for Nunavut. Qujannamiik.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know he is waiting for a meeting with the Federal Government on this docking facility, but it has been a month and two weeks. He also said that he might receive a response from them a week ago but I haven't had any response on that. So exactly when does he expect to hear from the Federal Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately we were expecting an announcement on some programs but due to some unfortunate circumstances that occurred, our Member of Parliament was expected to make an announcement but she had to suddenly go to Arviat. So we are just awaiting word from her as to when she might make an announcement on our applications for funding in Nunavut and what they will be. Again, we are just awaiting word from our Member of Parliament. Qujannamiik.

Speaker: Supplementary.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the issue of the corrections proposal, you just mentioned that you will have your staff working on that. I just wanted to know if the Department has a timeline as to how they are going to be dealing with this corrections facility in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said, presently our officials are setting up arrangements to meet with the Departmental officials of Justice and shortly after that they are expecting to set up a meeting between myself and the Solicitor General of Canada to discuss this issue of a correctional facility in Nunavut. I would say, Mr. Speaker, that in my last meeting with the Solicitor General, Mr. Macauley, we were quite hopeful and the outcome of that meeting was quite positive. So I am hoping to get a positive response from the Solicitor General.

Again, we are hoping to have that meeting set up as soon as our officials are able to discuss the details of our proposals to the Solicitor General. While the meeting may occur after the House has arisen, I will make sure that the members are informed as to the progress of our discussions on the issue of a corrections facility for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 532 – 1(3): Access Roads for Hunters

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have been making comments under members' statements and we also ask questions to appropriate departments regarding support for hunters.

We supported initiatives but still there is nothing in the budget for programs such as access roads for hunters. My question to the minister is if there is going to be any funding available to build access roads.

Speaker: Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As community governments, we do not have any money for building roads outside of the communities. I can inform the member that my Deputy Minister is having discussions with the Department of Transportation, with the Federal Government on whether they will increase their funding.

With the past government, this item was deleted and we have not set a line item yet. Possibly through discussions with the Federal Government we will be able to obtain some funding but to date we have had not response on whether there is going to be funding available and how much. So I can't answer his question. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you. Now that he will respond to this question soon, I would like to ask the minister if he is working with the Department of Sustainable Development so that these projects will go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are different types of roads, there are access roads and there are different types. If we were talking about parks then that would be under the Department of Sustainable Development. If we were talking about access roads to gravel quarries, then that would be under the Hamlet Council.

If it were under the Hamlet Council then that would go under our department. Some communities want to build roads to parks and recreational facilities and if that's the case then we would work with the Department of Sustainable Development. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that the minister knows that some of the roads that we build are provided or funded by Sustainable

Development even if we have an access road to a park, the hunters still use them. When the outfitters go out then they use these access roads.

Mr. Speaker, in the budget that we have approved for the Department of Transportation, we approved paving money for larger communities and there is nothing for the ones that we need in our communities. The minister stated that he is waiting for a response from the Federal Government and in that case I would like to be kept up to date on the progress of that. I have no question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Just a comment. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 533 – 1(3): Staff Training

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Public Works. There will be some jobs coming in to Pond Inlet and the minister stated that there would be training provided. When is this training going to take place. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are going to start working on these issues as I said. I also stated that we are going to find out which staff would like to move to Pond Inlet. I do not know what the status is at this point but I do know that we will try to do local hires. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The members seem to be joking around and having fun today so I do not know what is happening. So I will take this as notice.

We were going to provide training and I know that it is going very well but I do not know the date so I will take it as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The question is taken as notice. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 534 – 1(3): Staff Housing Furnishings

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not sure who my question is directed to, I will say it and either the Minister of Human Resources or the Minister of Housing. I know previously as a former government employee, I know that when an employee was hired by the government and offered staff housing, they had an option of either being provided with furnished or non-furnished accommodations.

I am just wondering whether that is still the case, now that employees who are being moved into or require staff housing still have that option. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: I believe that question is directed to the Minister responsible for Housing. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was asked the same question a little bit earlier on that one and I said that I really don't know what the situation is. I do know that some staff have moved into the decentralized positions and through staffing they have been asked whether they want to bring furniture or if we would provide them with the furniture.

I will have to come back to the members on this because I really don't know the situation but I do know that some people have brought their own furniture which I think was done in Baker Lake for an individual who brought their own furniture. However, I am pretty sure that in a lot of cases we are buying furniture for these units but I will have to come back to the members with an answer on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Supplementary.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wasn't sure of the previous question I think it was a little bit different. I was just wondering, just to clarify for the minister, I was just wondering if staff that are being hired by the government have the option of going with the furnished or the non-furnished accommodations. I think that was different from the question that was asked earlier. I just wanted to clarify that for the minister and I look forward to the minister's response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 535 – 1(3): Education Funding

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education. I would like to be very clear, when we were dealing with the Education budget there was a question that was brought up regarding to an addition to a school or gym. I am not sure which. He responded that there was 1.5 million dollars that is available. I think it was Mr. Nutarak's question. The response was that there over 1 million that is available. Could that money be used for anything. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The budget that we approved for Pond Inlet was 1 million dollars and we approved Clyde River 1 million 57 thousand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister just stated that we approved 1 million 57 thousand for Clyde River. Will they be building that school.

Speaker: Minister Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Yes we going to continue with the design and the planning of the part of the school. How they will be demolishing part of the school that has been damaged and consult with the communities as to how we can we put an addition to the plan.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, where did you find the new dollars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the planning process the Cabinet usually plans the expenditures for one fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why I had asked this question to the Minister is when Mr. Nutarak asked him a question he replied that he needed approval from the rest of the Cabinet Members. There was no funding made available for addition for Pond Inlet school.

When he responded that way he had to get approval from the rest of the Cabinet. So therefore, I asked him where they found the money, or where did they re-profile the money because at that time there was no money allocated for Pond Inlet School. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Final Supplementary. Mr. Minister.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not really understand him. We were dealing with the Main Estimates. Our reports do not change and our intentions, plans do not change, and they have been approved by the members of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Akasuk.

Question 536 – 1(3): Staff Housing Criteria

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister of Public Works. The people who have been hired for decentralized positions, if they lived in public housing and if they happen to get employment with the Nunavut Government in the communities. Would they be allowed to move to staff housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once they work for Nunavut Government and provided that they do not own their own home they can apply for government staff housing. Providing that these units are the property of the Nunavut Government they can apply for government staff housing. We review the applicants on a case by case basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 537 – 1(3): Furniture for Decentralization

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister of Education. The staff of the Department of Education will be relocating to Pond Inlet with decentralisation and he stated that in the 2001 fiscal year the staff would be moving to Pond Inlet. Have you already ordered the furniture that will be shipped during the summer time.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not realise it was me. Yes, in regards to the Members question, if we already ordered that furniture and equipment for the units. Sometimes I do not know if my staff has already ordered the furniture and whatnot. I can say is Mr. Speaker if we need to order anything my department usually does the ordering for other departments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will rephrase my question to the Minister of Education. Some of his staff will be moving to Pond Inlet with decentralisation in 2001. Is that the plan, is the plan going to go ahead to move staff to Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not quite understand his question. Can he rephrase the question again. Thank you.

Speaker: Can you rephrase your question quickly. We would like to get a few more questions before question period is up.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Education had planned to move their Department to Pond Inlet because the Divisional Board will be dissolved by July 1. The Divisional Board had made plans to move their headquarters to Pond Inlet. My question is the plan is that going to go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. We have three more members to speak. Mr. McLean. Mr. Iqaqrialu and Mr. Puqiqnak. Mr. McLean.

Question 538 – 1(3): Teenage Pregnancies

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I hate to break House rules here. I want to commend the Minister of Justice for his name change statement today that affects many my constituents. They are going to be a lot happier on that.

My question today is to the Minister of Health and Social Services. The Minister of Health and Social Services, I have to commend him today on his Anti-Smoking Campaign. There are many people out there trying to kick the habit.

I know the Minister himself is trying hard and he has been successful. I commend him on kicking a bad habit. My question today is we happen to have the highest birth-rate in North America if not Canada or wherever. Our birth-rate is extremely high. There is an alarming rate of teenage pregnancies in Nunavut. Most of the time when these teenagers get pregnant they have to drop out of school and not completing their education. Does the Minister responsible have some kind of strategy or plan in place to deal with this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: I assume the question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Hon. Ed Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the Member probably knows several times I questioned the former Minister of Health Mr. Ng who is now the Minister of Finance about teenage pregnancies and about family planning. One of the things that we have done with the Health and Social Services Mr. Speaker is to look at awareness programs. Working with the CHRs, working with the people we have to deal with family planning issues.

The concerns that are being brought forward about the teenage pregnancies and again the stress it puts on the system when we have young people having children. We know that in some communities we have a birth-rate of 40-50-60 babies being born in the communities of 14 or 15 hundred people. That is not sustainable over the long term.

So Mr. Speaker at this time the Department of Health and Social Services is working with its caregivers. That's professional in the field. To deal with that Mr. Speaker in the coming months we will be dealing with a policy on family violence, or a statement to address this issue on a broader concept. Mr. Speaker, we do as a Government see this as a priority of the Government itself. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the

Member for his question and I hope this answer helps generate some level of comfort to Mr. McLean. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Question period time is up. It has been a practice once the question has started that we allow supplementary questions to follow. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I again commend the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Services to deal with this issue. Can he give me a broad outline on how he is going to deal with this serious issue. Can the Minister commit to me how he integrated Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to this strategy that is he working on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the Member know the Department of Health and Social Services brought forward in this budget a mechanism where we would look at incorporating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit within the Department of Health and Social Services by actually going out for example working with our elders. Looking at other issues.

As the Member knows in Rankin Inlet we do have a birthing centre, Mr. Speaker. That birthing centre would train people working with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit for example. The Member asked about specifically teenage pregnancies, we would incorporate some of child rearing practices. Also Mr. Speaker, some of the traditional values the Inuit have come to be known by and using those Mr. Speaker with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Again Mr. Speaker after saying that, the majority of CHRs and our Field base staff are Inuit. Therefore we are incorporating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the Department of Health and Social Services and specifically into dealing with some of these issues that the Member has brought up teenage pregnancies and family planning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Question period is up. Written Questions. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 7. Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Question. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Petitions. Item 11. Reports on Standing and Special Committees. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 11: Reports of Standing and Special Committees

Interim Report on the Review of the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer, Election of the First Legislative Assembly of Nunavut - 1999: A New Beginning

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to make a report along with other Members of my committee. We will be sharing it. The Standing Committee on Ajauqtiit would like to present its interim report on the Review of the

Report of the Chief Electoral Officer. Election of the First Legislative Assembly of Nunavut-1999. Entitled, "A New Beginning".

Mr. Speaker, In October 1999, the Legislative Assembly referred the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut, entitled *Election of the First Legislative Assembly of Nunavut - 1999: A New Beginning*, to the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* for review.

In addition to reviewing the specific recommendations contained in the report, the Standing Committee has also been interested in a broader review of the *Elections Act*, in the hopes of making recommendations that will ensure that this important legislation will meet the needs of Nunavummiut.

The Standing Committee has begun its review and hopes to continue it over the summer and conduct a community tour in the Fall, in order to hear from many different Nunavummiut about how we can improve the way elections in Nunavut are run. As the Standing Committee has stated at the beginning of each of the public meetings it has held:

"Elections are the foundation of democracy. We want to administer them in a way that encourages participation, recognizes the uniqueness of circumstances of Nunavut, and at the same time is effective and fiscally responsible."

Mr. Speaker on Elections in Nunavut. Although the election in February 1999 was Nunavut's first official territorial election, as one of the presentations reminded us, elections and referenda have played a prominent role in Nunavut's history.

"The division of the NWT was approved in a plebiscite in 1982, where over 90 percent of the voters in what is now Nunavut voted in favour of division. In 1992, another NWT-wide vote affirmed the new boundary between the two territories. Later that year, in November, the Nunavut Final Agreement, upon which Nunavut's affairs today rest, was approved by nearly 85 percent. In 1993, NTI, created from TFN, held its first election, voting in the leadership that would over the next six years help to lay the groundwork for creating the Nunavut Territory and the Nunavut Government." Quote from Mr. Paul Quassa, President of NTI, April 13, 2000

The Standing Committee agrees that this history "reminds us of the strength of our democratic process in Nunavut. It is something we should all be proud of." The Standing Committee wants to build on this history.

Nunavut has the largest landmasses of any jurisdiction in Canada, and yet our population is small. One of the challenges facing Nunavut in many areas is providing cost-effective and culturally appropriate services across these large distances and in communities with different needs. Running elections in Nunavut faces the same challenges, only more so, since elections are only needed from time to time.

The first Nunavut territorial election cost almost \$1 million [\$977,035, plus \$164,591.38 in candidate election expenses] to be exact Mr. Speaker. The Standing Committee is only too aware that there are many needs for every dollar in Nunavut, and it is very interested in options that might result in some cost savings. There are many levels of government that run elections in Nunavut that may be interested in the same issues: federal, territorial, hamlet, housing, DEAs, NTI, Regional Inuit Organizations, in addition to the issues of plebiscites and referenda.

One of the ideas that the Standing Committee has been most interested in is hearing people's comments on pooling our efforts in running elections at all levels in Nunavut and creating a made-in-Nunavut elections office to serve a number of needs and help us meet the challenges noted above.

Mr. Speaker, I would like now pass on the floor to the Co-Chairperson Mr. Alakannuark. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Public outreach.

- February 2000 - Information flyers and letters were sent to all Hamlets and schools in Nunavut, inviting public comment on the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer, as well as on the *Elections Act* generally.
- February 2000 - Information packages, including copies of the report, extra flyers and letters were also sent to every MLA's constituency office and Members were encouraged to distribute them to interested persons or groups in their community.
- February 2000 - Advertisement placed in Nunatsiaq News.
- February - April 2000 - Media advisories were prepared before each public meeting and public service radio announcements were prepared for two of the hearings.
- Media releases were also prepared after each hearing to summarise the key ideas presented and discussed and several media articles have been written on the work of the Standing Committee.

Meetings to Date. I will than give the floor to Mr. Akesuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of the intense schedule surrounding the Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit sittings, the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit decided that, at this time, it would only hold public meetings in Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit, when Members would be present for the Sitting.

Accordingly, the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit has held four public hearings on the Report, as well as a number of internal meetings.

- February 3, 2000, Iqaluit
 - Presentation and discussion on the Report with the Chief Electoral Officer of the NWT, David Hamilton and Brian Armstrong, Co-ordinator of Training & Information with Elections NWT;
- February 26, 2000, Rankin Inlet
 - Presentation and discussion with Sandy Kusugak, Returning Officer in Rankin Inlet for a number of elections, including territorial, federal, Hamlet, KIA and others; and
- February 3, 2000, Iqaluit
 - Presentation and discussion on the Report with the Chief Electoral Officer of the NWT, David Hamilton and Brian Armstrong, Co-ordinator of Training & Information with Elections NWT;
- February 26, 2000, Rankin Inlet
 - Presentation and discussion with Sandy Kusugak, Returning Officer in Rankin Inlet for a number of elections, including territorial, federal, Hamlet, KIA and others; and
 - Discussion with Elders and caregivers of persons with disabilities regarding elections generally;
- March 25, 2000, Iqaluit
 - Discussion with officials from the Department of Community Government and Transportation regarding local election issues;
 - Discussion with Kathy Smith, Chair of the Iqaluit District Education Authority regarding DEA election issues; and
 - Discussion with Phil Clarke, Official Agent for one of the candidates in the Nunavut territorial election regarding election financing issues
- April 13, 2000, Iqaluit
 - Presentation and discussion with Paul Quassa, President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and John Lamb, Director of Implementation of NTI.

Now I ask Mr. Barnabas to continue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends):

While the Standing Committee has only heard from witnesses in Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet, a number of themes have emerged from the discussions to date that are worth noting at this time. The *Elections Act* is very detailed and some of the concerns that have been raised would require amendments to the *Elections Act* at some point in the future.

However, the Standing Committee is not making recommendations at this time, but will do so in the final report. The following are our observations to date:

Timing of elections - There is an emerging consensus that elections in Nunavut should be held in the Fall, after people have generally returned to the communities from the land, but before snow and cold make it more difficult for Elders and persons with disabilities to move about easily in the community.

Mobile Polls - The ability of Returning Officers to go to an individual's home to enable them to vote, particularly if they are ill or disabled, seems to be very important to Elders and persons with disabilities. This may be preferable to proxy voting in these circumstances.

Proxy voting - Although some difficulties were noted here in the procedure, the ability to vote by proxy, particularly for people who are away from the community at the time of the election, still serves a need in Nunavut, particularly as people often have to leave the community for medical treatment or duty travel or they may plan to be on the land at the time of the election.

Mail-in ballots - It appears that mail-in ballots, particularly for students away from their communities, are a useful idea, but better co-ordination is needed with various government agencies in order to ensure that the students are sent the materials in a timely manner so that they can in fact use the mail-in ballots to vote.

Voters' list - It appears that almost all levels of elections in Nunavut face the difficulty of having an up-to-date voters' list. Judging from the presentations, door-to-door enumeration is a difficult task and may not be worth the effort, since so many names are still left out. But the absence of proper lists leads to many difficulties on Election Day, as was pointed out to the Standing Committee. We need to look at better ways of getting and keeping up-to-date voters lists and transferring names when people move to another community. The Standing Committee was very interested in hearing from the officials of the Department of Community Government and Transportation as to how they prepare voters' lists for local elections and perhaps we can learn from their experience. The Committee is also interested in learning more about permanent voters' lists generally and some of the practical and technical concerns that would have to be addressed before one could be set up in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker I would like to ask Mr. Iqaqrialu to continue with the report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

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

Age of voting - The voting age for territorial elections is 18 years. However, the voting age for Inuit organizations is 16 years. Members were advised by NTI that this conforms

to the traditional acknowledgement that youth age 16 should start to be treated as adults. It may be worth considering if Nunavut territorial elections should use the same minimum voting age as NTI and this has prompted some interesting discussions that the Standing Committee will be interested to hear more of in their meetings in other communities.

Forms - It appears that some of the forms could be improved. For example, the nomination form could more clearly show where nominators should sign and where witnesses to nomination signatures should sign. Proxy application forms and certificates may need to be simplified. It will be also be important to consider how documents may be transmitted using facsimile and electronic means. For example, the CEO recommends that the *Elections Act* be amended to permit candidates to submit their photograph by electronic means.

Right to vote of election officials - It appears that certain election officials are not allowed to vote, such as Returning Officers. The CEO's report notes that this may be a violation of their rights under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and therefore may need to be changed. Should a tie vote result after a judicial recount, a by-election would now be held, so there doesn't appear to be a reason to prevent these people from voting.

Polling stations and time of voting - There appears to have been significant confusion in the larger communities that had more than one polling station and, in particular, in those communities with more than one electoral district. The current law states that there should be a polling division for every 350 eligible electors.

People appear to support one central voting location in the community, one central listing of all voters in the community, and one central office location for the returning officers, rather than splitting them up, even in multi-electoral district ridings. While a larger location would be needed to prevent overcrowding, these ideas may be worth exploring further. People also support formally helping people to get to the voting station on Election Day, although they also like the idea of mobile polls, as noted earlier, for those who have difficulty getting to the polls. In terms of advance polls, people seem to support being able to vote at the Returning Officer's office prior to Election day, over a number of days, rather than on one specific advance poll day only.

Working together - Although there were many issues and potential hurdles to deal with before such an idea could be turned into reality, it does seem that in principle, there could be much benefit in working together with NTI and other jurisdictions of Government in running elections in Nunavut. Joint training, developing more consistent election procedures, sharing of officials, and possibly a common computerised voters list are just a few of the ideas worth exploring with all levels of government, as well as with Inuit organizations. I will now give my mike back to Mr. Tootoo.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Over the coming summer and early Fall, the Standing Committee intends to:

Meet with Elections Canada officials to discuss issues relating to a permanent voters' lists, the use of technology in elections in more remote areas of Canada and issues around interjurisdictional co-operation on elections in other areas of Canada; and

Hold public meetings in one large and one smaller community in each region to hear community input on elections issues.

Hold a meeting to which all MLAs would be invited, to review the recommendations in the CEO's report in detail and any other comments or recommendations of the MLAs regarding the *Elections Act* of Nunavut.

The Standing Committee expects to present its Final Report and recommendations to the House in the Fall 2000 Session.

Mr. Speaker prior to my conclusion I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the standing committee and also members of the staff. It has been a lot of work in arranging and putting this together and it is appreciated very much and I would like to thank them. At this time Mr. Speaker this concludes our interim report and I move that the interim report be received by the legislative assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo and members of your committee.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Do members agree that the interim report of the standing committee be received by the House. Are there any nays, there are no nays and the report is received by the house. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Nutarak.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 12 - An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Council Dissolution Act has been reviewed by the Standing Committee of Culture, Education and Health and that the Bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole as amended and reprinted. Mr. Speaker I seek unanimous consent to waive rule 68(5) and have Bill 12 moved into the committee of the whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: There is a request to waive rule 68(5) of the standing committee report on Bill 12 can be referred to the committee of the whole. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Bill 12 is referred to the Committee of the Whole. Thank you. Item 13. Tabling of Documents, Mr. Ng.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents**Tabled Document 95 - 1(3): Finance and Administration Business Plan****Tabled Document 96 - 1(3): Human Resources Business Plan****Tabled Document 97 - 1(3): Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs Business Plan**

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the business plan for the Departments of Finance and Administration, Human Resources and Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. In accordance with Motion 14-1(3), the business plan for Finance Administration and Human Resources is referred to committee of the whole. Also in accordance with Motion 14-1(3), the business plan for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is also referred to the committee of the whole. Tabling of Documents, Mr. Clerk.

Tabled Document 98 - 1(3): Response to Petition 10-1(3)

Mr. Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to inform members that a response to petition 10-1(3) Gjoa Haven new water lake and community hall has been filed with the Clerk's office by the Honourable Jack Anawak.

Speaker: Tabling of Documents. I realize that members are interested to get to lunch but bear with me, we just have a few more items and then we will get to the Committee of the Whole and then break for lunch in the next 5 minutes or so. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters - Bill 12, Bill 13, Tabled Documents 41 -1(3), 95-1(3), 96-1(3), 97-1(3), 61-1(3) 87-1(3) and 93-1(3). Accordingly, by the authority vested in me by Motion 3-1(3) the Committee of the Whole will stay in the session until it reports itself out with Mr. David Iqaqrialu as chair person. Prior to the commencement of the committee of the whole we will break for lunch and I ask members to report back to the House by 1:15 p.m. Sergeant at arms.

>>House recessed at 12:15 and resumed at 1:23 p.m.

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

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you for coming. We do have a quorum now. Today we will be considering Bill 13, Tabled Document 41 – 1(3), 61 – 1(3), 87 – 1(3), 93 – 1(3). Yesterday we were dealing with the Department of Sustainable Development under general comments. What is the wish of the committee. Mr. Akasuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to deal with Bill 12 on Education and once we are completed Bill 12 we will deal with Sustainable Development. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. I did not hear you. Could you repeat please. Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to deal with Bill 12 with the Minister of Education and once we are finished with Bill 12 we can go back to the Department of Sustainable Development. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Mr. Akesuk has moved that we deal with Bill 12. Do you agree. Opening comments by the Minister. Minister Arvaluk you can do your opening comments now.

Bill 12 – An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Councils Dissolution Act

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Bill 12 is in front of you. This is an Act to Amend the Divisional Education Council's Dissolution Act, which was approved last year. Once we reach July 1, 2000 the Divisional Education Councils will be dissolved and they will be amalgamated with the Department of Education.

This Bill is needed to clarify how the final wrap up of the Divisional Councils will occur. Who is responsible for the various activities such as final audits and how those activities will occur. One of the goals that we have consistently wanted to achieve is to give the District Education Authorities operating at the community level closer links with the department and better access to the minister.

This Bill will help the community District Education Authorities become more responsible and accountable for education within their community. Those communities that are ready will be able to take on more responsibility through an agreement with the minister. Some communities are ready to do far more and this Bill will help them achieve their goals.

Mr. Chairman, this Bill does not replace the current Education Act. But it does clarify how the Divisional Education Councils will finalize their affairs. The Bill provides for community District Education Authorities the opportunity to assume more responsibility should they choose to do so. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. The Chairman of the Standing Committee opening comments. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I thank you for the opportunity to speak on Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Councils' Dissolution Act. As the Chair for the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health, I would

like to thank the minister for his participation in the Standing Committee review process on this Bill.

The Standing Committee held a number of briefing sessions and meeting with the minister on Bill 12 over the past few months. I would like to note for the benefit of all the members of the House that although this Bill has been amended, the changes were requested by the minister and the Standing Committee supported the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I will ask Mr. Havioyak to read part of the Bill 12 report.

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

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The dissolution of the Divisional Education Council and bringing the functions of the regional education boards into the Department of Education would help ensure that there was more accountability and transparency in government services and would provide more Nunavut wide programs and services.

It was also hoped that there would be cost savings realized. The Standing Committee supports there objectives however, the Standing Committee has stressed the importance of also continuing to develop local capacity in education matters and is very pleased that the minister and his department shared this vision of a local District Education Authority playing a strong role in education issues.

We believe that the involvement of local communities, local school officials and other local educational and children's organizations will be essential if we are to deal with many of Nunavut's educational needs. It is the DEAs that bring these groups together at the community level. The Bill provides that the minister shall enter into agreements with DEAs who wish to take more responsibilities and the minister has stated his commitment to work with DEAs in establishing these agreements.

The Standing Committee commends this and looks forward to hearing more about these agreements in the coming year. The Standing Committee was advised that the amendment proposed by the minister was to provide more certainty as to who would be the employer of the many casual employees at the local level after July 1st, 2000, when the DEC's will cease to exist.

While all teachers and a number of full time DEC employees will be members of the Nunavut Government staff, virtually all of the other employees will now be employed by District Education Authorities. This includes janitors, casual workers, cultural instructors, substitute teachers, classroom assistants and others. The Standing Committee was advised that while the DEAs in the Kitikmeot and the Kivalliq have many years of experience in this regard, it was apparently done a bit differently in the Baffin. All of these people have been paid to date by the Baffin Divisional Educational Council.

While the amendment was revised at the Standing Committee request to focus on the 13 DEA office managers who will actually still be employed on July 1st, 2000, the Standing

Committee is nevertheless concerned that the Baffin DEAs will now formally have the responsibility of about 1 thousand employees when these people start being re-hired in August 2000.

All of these people are formally laid off at the end of the school year and they will not be employees on July 1st, 2000 and therefore the legislation does not need to formally deal with them but there may be some issues in the coming school year. Accordingly, the Standing Committee has asked for some assurance that the DEAs receive some support and training to undertake these new responsibilities. The minister committed that the Department of Education would continue to provide the payroll and support functions that the DEC played in the past for any DEAs who wish this service.

As well, the minister committed that the department will investigate insurance needs and any liability issues to ensure that DEAs will be protected. The minister has also committed that the three Community Development Officers who assisted in training and support for the DEAs will continue in the Department as well as the new Co-ordinator and that training will be given to DEAs on their roles and responsibilities as employers.

The Standing Committee will be particularly interested in seeing that this training happens as quickly as possible. Hopefully by this fall as members are aware that most people on DEAs are community volunteers and they may need support, particularly in some of the Baffin communities where the responsibility of being a legal employer may be quite new to some people.

There will be other matters to be worked out such as supervisions and a reporting relationship with these people and principals and the DEAs. The Standing Committee is confident that the Department will ensure that this will be worked out before the fall.

I will ask Mr. Nutarak to conclude the report. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. There were a few other matters reviewed by the Standing Committee on this Bill during the Standing Committee review of the follow up plans for after the dissolution of the DECs. The committee reviewed the proposed organizational chart for the regional staff. Members of the Standing Committee expressed some concerns that the proposed chart seems to repeat the existing structure with only a few changes to position titles. Members wondered how this would impact on the estimated cost savings as well as the ability to achieve Nunavut wide educational programs and services.

However, the minister noted that this staff structure will evolve and that this is a transition step to ensure stability for the coming school year. As well this Bill requests an exemption from the Statutory Instruments Act for any outstanding appeals after July 1st, 2000 that would have ordinarily been dealt with by the DECs.

The Bill also proposes that anything done by the minister in the exercise of a power or the performance of a duty of the Divisional Educational Council be exempt from the Statutory Instruments Act. The Standing Committee was advised that the Statutory Instruments Act requires that the government publishes certain instruments in the Gazette, including regulations, appointments and certain directives and that this has the result of promoting openness and transparency of government decisions.

The Standing Committee would like to note for the members that the whole Education Act is under review at this time and the committee has been advised that the draft legislation will be brought before the House in the coming year. At that time it will come before the Standing Committee again. If the new legislation continues to exempt the minister from the Statutory Instrument Act for education duties and responsibilities that used to belong to the Divisional Educational Councils, the Standing Committee will question this at that time as we don't wish to compromise the spirit of openness and transparency which is so important to all of us.

While the District Education Councils were exempt from the application of the Statutory Instruments Act, minister are usually required to publish appointments, directives and regulations in the Gazette and there doesn't seem to be any reason why the minister should not also do so now that these responsibilities have been brought within the government.

The Standing Committee would request that the principles of openness be honoured as much as possible and the minister would consider how his appointments and any directives he gives regarding the appeals process can in fact be made available for review by the public at some point. Perhaps in a statement to the House.

Mr. Chairman, it is evident by what has happened in the House over the past few weeks that in addition to dealing with employees, the DEAs are going to have to play a more assertive role in assessing their community's education needs in making their pleas for education capital and resources and in developing plans and even fundraising for the things they feel are important.

The sooner we ensure that all the DEAs have adequate support to carry out their very important roles and responsibilities, the sooner they will be able to take these initiatives with confidence and determination in all the communities. The Standing Committee encourages the minister and the department in their work with the DEAs once the DECs are dissolved.

We look forward to hearing more about it in the future. Those are my comments, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Before I go to the minister, I would like to recognize Joannasie Kooniloosie from my community. Welcome to the legislature and I believe the other one is from Kimmirut. Welcome to our gallery. Mr. Akasuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. I wanted to recognize Pitseolak Padluq, he is originally from Kimmirut but is now from Cape Dorset. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. The Minister of Education and his officials can go down to the witness table. Thank you very much Minister Arvaluk. If you would introduce your officials please.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. On my left is Mark Spakowski, from the Department of Justice and on my right is Ian Rose from the Department of Education. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Councils' Dissolution Act. General comments. Any comments. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of comments or questions. I know the idea behind the dissolution of the Divisional Education Councils is to devolve that responsibility down to the DEAs and I know that all the staff that aren't teaching staff are going to become employees of the DEAs.

Just for clarity I am wondering why those employees aren't part of the Department of Education staff as well, along with the teachers. Just wondering why that is, if I could get an answer to that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The staff of the District Education Authorities in the communities, there are around 13 on contract under the DEAs, and what we are saying here is in fact that we are not going to make changes to things that presently exist in the communities. These are the employees of the District Education Authority. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. In here it talked about providing training to the DEA staff to be able to handle these additional responsibilities. Now I would ascertain from that, that in the past that service wasn't being done by the DEAs it was being done by the DECs. So I guess that is the context of what I am asking. On paper they may have been employees of the DEAs, but in every other aspect of it, their payroll and everything else it was being done through the DECs. Just looking for some clarity here. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Only in Baffin. The other employees of DEAs in the Kitikmeot and the Kivalliq, their payrolls are done locally. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Arvaluk. Mr. Tootoo, did you have another question.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know and I can use here for an example, the one that I am aware of. They only have I believe a part time staff person working for them at the DEA. Along with the training I guess to take on these additional responsibilities you need to be able to have someone there to do it as well. I just wonder if additional resources such as PY's are going to be provided to the DEAs to handle these responsibilities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Yes, there will be more responsibilities given to the DEAs in time through direct negotiations with the Department and that additional resources can be added as needed. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am not on the Education Standing Committee so I hope that I am not repeating questions that were asked there earlier. How is it going to be determined, what are going to be the criteria or the formula to determine the level of support of whether a DEA is qualified for one, two or three or however many support staff in doing that.

I know as an example, here the DEA deals with five schools and in other communities you only have one or two. So I am just wondering if there is a fair way that will be used to determine the resources that the DEA gets. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, these have been asked by the Standing Committee members and we said that we would have direct negotiations with the individual DEAs and these will be carried out on the basis of what they desire to handle and what we can offer as a department. So there will be no set criteria for it but direct discussions will take place and an agreement will be reached through the department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess if it is going to be done through direct negotiations, if at the time and I guess at any time as members know our roles and responsibilities. If in the course of the initial negotiations the DEA agrees to a settlement

or comes to an agreement with the department, if after that responsibility is given to them and they realize that they didn't totally understand the scope. They did not ask for adequate resources. Will there be an opportunity for them to come back to the department to try to accommodate that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we want to be open as much as possible. Do not forget that some communities are able to do more workload than the other communities. So we will base our discussions on those abilities and there will be a process to take place in order to give them proper resources to carry out the agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Tootoo any additional comments. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple more questions on the Statutory Instruments Act. Maybe I will wait and let some other members ask general questions before I continue with those. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Any additional comments. If there are no additional comments. Go ahead Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the Standing Committee comments it mentioned that this Act would be exempt from the Statutory Instruments Act and it also states the reason the DEC's were exempt from that Act. I am just wondering why the DEC's were not required to as it fell under the Department of Education. The department would eventually have to have that responsibility, it would fall under the department even with the DEC's in place so it would have to eventually be publicly put out. The ultimate responsibility for it even in the current system falls back into the department indirectly and now it is going to directly. I am just wondering if that was the case before. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to have Mr. Spakowski answer that part especially to the Statutory Instruments Act.

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

Mr. Spakowski: The Statutory Instruments Act provides for an exemption for things the District Education Council does. If the Education Act provides for a direction to be made by a DEC then that direction does not have to be published in the Nunavut Gazette. The policy behind this Bill after the DEC's are dissolved is to put the minister in the position of exercising the DEC's' power subject to arrangements with DEAs to have them exercise

them. The purpose of this provision is to ensure that when the minister is doing what the DEC did before that the same legal requirements apply.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Spakowski please make your statement.

Mr. Spakowski: Currently the Statutory Instruments Act provides for an exemption for the District Education Council. So currently when a District Education Council does something under the Education Act, if it makes a direction that direction will not be required to be published in the Nunavut Gazette.

The policy behind the Bill is when the DECs are dissolved that the minister will exercise the powers of the District Education Council under the Education Act. The intent behind this particular exemption from the Statutory Instruments Act is to ensure that the same legal requirements apply to those things which the minister does which the District Education Councils did before their dissolution. So when the minister does those things that the District Education Council used to do they will as before not be subject to the Statutory Instruments Act. It is simply to preserve legal requirements as applied to those things when the DEC did them. The same requirements will apply now that the minister does them.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am not a legal expert. I am wondering as to what the reason was behind having that exemption for the DECs. What was the objective of having that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Spakowski: To try and explain why it is that way now, because I was not around when those arrangements were put into place, but I believe that the District Education Councils are exempted the same way as local Municipal Councils are. I think the reasoning was that things that are done under the Education Act by those bodies are not the sort of things that require publication in the Nunavut Gazette. The Nunavut Gazette is there for a permanent public record and things like Municipal Council By-laws for example were not published in the Nunavut Gazette. I am speculating somewhat why that regime was originally put in place.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. In the Standing Committee there is an opening remarks that says the minister is required to publish appointments, directives and regulations in the Gazette. I believe these are the types of things that would for the department or anything under the Education Act could now be not required if it goes through like that. I am wondering is it necessary.

I realise that it was there for the DEC's but as we all know these DEC's are no longer going to be there. It is going to be the department. So I just wonder why they would still require something like that instead of the simple fact of leaving the same legal requirements that were there. If the picture is changing then the legal requirements should change as well. Could I get a comment on that Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The exemptions are only applicable to the minister if he is acting as a DEC. But as a minister you are not exempted. But to act as a DEC you do. Do you want to add anything to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): We are hearing two different languages on one channel. Problem for a bit. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I wonder is the DEC's, where the minister is going to act as the DEC after the Bill comes into place, there is no such thing as a DEC. So I am wondering why that still needs to...I question why that is there. Why there are responsibilities for DEC's that are no longer going to exist. You will have the department and the DEAs. I still wonder why that requirement would not be there for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We still have the old Act. We are still operating under the old Act. The old Act lists the DEC's responsibilities and that is why the minister has to act as a DEC after July 1. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess in light of my comments, I was wondering if the minister would they look at not including that exemption to be carried forward in the new Act and even in this temporary one for now. Because again I fail to see the need for it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to. I am not sure why the minister is to be exempted if he is acting as a DEC. Maybe I could ask Mr. Spakowski to elaborate on that.

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

Mr. Spakowski: The Department of Education is currently circulating a new Education Act. The proposed Education Act. That Act is drafted in such a way that it does not

mention DEC's at all. So the need for this provision will not arise in the new Education Act.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe just to get an idea of what kinds of things would not have to be reported as a result of this being in place. Different appointments, directives and regulations. What types of things could the minister do under the auspices of DEC's that would be exempt from the Statutory Instruments Act. That he would not have to report publicly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Spakowski: The Statutory Instruments Act is not as clear as it should be about what is a Statutory Instrument. One of the things that is probably included and covered by the Act normally is anything that is called a direction. In the current Education Act there are a number of provisions that provide for Education bodies to give direction and depending on how the responsibilities have been delegated, an education body can be a District Education Council.

So there are numerous provisions throughout the Education Act that deal with directions from an education body. So as an example, there are provisions that provide for the Superintendent to terminate certain employment contracts and principals and those are at the direction of the education body directing the Superintendent. Those directions might have to be published in the Nunavut Gazette if it was not for this kind of exemption. Because when a DEC makes the direction now it is not subject to the Statutory Instruments Act. But if a minister makes a direction then depending on the exact context it may be.

There are other examples as well in the Education Act relating to for example, certain teaching staff having to provide support services and that is done in accordance with an education body. Again, if a District Education gives some sort of direction with respect to that now it is not required to be published in the Nunavut Gazette. This amendment will ensure that it is not required to be published in the Gazette afterwards. There are other examples that I could give as well.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman based on the responses, I am looking at it is more geared toward the direction of the DEC's. I know they are given a broad mandate, they can give direction in different areas, and they can have that flexibility. I guess which was there. I was wondering if there is a need. Will there be any appointments or regulations, those are things that are pretty standard.

Those are not discretionary type things where, I guess my read from the comments from the Standing Committee is that you know that is where we are worried, the appointments

and regulations done and implemented without having to be made public. That could potentially cause some problems down the road. I do not know. I am just looking for a level of comfort. Any appointments or regulations that are going to affect everybody the same, those types of things would still be made public. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. They will have to be a part of the regulations introduced by Cabinet for example. Then they will have to be published still.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that the same goal for appointments as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Spakowski: Appointments are not covered by the Statutory Instruments Act at all. They are required to be published in the Gazette but it is not under the Statutory Instruments Act that they required to. So I am not aware of any appointments that the DEC does so I do not believe the minister will do any on behalf of or acting as the DEC. However, if there were, they would be required to be published in the Gazette as all other appointments are.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Spakowski. I have other names. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister's opening comments and Chairperson's opening comments, none of them state when this will be reviewed again and what year it will be reviewed again. So is this going to be ongoing. This Bill is going to become an Act. Is it going to be used for a long time. Do we have any room for improvement or amendment if we have to experience some problems. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The new Education Act when it is drafted then this Amending Act will no longer be in place. This amendment will dissolve and be put into the Education Act. This amendment will go right into the Education Act. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes I understand that. However perhaps it is going to be used for one hundred years. This Act is going to be used for one hundred years well over a one hundred years. Because there is no time limit

on that. It does not even state when it is going to be reviewed again. For example, if we happen to run into problems there does not seem to be room for improvement or amendments. So this has to be identified in case we run into a problem with the education system so that there will be room for amendment and improvement. So I was wondering if your department is willing to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Bill for education, we expect that we will be working on that Education Act on the second draft. We have already sent the copies to the members and to the communities and in there it will state that we will be utilising this Bill and once we get to Education Act it will be used.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that with the minister's response that it was quite obvious that the DEAs will be taking on some more responsibilities and I know each community varies between each other with the Education Authorities. I know some DEAs are very capable of taking on some responsibilities. I was wondering if the communities, perhaps the communities will be taking on more responsibilities if they wanted to or if they chose to. So your department will give opportunities to the communities. Thank you.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes we will give them opportunity. However, the minister has to sign an agreement with the DEAs. The way it is now the Minister of Education is responsible for getting the best education system within the school. The minister has to protect the students and their education curriculum. For that reason the minister can negotiate or come into agreement with the District Education Authorities. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also want to get further clarification. If the minister did not agree to negotiate with the communities then there is no other room to manoeuvre. So once the community's request is denied perhaps you will be giving reasons why you have denied the request from the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. The ministers have to protect the Laws, Acts, the policies, regulation, and the students. For example if we have 191 school calendar days if the communities want to change their school calendar days to 100 the minister can say no because they will be contradicting the Act.

So the minister has to protect and review the communities' requests to make sure that they do not contradict the Act. So that is why we have to negotiate with the communities. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understood his response. But I still need further clarification. The Act the Federal Act or the Statues, I was wondering if this Act is going to be part of the Federal Acts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): At this point we have inherited the GNWT Act. But we are now amending the Act and we still have not completed the amendment yet. Once we are completed it will go through the House. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response because it was clear. But I would like to say again that the minister for the DEAs, I am sure that the minister will not be available to some DEAs and I am sure that the staff, perhaps if the minister is unavailable will the staff be operating or running the department.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The staff have been given authority to work on a day-to-day basis. When the communities want to have new directive they will have to communicate and negotiate with the minister.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. That was clear, yes I know that once the DEAs will be given more responsibilities and employees. Some communities have no experienced bookkeepers or finance controllers. I was wondering if your department would be providing new positions to the communities such as positions for the finance positions. Thank you.

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

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We will follow the communities' request and if they do not want to take on responsibilities we are not going to be shoving the responsibilities to the communities.

We will need to negotiate with the communities if they wanted to take on other responsibilities, for example if they wanted to take on the employment responsibilities we

would have to negotiate with the DEAs and have an agreement. According to the responsibilities, if they need to open a position they will have to negotiate with the department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Boards and agencies usually exercise their rights and take on some responsibilities. They work with bookkeepers and other staff. In view of whether the staff salaries, will the staff salaries remain status quo.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. ...(audio unavailable) ...they will take care of their own responsibilities and the DEAs will take their responsibilities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I have asked all my questions.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. I have no further names on my list and we are under general comments in regards to Bill 12. I will go back to my seat.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak for chairing the meeting. I have no further names on my list. We will go clause by clause. Is that the wish of the committee. Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Council's dissolution Act. Do you have a copy in front of you. You all have a copy. Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Council's Dissolution Act. You have a copy. I will start then. Clause 1. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 4. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 12 An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Council's Dissolution Act is completed.

Do you agree that Bill 12 is ready for its third reading.

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Also Mr. Minister, thank you very much and your officials for being at the witness table. If you would like to make your closing remarks Mr. Minister.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the various people in my department who have worked with us and also the standing committee with their chair Mr. Nutarak. This is going to become effective July 1 and we are hoping the comprehensive Bill will be done right after this one. We are looking forward to those deliberations. Thank you also to our legal advisor. Thank you all.

Chairperson: At this time we will move on to the Department of Sustainable Development and before we start with DSD we will take a 10 minute break.

>>Committee recessed at 2:29 and resumed at 2:44 p.m.

Chairperson (interpretation): We will just go back to the Department of Sustainable Development. If the minister would proceed to the witness table with his officials while we discuss the budget. I am sorry I am a little bit late I had to do a few things. Do I look sorry. Thank you. Going to the Department of Sustainable Development. The Minister of Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk please introduce your officials.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I have the same people as yesterday. On my right my Deputy Minister Katherine Trumper and our Assistant Deputy Minister Peter Ittinuar and over there we also have Jim Martin who is our controller and Joe Tigullaraq who is in charge of the wildlife division. They will be here with me today. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. We did not complete our general comments yesterday. We will go to the budgets after. Any general comments. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This morning there was a question brought up by the member of Quttiktuq. The question was directed to the Minister of Community Government and Transportation in regards to access roads. In the year 2000/2001 there is nothing allotted for access roads in that department or in the government budget. We are well aware that in our communities, there are quite a lot of all terrain vehicles and it is breaking up the ground around the communities.

You see tracks all over the place around the communities. I believe your department is responsible for keeping the environment safe around the communities. I would like to

know from the minister what kind of plans he has in his department in regards to keeping the surrounding areas safe and in its natural condition.

As I said there are a lot of all terrain vehicles that are making tracks and breaking up the environment and on that note I believe there have to be access roads built around the communities or around the surrounding areas so that we keep our land from breaking up. There is no budget slotted with the other department, what plans do you have with your department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. We are getting more and more concerned with the all terrain vehicles that are used for travelling rough areas especially in the Keewatin Area. We had seen this outside of Rankin Inlet, because there are no access roads built, the all terrain vehicles are going all over the place. It is the same thing in Kugluktuk. We tried to build an access road in there but through the IIBA agreement we could not go ahead with it.

If Inuit are going to be effected or impacted, we have to follow the policies that were made through the IIBA. Following the needs of the communities, we are starting to try to get things going like I said last year, and because of the lack of the IIBA in some of the communities we cannot start construction of access roads. We have to come to an agreement with NTI before we can start building anything because it does have an impact in the communities.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. When you were brought up on the land and when you are told that you have to wait it is a very long wait. Of course, once the land is ruined it is ruined. Especially around the areas the elders have been brought up and our parents. It hurts to see the land being destroyed right before their eyes. It hurts them. I know it is going to be hard work but we do have to do something about it. I am representing our elders and myself and my children.

I want them to live in a good environment if we do not do something about it now it is going to destroy our environment. It is going to destroy the scenery and as the Nunavut Government we should do something about it. The people out there would like to live in a safe, beautiful environment. However, it seems the only thing that we can do at this point is to do something about it and we as the people of Nunavut when we talk about the transportation the only thing we think about is the airlines and the aeroplanes.

But that is not the only mode of transportation there are also vehicles. We do not have highways and because of that we could at least build access roads in our communities. That is part of preservation and conservation and we have to, and I think the best thing to do at this point is to do something about it and I think that is something that we should

take into consideration. Mr. Chairman I have another question for the same department if it is okay with the Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Like our minister said they would have to come to an agreement first with Nunavut Tunngavik before anything can be started. I am sure they will keep working on it, and I would like Minister Kilabuk to respond.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is very true all terrain vehicles are destroying the environment, which is a sad case. The hunters are going all over the place. It is okay in the winter using the snowmobiles, which do not alter the conditions of the land. If anybody is going to buy an all terrain vehicle or truck or any mode of vehicle we cannot stop them.

We are working together with NTI but there is no IIBA in place at this time. It is an ongoing concern of ours especially in Kugluktuk. We have been stalled at this point because of a lack of an IIBA. We also provide funding for test projects and we can route some of these dollars should the communities wish to do so. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kilabuk knows that I am not from Kugluktuk. I am from the Nattilik area, Gjoa Haven and Uqsuqtuq. If you go to my communities you will see all the tracks, and it is becoming increasingly obvious that it is happening in all the Nunavut communities and it is becoming urgent and thank you for having the same feelings as I do.

I would like to ask another question regarding the estimates. There are businesses that got started but have many challenges. In representing two communities and possibly because of the small population, in our community we do not get enough larger facilities in the smaller communities. That was the past practice of the government of the GNWT and we have been making repeated requests to get malls and looking at how we can create businesses.

It has been very hard because we do not have the proper facilities. I have had discussions with the minister in regards to my communities. There are not enough facilities. I had also written a letter to the Department of National Defence trying to access old DEW line facilities. Like I said this morning in my member's statement carvers are carving outside because they don't have the proper facilities, the Department of Sustainable Development is the only department that can do that, in regards to building an incubator mall.

Therefore, I am asking the department, there are not enough facilities to house these businesses and potential businesses. What plans do you have in building incubator malls or other facilities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, if you could keep your questions brief. It would make the responses easier. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to the comments Mr. Puqiqnak made. They were long but I will try to respond to them. Like the member stated this morning, the carvers, especially in the winter have a very hard time because they have to work out in the cold because of the lack of facilities. The arts and craft council is provided funding by our department for their operations and maintenance.

Of course we could work with this council or advise them what is available from their department because of the concern that was raised this morning. In addition, in the communities we have CIP money, which is the Community Initiatives Program. You could make proposals to access these funds. Even if a facility is constructed and erected in the community we still have to consider the insurance and the O&M dollars and who would be liable should there be an accident inside the building.

We also have to conform to the safety code. If you are going to think about building an incubator mall you will have to consider all these other issues. We cannot provide O&M dollars but if it is going to be an initial project then we can provide money for the planning through this program.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The operation and maintenance of those buildings that we are talking about but during the territorial government days there was a program I think that they were given subsidies to the communities such as the Oonark Centre in Baker Lake. I just wondered which department it went through where the Oonark Centre was subsidised for their operation and maintenance. I just wondered if the government provides subsidies to the centres.

I know that some communities pay for their O&M in their centres such as the arts and crafts centres but does the government provide subsidies as well.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Development Corporation is the corporation that provides subsidies for the centres such as the arts and crafts centres for Baker Lake. They also provide subsidies for those programs so the communities can have employment in their communities. The Nunavut Development Corporation at this time exists and they get funding from NDC but you have to realize that when they can operate by themselves they are no longer provided with subsidies. However, at this present time the Nunavut Development Corporation provides subsidies. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you minister. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. What about small business incentives. When a small business wants to start up the federal government used to provide for them. Do we still use the NWT's programs. Say for example if I want to start up a convenience store and my application was approved. If I provide so much percentage then the GNWT's policies were to provide businesses with incentives.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman Yes we are still using the GNWT's policies for that. These are one of the things we are going to be reviewing this fall. After we review that then it will be geared towards Nunavut. That is the way we can do them. We will probably provide the same thing as the GNWT did before. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chair. Yes thank you very much to the minister for giving me clarification. Usually the communities apply for funding so they can buy their capital equipment such as motor vehicles. Applications that have been sent to your department, how do you deal with those proposals. How much authority do you have to deny or approve the proposals.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): The applications that come up from the small businesses in the communities my officials look at the application and then we could refuse or deny the application. These are done through our department and they follow the guidelines of whether to approve or deny the certain applications. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Sometimes the organizations cannot continue say for example the HTOs. I know they are not very viable because they do not make too much money. Another businessperson has taken on the business that was originally started off by an HTO.

So perhaps if you can prove the fact that I can apply or request or make a proposal to your department. If an HTO had made an application to your department the proponent for example, I do not know what year, for example made a proposal or an application for the year 2000 if the proposal was denied or approved do you inform the applicant.

How long are the applications used for. Like for example if an application is made in January how long does it take your department to respond to the applicant. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Perhaps if you can ask your questions without a preamble. Make your questions shorter. So if you ask a question it could be a short question, it would be better for the minister. After the minister responds I would like to be able to go to Mr. Alakannuark after. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The applications take about 2 weeks before the applicant is notified before the applicant is notified as to the status of his application. However, sometimes some are delayed because there might not be someone to help the applicant fill out an application form.

Like I said before a company or a small business that is encountering hard times to keep up his business; the business development fund assists them. The Economic Development Officers can also assist the residents in the communities, up to an amount of 25 thousand dollars and show the small business how to get assistance. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This is not a question but a comment. I will not make it long. All the communities in Nunavut have vegetation and it is being destroyed by the all terrain vehicles but if we are going to do anything about it and I know that we have to try and figure out a way to beautify the environment to get rid of the tracks. I think we have to talk with the local hunters in the communities if we are going to improve the environment where the all terrain vehicles travel through. Perhaps if we start telling the hunters which way to travel when they go out hunting then they would not like it.

I would not like to be told what direction to go to go hunting. I would not be very happy about that. Therefore, I think there has to be legislation brought up by the department or the government. If there was legislation to tell the hunters where to go or which way to go then it will be a lot better if it was coming from the Nunavut Government. Like some elders that are hunters in the community can go whichever direction they want to go to go out hunting in the community.

I do not think it is any of our business to tell them what direction to go out hunting. I know they do not show up in the wintertime. Therefore, all terrain vehicles in the summer time create all the tracks. It is not very nice to look at. At the same time we cannot tell hunters which direction to go when they go out hunting outside the communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. All motorised vehicles have exhaust systems so there is nothing we can do about it. That is one of the dangerous things to the environment is the exhaust. If the minister would like to make further comments.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes as I have stated before we have to work together in partnership with everyone involved and the

Department of Sustainable Development staff will not be going to the communities to tell the communities what to do. It is the HTOs that represent all the hunters who should be involved and I am sure that they will be consulted with, I am sure that we would not overlook the HTOs. I just want to reiterate that to the member here.

We have to work together in partnership with the communities, the community should be willing, and our department should be willing to participate in partnership with the communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Kilabuk. Any supplementary. No. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. I have a question for the minister. The HTOs are now taking on more responsibilities. How are they provided with funding, do they have a funding formula. Could you elaborate on that to me. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We had to calculate our response because we did not expect to get that question. In regards to financing the HTOs, it is done in co-operation with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, they fund the HTOs up to 3 million dollars and the Department of Sustainable Development provides 300 thousand dollars. In total 1.6 million dollars is allocated to all the HTOs. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. Just to clarify this Mr. Chairman. The Rankin Inlet HTO, I am sure they do have an HTO, or the Grise Fiord HTO, how would you fund these two communities for their O&M. Do you fund them by per capita or are we using the GNWT formula that we inherited. That is my question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, we work in partnership with NWMB and they also provide them with funding. We are using the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board financing formula for the HTOs. It is the NWMB's responsibility to hand out the funding to the communities. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I thought you were already thanking me. The funding that is allocated to the communities, I think the formula has been set by the GNWT and we inherited that formula. So I am sure that when we are going to be making amendments that we will be looking at the formula. So my question is, are you going to

be looking at the formula or reviewing the formula so that the funding to the HTOs will improve from the Department of Sustainable Development. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes I know that our review process is continuing and the results are coming out and the Harvesters' Support Program will be reviewed as well. We have advertised for a tender to find out who is interested in reviewing the Harvesters' Income Support Program. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you Mr. Chairman. You touched on IIBA's before. I am just wondering if there are talks going on right now with the Department and with whom or at what level are you at right now in your talks with other organizations. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Last year we had requested that there be an Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement review done, but we had stalled during the negotiations because none of them could identify who would be responsible but this coming June we will be able to negotiate this IIBA again.

We will appoint those reviewers and NTI. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Havioyak do you have any other comments. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Our carvers in Nunavut, it is very hard to find a market and I have heard that there is too much inventory for the soapstone carvings. I used to be a full time carver and I used to be commissioned to carve down south and in the States. Whenever I went down south there was a huge interest for carvings, I had many clients, and when I got home they say that they are accumulating a large inventory of carvings.

It is then evident that our artists and carvers of Nunavut cannot find a market for the carvings. It is evident that there is hardly any support system for the carvers so that they could sell their carvings. Since your department is responsible for financing the carvers, Mr. Chairman, I am going to make an example if you do not mind.

We have artists in our communities and they are excellent artists and we hear that they are great, excellent artists and yet there is no market for them. That is what we hear. We have jewellery makers who make necklaces, rings and who make ornaments, and there is no market for them. We keep getting that response. It becomes evident that the Nunavut

residents have not been taken care of in that field. Especially when we try to generate income through carvings.

So what is the plan of the Nunavut Government, the carvings, the artists are part of Nunavut, and we are quite proud of this art. So what is the plan of your department in marketing. Are you going to be looking for new markets to sell the carvings. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association will be making plans in regards to the concerns that have been stated and we will be supporting Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association to review the marketing strategy and they will be making those plans to market the art work. I know that it is true what Mr. Puqiqnak stated that it is very hard to market the arts and crafts. I know that they are easy to sell when you go down south but the main barriers for businesses to market is the transportation costs are too expensive and it increases the cost of the art itself. I know that when they go down south they set the market price. So therefore, the market price is sky high down south.

We at the Department of Sustainable Development will not be making the directives but Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association will make those directives. Through the Nunavut Development Corporation the carvers or artists do have a little store down in Toronto to promote the sale of these arts and crafts.

I know that it is a challenging task when you ship arts and crafts, especially the carvings, down south. The freight and the market costs make those carvings very expensive and almost nobody can afford to buy them.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased that we now have a department that is supportive of our needs, so how can we as the Nunavut Government get a better working relationship with the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association. I think there has to be better support. I thank you for providing support to Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association so that they could look at resolving the barriers we face. I am very happy that you have committed to helping the carvers, if I was rich and I had lots of money I would be pouring out money to Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association.

I am very pleased that you are in support of Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association. Mr. Chairman, within one year how much money would be allocated to Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association or do you have any other additional plans financially. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We are going to provide them 100 thousand dollars and then over and above that we are very pleased that the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association through their own means and fund raising have raised 514 thousand dollars which we as a government would not have had access to. We give them financial support of 100 thousand dollars and they accessed their own funding through outside sources that totalled about 500 thousand dollars.

They have very good connections and I know that my colleague Mr. Puqiqnak, was one of the Board members of this association before he became a Member of the Legislative Assembly. There's Matthew Saviajuk from Cape Dorset, Maliki from Repulse, Inuk Charlie from Taloyoak who are well known and that is for the benefit of the people who are listening out there. They are listening extremely hard and they are well aware of the problems and concerns of the artists in Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. To keep it as brief as possible. First of all, there was one time that I attended their meeting and then I was thrown out, well I wasn't exactly thrown out but I was elected as a Member of this Legislative Assembly. I really enjoyed being a part of Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association and again, for the younger generation carvers we look for softer soapstone and usually a long time ago they knew where the soapstone deposits were outside of their camps.

They younger generation of carvers do not know where the deposits are and we cannot force them to come with us to quarry the soapstone. There are still some people who know where the deposits are, they are not that old, is there any way of helping them financially where they would be paid to identify the soapstone deposits. Is it possible to provide them with funding so that we will pay them to identify soapstone deposits.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak, if you had kept that very brief we would have got it right away. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just recently I made an announcement in the House and through the media that we have money available for prospectors and that could be used by the carvers. In Kugluktuk and Arviat they could be given assistance if you want to access those funds.

In September of last year, or maybe in August we opened the Geoscience office here in Iqaluit. You could also use that office to get assistance. They are all available if you are going to be looking for deposits out there. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Kilabuk. Any more general comments. I have no more on my list. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Today during a member's statement I am sure that you understood where I was coming from in regards to the

hunters and their need to get assistance. It is getting to be quite urgent for the hunters and of course there are able hunters and there are the ones that are mediocre, like everything else there are people who are good at their profession and then there are the mediocre ones which is a part of life.

I know that we are extremely hard up for money and I cannot even get a complete school because of a lack of money. Because of the high cost of living it is getting extremely hard. Like I said this morning the farmers get assistance and they get subsidies and so on. There are subsidy programs here in Iqaluit. Is it possible to look for some sort of a subsidy program for hunters so that they could get subsidised gas or some kind of a subsidy program for the purchase of hunting equipment and tools. Is it not possible to talk to the governments who provide subsidies to farmers and fishermen and so on. Is it possible to get subsidies for our hunters.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In looking for additional support for the hunters, we could go ahead and we could look at other options. We work with the hunters and trappers organizations and we also work with the higher level of hunters and trappers organizations. We have been working together with various entities for regular hunters. There are no programs available but I would like to identify a few other programs that we do have available.

For example, we have a seal skin subsidy, we have a fur price program, humane trap development. As well, in the Kitikmeot, Keewatin, and Baffin, we provide money for the NWMB and we are going to be providing money for the Beverly Kamanariak Barren Grounds Caribou, which will come from the Nunavut Government. That is working with Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. We do provide those programs. Also in the communities they have a program for up to 251 thousand for 244 fisheries programs again in the communities for outfitters we also have money that you can make proposals on.

Again, we could look at setting up other programs.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know that the HTOs are provided funding and from what I understand I believe that they get an additional 6 thousand dollars for hunters programs. Some of the communities are using these programs very well and of course it is very hard to access these dollars because of all the criteria that you have to follow and the policies. There is one person in our community who would go out and be provided gas from the hunters and trappers organization. The hunters' assistance of 6 thousand I found is very hard to access.

I believe that it was five or six thousand but it is very hard to access because we were told that if I was going to go do some test fishing I could get into the program. However, if I

was going to be going fishing to provide food for the community then I could not access the funding.

It is very expensive to be a hunter these days. With the fox pelts at only 25 dollars per pelt and sealskins are also cheap. If I was setting up a fox trap line I would have to go very far as it is a sparsely populated area. The older ones know that when you are setting up a trap line a long time ago you had to go very far to reach the fox population. It is quite hard when it is very sparsely populated. Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Clyde River have a lot of marine mammals where they can get money for seal skins and in the summer, even if the seals are abundant our summers are extremely bad these days with wind and everything.

So there are also problems there. I think that if you have access to these programs, I know that once there is revenue coming in for the hunters our government would use a lot less money because there would be a decrease in social assistance and in other areas.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. That was more of a comment than a question. However, if Minister Kilabuk would like to respond. Go ahead.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say that even though the members are just giving their comments it gives us ideas when we are doing planning and if we want to do some studies. It is very helpful for members to comment to our department or any department so we can get some ideas. I just thought I would say that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. Irqittuq. There are no more names on my list. Perhaps we can get to the Main Estimates, the budget of Sustainable Development, page 11 – 5. Sustainable Development, branch summary, sustainable development page 11-5.

Does everyone have it. Buildings and works. Headquarters region. Total headquarters region, 580 thousand. Any comments. All in favour. Agreed. Did you find the page under capital estimates. Page 11-5. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I mentioned this morning, or yesterday, we talked about the training school or the training centre. There is 225 thousand allotted to the training centre. The money is there already for the 2000-2001 Capital Estimates.

However, the minister stated they have not found the location for the school. They will be negotiating where the centre will be located. The money is here in these Capital items but you do not know where it is going to be. How is the negotiation is going to occur. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are reviewing this and planning. That is going to be part of the budget. We do not know exactly where the location is going to be but I know there has to be a training centre. The natural resource officers have to be trained in Nunavut. The tourism people have to be trained. There has to be a training centre. We do a lot of work for Fisheries and Oceans, I am sorry the Canadian Coast Guard. Those are the things that we are going to be looking at and we can work with. We have to have a training centre in order to have good employees. This training centre is budgeted over here although we do not know yet where it is going to be located. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The review of the location of the training centre. Does it include the building of the school. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. This is for the planning as to where the training centre is going to be located. That is what the budget is for. Perhaps if the minister could clarify it again. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This planning stage is going to occur for the training centre. The study to find out where it is going to be located. If we do not find a partner for this training centre then we will be looking at whether it would be feasible to build a training centre. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The people that are going to be reviewing the location of the training centre. Are they going to be the minister's officials in your department. Or will someone else be involved. Who else is involved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. That is a good question. Mr. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It will be my officials that will be doing the study and it will be under my department and our officials will do it. Whatever information we come up with we will give you information as soon as we have it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman the first planning of this training centre was there already. There is a building already in Pangnirtung. Perhaps the first. Was it a mistake when you first brought this up last year because the location was going to be in Pangnirtung or did you mention to us last year the location can change.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had this question as well to my staff. It was designated to be in Pangnirtung at that time. The members were already given information as to the location that was going to be in Pangnirtung. There was not going to be any community named at the beginning. That was a mistake on our part. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same item Mr. Chairman. If we approve the Capital Estimates the training centre will have to go ahead. However, we are not really sure right now exactly where the location is going to be for the training centre. It is not very comfortable to me still whether it is going to go ahead. Is it going to run properly. To me it does not seem to be complete. What is going to happen to it if there are no facilities provided in other communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had discussions that if the funding for the training centre is not used at this time then we will be able to use it for something else through FMB.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. We are under Sustainable Development. Total Headquarters, 580 thousand. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. I can not let this go by without asking some questions. Under the line, Art for Government of Nunavut buildings, 100 thousand dollars. It has 450 thousand total over 5 years. Many communities produce arts and crafts and other things. How is the department going to solicit art for buildings for Nunavut, which I think it is a good idea to have our own art in our buildings. How is this going to be solicited in each community and is each community going to be treated fairly. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The arts for Government of Nunavut buildings we are going to be soliciting from the people that do art work of our Government of Nunavut buildings to be displayed in their offices or their buildings. These are just for the planning stages. We are not exactly sure how it is going to be divided. I would just like to say today that we will be treating all the communities equally. When we start soliciting them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. McLean. We are on page 11-5. We are in the Capital Estimates, is that art for Government of Nunavut buildings is that in that page. Can you clarify that for me Mr. McLean

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. Yes it is, it is on page 11-5. The very top under headquarters region various art for Government of Nunavut buildings, 100 thousand.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Yes it is there. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. Same page 11-5 building and works under Headquarters region, various Nunavut arts services, 75 thousand. Could I get a brief explanation on this.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nunavut art service would be to accumulate arts and crafts such as carvings. So that they could be sold. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Taima. Ma'na Itsivautaq.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): I have one question and I will speak in English. (interpretation ends) What factors are you looking for to establish a training centre in the community.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Sustainable Development would have to have that training centre so we will have qualified employees. So we will be discussing it but at this point I do not have that information with me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Barnabas do you have any more comments. Going back. Since I do not have any more names on the list. Headquarters region. Total Headquarters region, 580 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Going on to Baffin region. Total Baffin region, 920 thousand. Do you agree. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. I want to get some clarification on some items. Under the Baffin region. The first item is Iqaluit. Sylvia Grinnell Park. For 275 thousand dollars this year. With the detail it is 1 million 505 thousand dollars over five years. Can the

minister explain how he can justify that expenditure for this community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman this has been ongoing. In Nunavut the Sylvia Grinnell Park is the oldest park in Nunavut and it requires improvements. For example we'll be building walkways, picnic areas, camping grounds, fireplaces and also interpretative plaques. This is one of the areas that have been neglected over the years.

One of the other reasons is that in the agreement in the Land Claims Agreement we have to work on lands that are protected areas and on maintaining these identified areas. Like I said yesterday, even when this has been identified as one of the places of interest it is again like I said yesterday, Iqaluit is a transportation link and also the Capital of Nunavut. We get many transients going through as tourists and so on. So this money would be used to upgrade the Sylvia Grinnell park. Also, in the Land Claims Agreement some contracts were made by the Government of Nunavut that we have to go through.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. You are talking about Land Claims Agreement. Is this an agreement with the Federal Government and is this third party funding that is being put into this park. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes it is under Article 8 under the land claims agreement. Our mandate has been stated under Article 8. Also, in regards to your question, it is not third party funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. I am not familiar with the land claims agreement as much as I should be or Article 8. However, under the Article I do not know what it means. Is 100 percent of this funding for Sylvia Grinnell park of 1 million 525 thousand coming directly from the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. The Government of Nunavut is providing the funding. It is coming from the Nunavut Government, 100 percent. I want to remind the members that although we have stated in our plans as to how many years it would be used, if we can go the cheaper way or a better way there is room for changes and improvements so as to save costs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. That camp ground that is proposed the improvements to it. Is there a fee charge to that camp ground on a daily visitation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this point in time we do not have a fee for campers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. Does the City of Iqaluit, are they contributing to this 1 million 525 thousand dollar campground. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. The Town of Iqaluit had contributed to make the access road. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Just a statement that the minister does not have to answer. I think tourism like I said yesterday brings in 50 million dollars a year into Nunavut. We know this community is a drawing card. I would want to recommend that people using this as an overnight camp ground and the facility should be charged a fee. I want to break a little House rule Mr. Chairman if you let me.

I just want to read a little article from what happened in this community a month ago.

"Adriane Clarkson the Governor General hugs Joseph Teemootee a homeless Iqaluit man who spoke with her about his plight outside the legislature. Joseph Teemootee lives with his wife Malaya in a one-room shack made from discarded wood on the shore of Frobisher Bay. His lone protest drew attention to the plight of the homeless in Nunavut."

I know it is not a question but if we got homeless people living in shacks on the beach I think that is a tragedy. Because this is probably one of the only communities that has that. In most communities in Nunavut we do not have homeless people. We have overcrowding in houses. When I see an expenditure in a park in Iqaluit for 1 million 525 thousand and you have homeless people in the community, I think that is a tragedy in this day and age and it should not be permitted. I have a problem approving 1 million 525 thousand for a campground and park in Iqaluit when you have homeless people. That is all I am saying. When it comes to voting on this one I am going to abstain. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to re-emphasise that the money that we are using for the plans in the estimates, if they do not go ahead then it is going to keep deferring everything else over the plans that we have made for the years. Also the parks and everything else would be deferred. We know that there are benefits to setting up these types of developments. However, we cannot forget that there is potential to make money on these projects and that there could be spin-offs for the communities.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. McLean. Since I have no other names. We were in the Baffin region. Total Baffin region 920 thousand. Agreed. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): I would like to take a 20 minute break. Mr. Chairman I would like to have the regular members caucus.

Chairperson (interpretation): Agreed. We will take a 20 minute break.

>> *Committee recessed at 4.09 and resumed at 4.45 p.m.*

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I am sorry we are a little bit late. Would you like to say something Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just to make it clear to the members that in our business plan it states, I am not really sure if it was clear enough or not, but the budget for 2000/2001, in the estimates that 275 thousand will be used to finish this side of the river. When you looked at the budget under the capital estimates, there is about 1.525 which will be used for the second phase of the work that is going to be done. This amount of money is for this year's project for the Sylvia Grinnell Park for interpretative parks and camping areas on this side of the river.

In the coming years they will be building a bridge. I just wanted to make that clear to the members at this time. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. If everybody is here we have a quorum. Any more comments. We are under Baffin, total Baffin region, 920 thousand. We are on page 11 – 5. Total Baffin region, 920 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Going on to the next page, 11 – 6, Sustainable Development. Detail of capital, branch summary. Kivalliq region. Total Kivalliq region, 305 thousand. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivauta. Kivalliq region. 125 thousand dollars this year for the establishment of a Visitors' Information Centre in Rankin Inlet. Two million dollars over five years. Could I have a brief description and justification for that project. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. That 125 thousand dollars for 2000/2001 is to work together with the major centres in the Nunavut region. In the Kivalliq they do not have a visitors' information centre. This would be like an interpretative centre and an office. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivauta. When I land at the airport at Rankin Inlet there is a visitors' information centre for the Kivalliq in there and it is staffed by a 70 or 80 thousand dollar a year employee paid for by Nunavut Tourism. There are also displays in there for the region. Can you tell me, this 2 million dollars that we are spending in Rankin Inlet, if this is for the new construction of a building or is that just a ball park figure that was plugged in there. Or is the 125 thousand dollars this year just for a study to see what kind of a facility they need. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I can make it a little bit more clear about the visitors' centre at the terminal in Rankin Inlet. There is no visitors' centre in Rankin Inlet so that is why they have put that tourism office at the terminal. The money for this year will be used for planning the office. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivauta. I am not an expert on Rankin Inlet or I don't profess to know everything about the community, but has the department considered in its bold initiatives and visitors centres and multi-million dollar campgrounds to get the private sector involved or lease it off them or to build and lease back when projects seem to get over the million dollar range. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Yes, thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes when we are doing the planning of the visitors' information centre in Rankin Inlet we will consider that as well.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Any more questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. On the same topic as Mr. McLean, that 125 thousand dollars. In prior years we used 75 thousand, there is over 2 million dollars to be used in total in the coming years. Perhaps it will be a building, it will not just be a visitor information centre, but I think there is going to be a building. Is that the case.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know there is 75 thousand used in a prior year and like I stated before because Rankin Inlet is one of the major centres and it does not have a visitors information centre, we wanted to be able to have a plan to put that in there. That is just a capital projection.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Kilabuk. Any more questions or comments on the Kivalliq region. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The regular members would like to make a recommendation. Therefore, for that reason, Mr. Chairman, we would like to also take a short break to review our recommendation about this department.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. He wants to report progress. Agreed. There is a motion on the floor. It is carried. The Speaker can enter the House.

Speaker: Returning to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 12 and 13 and tabled documents 41 – 1(3), 61 – 1(3), 85 – 1(3), 87 – 1(3) and 93 – 1(3) and would like to report that Bill 12 is ready for third reading. And Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Chairman. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder for the motion. Mr. Havioyak. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Hon. James Arvaluk.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 12 – An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Councils' Dissolution Act – Third Reading

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung that Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Divisional Education Councils' Dissolution Act, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried. Bill 12 has had third reading. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Meeting of regular caucus tomorrow morning at half past eight.

Orders of the Day for Friday, April 28

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. 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)
 - Tabled Document 95 – 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 96 – 1(3)
 - Tabled Document 97 – 1(3)

- 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
- 21. Third Reading of Bills
- 22. Orders of the Day.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Clerk. According to the authority vested in me by motion 3 – 1(3) this house stands adjourned until Friday April 28, in the year 2000, at 10:00 a.m.

Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 5:00 p.m.*

