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Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday November 1, 2000

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Honourable Jack Anawak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Iqittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Mr. Puqiqnak) (interpretation): I would like to call on Mr. Iqittuq to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon members and ministers. We will proceed with the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Minister Thompson.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 025 – 1(4): Public Works and Services Reducing GNWT Asset Management Support Services

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues that, effective March 31, 2001, the Department of Public Works and Services anticipates that it will not have to renew its asset management support services agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories.

This 200 thousand dollar annual agreement has been in place for two years and was necessary as a result of severe staffing shortages experienced within the asset management function of Public Works and Services.

As a result of the aggressive recruitment of staff, particularly in the Technical Services Division, the need to continue this agreement in 2001-02 does not appear likely at this time.

(interpretation ends) A decline in year over year usage of these services from the GNWT has already been noted.

Mr. Speaker, as we move forward in building our technical expertise, the Department of Public Works and Services will continue their mandate to provide a high level of service and support to all our communities in Nunavut.

My staff and I look forward to continuing to work in co-operation with the other departments to serve Nunavummiut.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Thompson. Ministers' statements. Mr. Premier.

Minister's Statement 026 - 1(4): Day Care Final Report

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to formally report that I will be tabling the Day Care Final Report that was released in September, but also to briefly update my colleagues on what has taken place since the report was released.

As my colleagues are now aware the report contains information about challenges day care centres and parents face throughout Nunavut. It also includes recommendations to meet these challenges. Some of the common challenges that have been identified are; funding criteria, difficulty accessing funds that are available, not enough cultural context and lack of partnership.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker I am pleased to say the department of education had already started implementing some of the recommendations that have been made in the report, such as the Space Funding Formula. The department has increased the formula to 10% across the board (September). Funds for day care centres are now done on a monthly basis rather than quarterly (October). We addressed the funding formula, as recommended in the report, from funding 100% on an attendance basis to 50% attendance base and 50% licenced seats.

We also recognize the importance of building partnerships with Inuit Organizations and the Government of Canada through HRDC; they have funding available for day care centres. I am pleased to share that Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement Holders (AHRDAHs) have already held a Nunavut wide Day Care Forum. I had the opportunity to speak to the participants and get feedback from them. They stated that they were sharing information and learning from each other. I would like to quote a participant who said "It feels good to know that we are struggling with the same issues and all working towards the same goal for the betterment of day care centres in Nunavut".

Mr. Speaker, a concern we all share with day care centres is ensuring cultural identity and heritage are included in our programs. I am excited to say we are committed to having elder participation in our day cares as part of a long term objective, and that curriculum development has begun this year for early childhood education using Inuit

Qaujimajatuqangit as a foundation. Nine elders from Arviat have participated and applied their knowledge about child care to help with the development of the curriculum.

To date the department has developed a Best Practices Video, this video is to help day care centres on developing programs and proposal writing. It is available in Inuktitut and English.

We are also reviewing Healthy Children's Initiatives and planning on redeveloping it to get more funding into communities for community capacity building around early childhood issues.

Other things we have done on parenting and around early childhood issues are; three public service announcements to be shown on TV – CBC and APTN, four informational pamphlets and some posters being mailed to all the communities.

Income support is working on making subsidies more accessible to all students despite their marital status. As well we are working on simplifying the application process. We are also working on brochures explaining day care user subsidies that will be a part of our awareness campaign. Mr. Speaker I have the pleasure of saying that the information will be available in Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English and French.

I take this opportunity to thank the Inuit organizations, parents, day care workers and elders for the effort and work they have put into day cares.

Mr. Speaker, this report has provided us an opportunity to work together in partnership with all stakeholders as well as giving us a new beginning. I will be tabling the Day Care Final Report at an appropriate time.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Ministers' statements. Mr. Anawak.

Minister's Statement 027 - 1(4): Physical Activity Benchmark Program

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform the Members of the Legislative Assembly about progress made by the Department of Community Government and Transportation on the Physical Activity Benchmarks Program that was created in 1996. The Program involves a partnership between the Inter-Provincial - Territorial Sport and Recreation Council (ISRC), the Fitness/Active Living Unit, Health Canada, and the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute (CFLRI).

In May of 1998, a Five-Year Plan was developed to enhance the Benchmarks Program to provide a more complete picture of the factors that influence participation in physical activity. This will be achieved through an evaluation of current programs and services. In the past, the data collected for Nunavut has been collected with the NWT.

Beginning this fall, data will be collected from Nunavummiut to measure physical activity levels and lifestyles in Nunavut. A survey will be conducted to enable the government to measure its progress toward a 10% reduction of inactivity over five years. It will also monitor the impact of physical activity in advancing health, social and economic policy. This year, the survey's focus is on adults; it will be conducted by telephone in Inuktitut, French and/or English as required.

Mr. Speaker, my department, through two Divisions, Sport Nunavut and Recreation and Leisure, provides expert advice and services to Territorial Sport Organizations, Hamlet Recreation Officers and individuals. To promote and encourage the benefits of active and healthy living, assistance is available for training athletes and coaching staff throughout the Territory. The survey initiative will help us develop programs by Nunavummiut, for Nunavummiut.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Ministers' statements. Item 2. Ministers' statements. Minister Kilabuk.

Minister's Statement 028 – 1(4): New Wildlife Act for Nunavut

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in November of 1999 with Cabinet support, I initiated action on the development of a new Wildlife Act for Nunavut. Today, Mr. Speaker, I would like to provide members with a status report on this important project.

Over the past year, my department completed a detailed analysis of the old Wildlife Act, which, as members know, we adopted from the NWT on April 1, 1999. The analysis found the Act to be inadequate in its ability to address management issues of today and in its compliance with the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. We have now completed a categorized list of the specific issues that must be addressed in the development of new legislation.

Mr. Speaker, for this legislation to work Nunavummiut must be deeply involved in its development. Earlier this fall I was very pleased to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) who will work side by side with us as we move through consultations and into drafting the new legislation.

Today, I want to urge my colleagues, to encourage members of their communities to participate in these consultations on the Wildlife Act, beginning in January, and continuing through next year. The specific dates and times of these events are currently being developed and will be finalized by December 1.

The Government of Nunavut wildlife officers will be working with Hunters and Trappers Organizations in each of your communities in organizing these consultations and serving as the point of contact for questions that arise throughout the process.

Mr. Speaker, the new Nunavut Wildlife Act stands to be the most modern wildlife legislation in Canada, and perhaps the most unique because of its recognition of the co-management principles under which this Government operates.

As we move through the various stages of this project, Mr. Speaker, I will continue to report back to this House on the progress we are making on this important piece of Nunavut legislation.

Qujannamiik Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' statements. Minister Picco.

Minister's Statement 029 – 1(4): Donation to Baffin Audiology Department

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Frobisher Bay Elks Lodge for their generous donation to the audiology department of the Iqaluit Public Health Unit. With the contribution of 6 thousand 7 hundred and five dollars, the department was able to buy state-of-the-art computer software, earphones and loaner hearing aids.

The new equipment will benefit all those who need to use it. However, it will be particularly valuable in diagnosing hearing problems in children since they don't always respond well to adult methods of treatment. The equipment also gives the department access to the kind of diagnosis and treatment that was previously only available in the south.

On behalf of the Department of Health and Social Services, I would like to offer my heartfelt appreciation to the Frobisher Bay Elks Lodge and the many other community based volunteer organizations who donate their time and money to help others in their communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3. Members' statements. Members' statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 057 – 1(4): Impact of Fuel Price Increases and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nice spring day Mr. Speaker. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit has been discussed in great detail since this Legislative Assembly opened April 1, 1999. Shortly after that date, the communities came to understand what Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is. Our government keeps referring to it.

For the past four days now we have been discussing the high prices of fuel and the high price increase as of November 1, 2000. Today.

Mr. Speaker, we have been discussing for the past four days the impact it will have on the people who are homeowners and hunters, for low income families who have to provide groceries for their children. This will have a big impact on them. The objective of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is that when we are going through hardships, getting groceries or whatever, the leaders in the communities and the elders try and think about how they can assist those people so they will be able to continue with their lives.

So, Mr. Speaker, we all know that an increase of 13.9 cents per litre, as the price stands today will have a big impact on the people. Later on today, during question period I will be directing questions to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth as they are responsible for implementing Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

I will ask if the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth has talked with the Minister of Public Works, who will be raising the prices, and if they have discussed Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and how it is impacted by these increases. I will be raising this issue today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 058 - 1(4): Healthier Environment on the Land

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the fact that people enjoy going out on the land and I support that, and want that supported by the government. In the past we had to survive out on the land when seal, caribou, fish and birds were a main source of food. We used them as food and clothing. But nowadays in the communities we have more resources available to us.

But we are not as healthy as we used to be because of different problems that arise today. Mr. Speaker, to be able to go out on the land is very good for the heart, mind and soul for the parents and the children. They are much happier when they are out on the land. The

elders say when they are out on the land it is a lot healthier environment for body and mind. I fully believe that.

Mr. Speaker, during question period I will be directing questions to the Sustainable Development Minister on what kind of assistance they have in place for our people to go on the land. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 059 - 1(4): Need for Hall Beach School Expansion

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the same pressing matter that I brought up before. The Hall Beach school needs to be expanded Mr. Speaker. The school in Hall Beach is way too small due to the increasing population.

When it was first built it was adequate. It is now getting old and there are a lot more students. There are 30 kindergarten students and there is not adequate room. Some go in the morning and some in the afternoon. Because of the lack of space in the school they have to use the library as a classroom so presently there is no library in Hall Beach.

Mr. Speaker, during the session I will be tabling a petition which asks for the architectural work done by the GNWT back in 1989 to be implemented. This was in the planning stages, they were going to put on an addition at that time. I have seen documents showing that 75 % of the architectural work has been done.

I will be tabling a petition and a document today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Members' statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 060 - 1(4): Passing of Siana Attagootak

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a well known Nunavut elder Siana Attagootak passed away this past weekend in Apex. Mr. Attagootak built the kamotik that sits before us in this chamber.

While he may be gone, his work, knowledge of traditional ways and contributions to this House will be recognized and admired long into the future. Mr. Speaker on behalf of this House we send our deepest condolences to his family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. On behalf of the Legislative Assembly I also want to send our condolences and we will send them a card. We feel for family. Back to the orders of the day. Members' statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 061 - 1(4): Nunavut Time

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will be talking about the time zone change. I sympathize with and support my colleague from Kugluktuk when he voices his constituents' concerns about the time zone change. I know about the pressure he feels.

But I wanted to state also that one of the communities in my constituency did not go along with the original time zone change, but now they have changed to the Nunavut time zone. I am happy about this and for Nunavummiut. I will be able to call my colleagues at the same time, as it did create some inconvenience when we had separate time zones, sometimes they would have gone out for supper or lunch and I would forget what I was calling about but that will not be case anymore. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Members' statements. Mr. Nutarak.

Member's Statement 062 - 1(4): Mark Nutarak's Birthday

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I was going to speak about my son, at the beginning of yesterday's session. But I'd like to do that today. I would like to remember my son Mark Nutarak, his birthday was yesterday. Happy belated birthday. I wish him many more years, and a good future. I encourage him to live well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Members' statements. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 063 - 1(4): Best Wishes to Kugluktuk Searchers

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I mentioned two people from Kugluktuk that went missing while out hunting. They left on Sunday, they were supposed to return but they haven't.

If the relatives are listening, please do not worry too much. The searchers are doing their best, continuing to look for your family members. For those people that are searching, I wish them well and find what you are looking for and let it be good.

We will try to keep our spirits up and people are continuing to look. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. We extend our support to the families. Members' statements. Mr. Premier.

Member's Statement 064 – 1(4): Appreciation to Iqaluit Hospital Staff

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You have all probably heard that my sister was sent to the hospital here in Iqaluit. I visited her at the hospital and the staff has been very good to her. I really appreciate the assistance of all of the wonderful staff here at the hospital in Iqaluit. I would like to thank the staff on behalf of my family. They have very demanding jobs but do them extremely well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 065 – 1(4): Appreciation to Sanikiluaq Residents

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to make a statement on the time zone similar to Mr. Iqaqrialu's. I am very glad to say that the Sanikiluaq time correlates with the rest of the Nunavut time zone and the capital of Nunavut now. I would also like to say that I am very proud of our elders living in Sanikiluaq. When I was growing up they took care of me, especially my dad and my uncles and aunts, as well as the rest of the Sanikiluaq residents.

In those days I used to follow the dog teams when they went out and for those Sanikiluaq residents that can see me on the TV I would like to say how proud I am of you and that you have given me a good sense of direction in life. I would like to say that I am very proud of the Sanikiluaq elders for guiding us through our lives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 066 – 1(4): Nunavut Land Claim Negotiators

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise to make a statement regarding the making of Nunavut. We worked hard for Nunavut and the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement and I would like to talk about why we worked so hard for this.

I do lament that the people of Sachs Harbour, Tuktoyaktuk and others that could have been a part of Nunavut but because of the activities during the time of the negotiations, they weren't able to be a part of Nunavut. These were mostly oil exploration activities that forced them to settle a separate land claim early. But we are still the same people.

I would like to recognize the people that worked hard, Tagak Curley, Josiah Kadlutsiak, John Amagoalik, Meeka Kilabuk and many others. I would like to recognize these people for their hard work towards creating Nunavut.

Perhaps some people outside of Nunavut don't understand why they worked so hard for this. As people we work well together and at one point the regions seemed to be working on their own, but Mr. Speaker, I think these people worked very hard together in order to create Nunavut.

They worked hard together so our people could have a good life. I think we have to remember that even though we make mistakes, we can learn from those mistakes. We must remember the reason why we worked so hard towards this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. That was a good statement. Orders of the day. Item 3. Members' statements. Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 067 – 1(4): Alcohol Abuse Impact on Nunavut

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on an issue that continues to plague our Territory. It is an issue that we as government leaders in our communities, and as individuals cannot afford to be complacent about.

I am referring to the wide spread impacts of alcohol abuse in our Territory. On April 1, 1999, Nunavut began its life as Canada's newest Territory. By the end of September 2000, Nunavut has been in existence for a year and a half.

An interesting statistic over that period of time shows that during those 550 days over 3 thousand alcohol incidents were reported by the RCMP across Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, on average that works out to more than 5 alcohol related incidents every day since Nunavut's existence.

Mr. Speaker, the abuse of alcohol does not only lead to consequences of drunkenness and health problems for the individuals who drink. Alcohol is associated with a wide range of criminal offences that affect the rest of society. Alcohol is frequently a factor in fights, assaults, domestic abuse, homicides, and suicides and is often implicated in criminal activity.

As our community continues to grow these types of incidents will continue unless we make commitments to deal with alcohol abuse. In light of the closing of our regional treatment centre what kinds of solutions has our government offered for this kind of problem. Sometime ago the Department of Health & Social Services buzz word was the holistic approach to health care.

Since then it appears the responsibility for addressing these issues is being referred to the newly established Committees of Council. Many of these are just now receiving initial training and funding to carry out their role. Mr. Speaker, the government should take the lead in holistic approaches such as holistic treatment programs to help abusers.

The communities can not be expected to deliver these kinds of services individually and on their own. As an example the government has taken the lead in delivering alternative

rehabilitation programs such as the Department of Justice's on-the-land corrections program outside of Arviat.

I strongly urge the government to support the Department of Health & Social Services in establishing a healing centre where holistic programs could be implemented as well as being a resource and a training centre. We have to start somewhere in tackling this problem that plagues our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Members' statements. Members' statements. Item 4. Returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Ms. Thompson.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to OQ 016 - 1(4): Staff Housing Policy

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Assembly is being televised and I probably look bigger than what I really am. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide a response to a question posed by the member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo, on October 24, 2000.

Mr. Tootoo asked when the staff housing policy was approved. The staff housing policy was approved by cabinet on April 13, 2000. Copies of the policy were provided in English and Inuktitut to the Members of the Legislative Assembly in May. For clarification purposes, Public Works and Services has changed the title of the policy to the Staff Housing Allocation Policy, because it addresses the allocation of staff housing units. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Item 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. 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 hardly ever have the chance to do this but I would like to recognize an elder in the gallery who is from my constituency. He is a well known person from Iqaluit, Celestine Erkidjuk, welcome.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Legislative Assembly and thank you for coming to the House. Item 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Returning to the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 059 – 1(4): Policy on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have stated before during the appropriate time I would be asking the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. I would like to ask the minister if they have any policy or written objectives on using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, as to how we are going to utilize it in the government system. Especially when it is going to have an impact on Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can respond by saying that there is nothing written to date as to how the government is going incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the minister is aware that as a government we say we will incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in the government system, especially when we make decisions that are going to have an impact on Nunavut residents. We tell our people this.

We want to get input from the elders on incorporating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Since the minister has stated that nothing is written, does he plan to have something in place in the upcoming days or months within this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that we are all aware that the Nunavut Government cannot make decisions on our own and we do not want to make the decisions on our own.

We would like to involve the Inuit in the communities in decision making as to how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit will be incorporated into the government system. So therefore the residents of Nunavut have to be involved. I cannot tell you when I plan to do that. I can say to you that we will involve the residents of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister has stated as a government we can not make our decisions on our own. For that very reason the minister plans to strike up a commission, like the government has established the law review commission. We have Language Commissioners, Privacy Commissioners. If you value

Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit do you plan to establish a commissioner for Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that we have been quite concerned about this for some time now as to how we are going to incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the government system.

I can say yes we could strike up a committee that deals with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and they will be established sometime in the future. I know that we will give a small mandate to the committee of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Your last question Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister has stated that there is nothing written as to how we can involve Inuit and the government does not have any objectives as to how we are going to incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, but the government keeps stating that they want to incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Before we draw up the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit policy, will the minister be working with the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products since the increase of 13.9 cents for fuel prices is going to have a negative impact on people. I would like to know if we are utilizing Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Point of Order.

Speaker (interpretation): There is a point of order on the floor. Ms. Thompson.

Point of Order

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My point of order is that as an Inuk person, I was raised as an Inuk. I was raised by the elders and my parents are elders as well.

We are being told by the member that we Inuit people in here don't know about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. That is why I am making this point of order. He has switched his line of questioning to petroleum products while his original question was about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit policies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Regarding the point of order that has been raised, I would like to ask the member whether he is directing his question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. I will allow you to ask that question if it is going to be directed to that minister.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was using an example, I was using the Law Reform Commission as an example, the Privacy and the Language Commissioner. There was no point of order when I was using those examples. I don't know why there is a point of order now.

What I was trying to say is if the government's decisions are going to be having a negative impact on Nunavut residents, for example, I was going to ask the minister if before he sets Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to paper, if he is going to work with the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products.

Hon. Manitoq Thompson: Point of Order

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Thompson.

Point of Order

Hon. Manitoq Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My point of order is that the members of cabinet, all of us have discussed this and approved the fuel price increase. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member for Nanulik, I will allow you to ask that question of the Minister for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although I may not be having an impact on the other department, I would like to thank the member for raising her point of order. I know that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit was worked on prior to the fuel price increases that the cabinet agreed on.

My question at this point in time is will the Minister for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth urge, whether it is the petroleum products division or not, it is just an example, or will your department make sure that other departments incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit before any policies are drawn up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It feels like I am in court, that's the way I feel right now.

>>*Laughter and applause*

However, I respect the question, and the responses the minister gave the other day were very interesting about the fact that Inuit have to work together, especially the hunters and the homeowners.

She also mentioned that we are looking at ways to assist those people. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit doesn't only include oil prices and we constantly hear in the Assembly

that the procedures that we follow within the House should also include Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit so that our procedures will be appropriate. I don't know if I answered his question or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 060 – 1(4): Support & Services for Education Authorities

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I just wanted to reiterate my colleague Mr. Picco's statement about the Elk's Club and their kind donation to the children of Iqaluit in regards to their hearing disabilities. Far too often we don't recognize the volunteers working in our schools, and the money that they contribute, whether it is fund raising or for things like that.

Today, Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Education regarding the dissolution of the Education Boards. Could the minister provide some information on what support and resources are being provided to train education authorities in their new responsibilities. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Ma'na Uqaqti. I am pleased to say that we are reviewing how we can provide additional training at the local level, the local education authorities. We are currently reviewing proposals from the communities and we will be reviewing it along with the monetary issues we are considering for the upcoming fiscal year. Ma'na Uqaqti.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. The minister is moving right forward on this which is good. My biggest concern Mr. Speaker on education boards is, being involved with them myself and with the regional offices, there sometimes seems to be a shortage of trained and qualified staff to go out and work with the local DEA in regards to their accounting procedures.

Can the minister maybe make that a point that when they are going out and helping the education authorities, if they could look at providing some kind of accounting training to the local DEA Secretary Treasurers. They seem to be taking on a lot of responsibility with not very much training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Ma'na Uqaqti, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is one of the considerations put forward by the local education authorities and we are currently reviewing that. Ma'na Uqaqti.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. On the orders of the day. Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 061 - 1(4): Day Care Funding

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the minister of education. Just a while back he made a statement on day cares. In his statement he said “ we addressed the funding formula, as recommended in the report, from funding 100% on attendance basis to 50% attendance basis and 50% licenced seats”. Exactly what does that mean. I just want clarification.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before the new policy we could only pay if the children were in day care. Only if they were in attendance. If there were a number of children that did not go to day care then the amount would have been lower and that created big problems for day cares all across Nunavut.

We said that we would fund them 50% of their licensed capacity and if there is full attendance we would pay them the other 50%. A lot of times children might go on holidays or be sick or be away if there is an emergency. So in those kinds of circumstances they would not have been provided with funding. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He also stated that before they were given funding quarterly and now it will be on a monthly basis. I would like to know where that money will be kept. I believe they are paid from the government offices. My question is will that funding be transferred to the communities so that the day cares will be paid monthly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The day care centres funding will be directly deposited to the day cares. Before it used to be quarterly after we received a report. This was one of the major issues and they had to wait three months before they had the additional funding so we reduced that to one month. So they will not go through so much hassle and so much hardship. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the same Minister of Education. He also said more elders would be involved. How they are going to be involved. Will there be a parent or adult at the day cares. Will the age have to be 50. I am not clear on this. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stated we have employees and that includes elders who help with programming. We want to involve Inuit Organizations because they also provide funding which is given to day cares to the tune of 3 million dollars. We want to be able to work with them on how to include the elders within the day care system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 062 – 1(4): Assistance to People in Spring Camps

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Sustainable Development. Families who go out camping, especially in the springtime, are they assisted, or are there any kinds of assistance programs for those people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Sustainable Development Minister. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time the funding is provided to the hunters within Nunavut.

If they are going to go out for a weekend, we do not have funding available for that short length of time. We do have programs that can assist them while they are out, the fur marketing program for example can be of some help. But we do not have any other kind of program that can assist the type of springtime activities that the member speaks of. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand his response because I know in our community people go out to their summer camps and they are gone for almost the whole summer and I don't think there are assistance programs for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Sustainable Development. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I failed to mention that there are some families that wish to go out on the land to outpost camps on a more permanent basis. They can get funding for fuel, materials, gas and for transporting those items. That is one of the assistance programs that we use. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time if they want to get assistance where would they go. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): I do not think I fully understand his question. Maybe he misunderstood me. If he could rephrase his question please.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Alakannuark could you rephrase your question or clarify it please. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question is, if those people who go out even for just a couple of days to go camping, which department could they direct their request to for that assistance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Alakannuark as far as I know, especially in the Baffin region and maybe in the other regions, if they are going to go to an outpost camp they are assisted through the HTOs and Wildlife Officers can also help them fill out their application forms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Orders of the day. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 063 – 1(4): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit & Fuel Price Increases

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. The response he gave earlier about petroleum products, it does not have anything to do with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

He stated earlier that as MLAs when there is an opening of the session the qulliq is always lit. That is our tradition, so it will keep us warm. Once it is lit it was meant to keep us warm. During the Bowhead whale hunt that almost became extinct because of the fat, and that directly involves Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

It effects how we live that some animals exist that can keep us warm. Maybe the minister in some way can look at this situation again as to how else it can be brought up in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. I will ask the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth to respond to the question. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The response I gave earlier, I said that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit does not only effect petroleum products. That

is the only thing that I said, that Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit covers a large area of different things. Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit is not only about petroleum products. You asked if I was able to rephrase it. I am sure during committee of the whole if you ask it again it will be answered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 064 – 1(4): Holistic Approach to Treatment

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today, you can probably guess because of my member's statement, is directed towards the Minister of Health & Social Services. I would like to ask the minister, as I indicated and as I said the buzzword that health was using in the past was holistic health care. In the area of treatment, I am wondering if the minister can apprise us of any developments or any initiatives that they are looking at in pursuing that approach outside of the already mentioned local community councils that he has quite elaborately explained to us here in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health & Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the member's earlier statement and I appreciate the question. It does give us an opportunity as we had last week in some discussion and debate on suicides to bring up another important area under Health & Social Services, Mr. Speaker, the issue of alcohol and drug treatment programs.

I guess we need to back up a little bit referring back to the member's statement on the drug and alcohol treatment centre in Iqaluit located in Apex that was closed. Of course, that was not closed by the Government of Nunavut. The Baffin Regional Health and Social Services Board closed that in 1998. It followed the closure of almost every treatment centre in the North including Northern Quebec, Northwest Territories, and the Yukon.

Mr. Speaker, when we talk about the holistic approach to treating drug and alcohol problems we have to talk about the whole person. The holistic approach means treating the whole person. When we look at the treatment centre Mr. Speaker, in Apex, treatment centres were designed in the south to deal with specific substance abuse problems. When we say substance abuse problems we are talking about illicit drugs. Mr. Speaker, we are talking about over the counter drugs that the people are addicted to and Mr. Speaker, we are talking about drugs that are provided through pharmacare as prescription drugs.

Mr. Speaker, we are also talking about sniffing and Mr. Speaker, we are also talking about alcohol problems. So when the Department of Health & Social Services talks about the holistic approach we are trying to deal with the whole person and Mr. Speaker, when you talk about the holistic approach to healing that brings us back to what we talked about in Rankin Inlet in February.

Do we take Mr. Speaker, Ed Picco out of his community of Clyde River, out of Hall Beach, out of Gjoa Haven. Do we send that person who has a substance problem to Iqaluit to be treated. What about the family. What about the problems that the person is dealing with at the community level, the drinking problem in this case. If you do not treat those situations, you come down here to dry out for 6 weeks and when you go back to the community you are dealing with the same problems. Mr. Speaker, that is the holistic approach, you have to deal with the whole person. You can not just deal with just the problem.

Mr. Speaker, we have very few people in Nunavut who have what we would call an addictive or a substance abuse problem where they are addicted to a drug for example, cocaine, heroin. Where they need that shot in the morning. Mr. Speaker, our problem with alcohol is binge drinking. People binge drink probably to escape or to deal with problems that they can not deal with in normal daily life. That is why Mr. Speaker, we put our money into training drug and alcohol counsellors and getting professional development.

As an example, 20 drug and alcohol counsellors just finished professional development over the last few months. Also Mr. Speaker, it is important to point out that under the NADAP program alone we spent over 300 thousand dollars this past year on training, counselling and professional development of our community alcohol and drug counsellors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his quite elaborate and extensive answer. Mr. Speaker, he indicated that there are drug and alcohol counsellors being trained for the communities. A holistic approach is saying we will just let the community take care of it. Mr. Speaker, I realize that is the approach they are taking in some cases.

Mr. Speaker, where treatment is necessary, what are we doing with those people now. Are we sending people to the south, what kind of treatment are we giving them, are we just leaving them to these newly trained individuals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to clarify the point here. I am not using notes here. I don't have a written speech. I am trying to explain what the Department of Health & Social Services has been trying to do on their alcohol and drug treatment programs. I appreciate the opportunity that the member has given to me by asking this question.

As the members know we have the Nunavut Arctic College Alcohol Counsellor Program that is running right now. Mr. Speaker, we have had several students through that program who are trained. We are not leaving and abandoning anyone in Nunavut. As I

said earlier Mr. Speaker, the treatment centres, 99% of the time are for people who have a physical addiction to a substance. For example Mr. Speaker, a cocaine addiction or is an alcoholic.

Mr. Speaker, they don't go to a treatment centre just out of the blue. They are usually clinically or medically referred or number three, Mr. Speaker, that they feel they have a problem and they approach someone at the community level where they say okay, does this person need a treatment program. If they need a treatment program Mr. Speaker, where we need to take them out of the community, and put them in a detox centre for example, Mr. Speaker, that is provided to them and we have those referrals available.

Mr. Speaker, the great majority, 90 some percent, 95% of the people in Nunavut who we are dealing with right now do not need that referral. Mr. Speaker, we need to be able to deal with some of the things that we talked about before. We have issues Mr. Speaker, of residential school abuse, Mr. Speaker, and we are finding that people who went to residential schools for example and are now 40 or 45 years old have had problems with substance abuse because of the pain that they have suffered.

So you need to be able to deal with those issues. In some cases, Mr. Speaker, the abuse, the substance abuse is a signal of a deeper problem that the person is experiencing. That's why Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health & Social Services Nunavut is trying to put the resources at the community level so that we can deal with the person and their family and the things that they are going through at that local level. We are not asking our Health Committees to deliver those programs, in most communities, Mr. Speaker, we have community drug and alcohol program workers.

Mr. Speaker, in some communities we have gone forward now and we have put psychiatric nurses in place to also add to the professional help for the client at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I guess again, I would like to thank the minister for the answer that he gave and I take it that question I asked is do we send people out and I believe that he said that 95% of the people that they deal with don't require treatment in centres. So if we just deal with that 5%, how many people has the Department of Health & Social Services or this government referred out to treatment centres in the south that aren't available in the north. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, again I will try to keep my answer short. Mr. Speaker, the number of people being sent out is on an ongoing basis which is on the medical, clinical or other referral basis necessary. I don't have that number available with me right now about how many people have been sent out, but what I can do Mr. Speaker, is get that information and provide it to the member.

After saying that Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to note that the Nunavut Government has been operational for sixteen months. We inherited all the programs and services that were delivered by the Government of the Northwest Territories. What we are trying to do under the Government of Nunavut is put a more Nunavut based response in place.

The Premier and I for example, Mr. Speaker, just attended a workshop graduation where we had several of our community counsellors, alcohol and drug counsellors, family counsellors, Mr. Speaker, graduate from a program from the Glasser Institute in Ontario, dealing with reality therapy and base therapy so they could actually use those skills in counselling people at the community level. So that's what we are trying to do. Mr. Speaker, the actual question on the numbers, I could provide, I can get the information and provide that to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I can appreciate the fact that the Minister is saying a lot of the problems that we are facing and that we have inherited over time and I'm not any way shape or form indicating the result or the lack of work on behalf of the department, I know the department is doing everything it can, to try and help keep people healthy in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, in light of the minister's comments on the fact that the programs that were in place that got shut down, it indicated that they are not relevant and that they weren't working. I guess what I'd like to get at in light of some of the earlier questions that members raised on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, is the department going to take a look at developing a made in Nunavut program, a treatment program that would incorporate the youth, elders and expertise that we do have at the community level. Also Mr. Speaker, I would ask if the minister is going to look at the numbers on how many people are being sent out, if you could also include the cost. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): I'd just like to inform the members to make their comments short and if you are going to speak, speak slower so the interpreters could keep up. Thank you, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, that's excellent advice. Mr. Speaker, quickly, we can make that available. When the apex treatment centre was opened as an example, in a five and half year period, a hundred and nineteen people had actually gone through treatment program. The success rate we believe was about ten percent and the cost was three quarters of a million dollars a year, seven hundred and fifty thousand I believe, Mr. Speaker, I don't have the figures in front of me, but this is going from memory.

Mr. Speaker as I tried to say earlier, if someone needs treatment, to go to a treatment centre for a physical or substance problem, we do that Mr. Speaker, we do that through clinical or whatever type of referral is necessary at that time clinical or medical referral.

After saying that Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Government has taken the stand as most medical professionals in departments of health have, that alcohol as an example is a disease and needs to be treated as a disease.

So with that Mr. Speaker I will get the information for the member on the number of people and also the cost of setting people up. Which is minimal to trying to operate a program in a central location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Returning to the orders of the day. Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 065 – 1(4): Assistant Deputy Minister for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Mr. Speaker, under his department does the minister have an Assistant Deputy Minister under him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, presently we are working on getting an ADM. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Why does he not have an Assistant Deputy Minister.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I got into this position the Assistant Deputy Minister had resigned and we have not replaced the Assistant Deputy Minister to date.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is that position going to be posted or advertized. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The position will be advertized or rather it is presently being advertized. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Oral questions. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 066 - 1(4): Grise Fiord Water Shortage

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question should perhaps be directed to the Minister of Community Government and Transportation but I will direct it to the Premier. We heard on the news that the people of Grise Fiord have to conserve their water and may be short of water this winter. I would like to ask the minister what the situation is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was recently in Grise Fiord. They are working on putting another tank for water in Grise Fiord. I have not got an update on how it is going but I will look into this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. The Premier will look into this. Orders of the day. Oral questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 067 - 1(4): Gates Foundation visit to Nunavut

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti my question today is to the Minister responsible for Education. A number of months ago I was in one of the fortunate communities to have the Gates Foundation show up in my community. I had a meeting with their organization, a brief meeting. They were in the community for two hours.

Not very many Hamlet Councillors or the DEA were aware that these people were going to our community and I know donations are accepted in most communities and this organization is pegged as one of the richest organizations in the world. Bill Gates as everyone knows is the richest man in the world. He came to Nunavut bearing gifts according to that newspaper article that I tabled twice in the House and finally got around to getting a few questions in about.

I was appalled at the way these people were treated, bearing gifts. Especially in most communities I would say 75% or 80% of our communities do not have Internet access and I think they were willing to help set up Internet access. I know in my community we do not have it and we have been trying to get it. Can the Minister of Education let me know if we are going invite the Gates Foundation back to Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Minister of Education Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I fully agree with the member that we can not refuse, we can not afford to lose any contribution that any foundation may want to contribute to our operations in our schools. No specific amount of contribution was

discussed. Exploratory talks were taking place with the foundation. Those discussions are ongoing. The same newspaper article outlined some of the challenges that we face that are quite unique to other jurisdictions. For instance, we don't have any fibre optics such as the foundation is used to in other jurisdictions. We are solely satellite based Internet connections.

So those are some of the unique challenges that we face as a jurisdiction in trying to resolve the ongoing technological problems that we face in our territory. So those discussions are ongoing and we appreciate the effort made by the foundation for recognizing the unique challenges that we face. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: That is reassuring to know. On that note, sometimes we let certain people be the lead people in communities and sometimes the community doesn't know about it. The next time the Gates Foundation comes into one of our communities, would the minister responsible make sure that the Hamlet Councils and the DEAs are aware of these visitors so that they can make presentations and maybe present them with a gift of a wall hanging or a piece of art or something like that.

That's my question to the minister. If the Gates Foundation representatives do come back to our communities that they are not just brought in by a few Government of Nunavut employees, that the Hamlet Councils and the DEAs are aware of their visit so that they can be acknowledged and talked to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Ma'na Uqaqti. Absolutely. Ma'na.

A Member: Good answer.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Ma'na Premier. Back to the orders of the day. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 068 – 1(4): NDAP Client List Discrepancy

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to hear the minister make a statement on the work that the Task Force did and the recommendations that were made. In light of that the NDAP announcement that she made as well. I was looking at the minister's statement on NDAP that she made and I was looking at the numbers last night and just reading it over.

The minister indicated that there were 21 people on the list that either have received funding or were pending funding. Then looking at the chart it shows that there are 23 on there. I just wanted to know if two of those numbers were found not to be eligible for funding or was it just a typo, that there is a difference there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It may be just a typo. But I can find that out for the member. I can get it before the end of today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is going to take this as notice and get back to you. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not take it as notice because that would take a little bit longer for this. I can deliver it to the member by the end of today. That's all I am saying. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Yes, she will get back to you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister as well, and I am very happy to see that there is 50% success through the process that they hope to achieve in providing assistance for home ownership.

I am wondering Mr. Speaker, if she could indicate whether there were more applicants that were not eligible. I believe the minister stated and I questioned her the other day, that there was a limit of 125 thousand I believe as the income ceiling. I am just wondering, based on my past experience with that I know we used to get a lot of applications so I was just wondering if there were a number more that were not eligible. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am pretty sure there was. For any funding that the government gives out not everybody can be pleased with it or can qualify for funding. So I am pretty sure there was but I do not know how many did not qualify for this program. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that we hope to continue to evaluate and review our delivery of programs and services, I am wondering if the minister could commit to taking a look at applications that were not approved to determine whether they were strictly income related or whether there were other factors.

For example, individuals not being able to receive authorization from a bank for a mortgage or find out why people were not eligible and to see if there is a need there for us to take a look at other options other than the program. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we can look at the program but I would just like to say that if you are making over 125 thousand you should be able to make a down payment on a house but we will revisit this. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your last supplementary Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Chairman, I was not just referring to... I understand and recognize the need to have a cap on the income for that. Mr. Speaker I am just wondering, a lot of the programs and services that we hear about and I remember the task force heard as well, none of the programs took into consideration the size of the family or the cost of living in those communities.

I guess the cost of living in those communities was taken into consideration but the family size was not and in a lot of instances across Nunavut you may have that income, the income earners where they are supporting more than just their immediate dependants. There is also extended family and I am just wondering if there is a way that that could be worked into the formula as well. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We all know that the people that buy the home have to be able to afford the house. That is one of the considerations we should look into and also I will be going to the standing committee that I go to with the Housing Corporation and I am pretty sure the standing committee will have some recommendations. We will look into those other options if we need to. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral questions. Item 6 on our orders of the day. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 069 - 1(4): Clarification on NDAP

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I think some mortgage holders get their mortgage through the bank and some go through the programs with the Housing Corporation. Perhaps the minister can elaborate on this to me because I do not fully understand how it works. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have various programs that come under the Housing Corporation. There was another program where they could get their house within 5 years and now it is a 15 year mortgage. If you would like to get a mortgage you need an approval from the bank for your mortgage and once your loan is approved by the bank you can get assistance of 15 thousand dollars from the Housing Corporation.

Sometimes other people go through the bank to get their mortgage. If you want to purchase a house you would have to get a mortgage through the bank and get a loan in order to purchase the house. Mr. Speaker, anybody in the communities who want to purchase a house can ask officials of the Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a supplementary question. According to criteria you have under the department, some homeowners can get a 15 year mortgage. What would happen in a case where they can not afford to pay for their mortgage, it appears they can be ousted from their home and they cannot get into housing association units when this occurs. So how is your department going to be resolving this issue so as to accommodate the clients. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Madame Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For those people who would like to get their own home their mortgage follows the salary they make. If I was making a lot of money in my salary but I could not afford my mortgage I can go to the bank and ask them if they can lower my mortgage rate or do re-financing. Yes, as a Housing Corporation we do try to assist all the people who need our assistance and provide counselling and they do look at options as to what else we can do.

Because we do not want to just kick people out. Yes, people have to pay for their loans and mortgages especially if you want to own your own home. We have to consider all these aspects in order to keep up with mortgage payments then that is how the criteria is set. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that the minister is responding according to my questions. I am little bit afraid if I make a mistake and I am sure if I do I will be corrected.

Since the fuel prices increased, the subsidy program for the homeowners which is 15 thousand dollars, does that consider also the fuel price increase. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not the same as that. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Your last supplementary Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What is different. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Madame Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): This 15 thousand dollar assistance program does not reflect the fuel pricing increase. This 15 thousand is a down payment assistance program for the people who would like to get their own home according to Manitok's traditional knowledge. Thank you.

>>*Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): At this time question period is over. We are a little bit over the question period. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek and ask for unanimous consent to go back to Item 5 on the orders of the day. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is asking unanimous consent to go back to Item 5. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 5: Revert to Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize someone that is very near and dear to me. She just drew me a little picture that says number one dad.

Today is, I heard on the radio at lunch time, National Take Your Child to Work With You Day today so I would like to thank my father Mr. Tootoo for bringing my daughter Eden in here to watch the proceedings this afternoon and I would also like to acknowledge a cousin of mine Michael Aklunark. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. For all elders or young people that are here, welcome to our Assembly. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you. I do not recognize too many people but Michael Aklunark is also my cousin's son. Mr. Tootoo and I are related and I did not know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter and applause*

Speaker (interpretation): I acknowledge that you are relatives. To the orders of the day. Item 7. Written questions. Written questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 004 - 1(4): Housing Issues

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my written question is to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Within Nunavut the population is growing and there is a shortage of housing. My question is to the minister.

How many people are on the waiting list in Nunavut and are there a number of old units which have never been renovated in Nunavut.

If they were renovated, they would be used for a longer period because they are very expensive to build. They could be used for a long time in Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk. In the year 2001 will there be any renovations to houses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Item 7. Written questions. Written questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Written Question 005 – 1(4): Funding for Small Businesses in the Kitikmeot

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Written question. Mr. Speaker, the MLA from Nattilik asked the Minister responsible for Sustainable Development on October 26, under oral questions...(interpretation ends)...how much funding has been allocated for all the small business ventures in the Kitikmeot region and the minister said that he would get back to him.

Mr. Speaker, the minister has still not responded to him. I am therefore submitting this written question in an effort to get the answers I am looking for. This written question asks how much funding has been allocated by Sustainable Development for all the small business ventures in the Kitikmeot. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Written questions. Item 7. Written questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Written Question 006 – 1(4): Government of Nunavut Air Charters

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a written question with six parts for the Minister responsible for Public Works and Services. Mr. Speaker:

1. What is the time line for the review and approval of a new air charter policy for the Government of Nunavut.
2. How many elected or appointed officials in the Government of Nunavut can presently authorize the expenditure of funds on air charters.
3. What mechanisms are presently in place to determine whether the guidelines in the financial administration manual on air charter travel are being followed by the departments.
4. How many air charters have been purchased with Government of Nunavut funds in the first two quarters of the fiscal year to date.
5. What was the purpose and itinerary for each air charter.
6. Who were the passengers on each air charter.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Written questions. Written questions. Back to the orders of the day. Item 8. Returns to written questions. Returns to written questions. Returns to written questions. Item 9. Replies to opening address. Replies to opening address. Item 10. Petitions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 10: Petitions

Petition 003 – 1(4): Natilik Residents Against Fuel Price Increases

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition from Natilingmiut residents that states...(interpretation ends)...We the Natilik residents do not agree with the increase of gas prices. (interpretation) There are 139 signatures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Petitions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Petition 004 – 1(4): Addition to Hall Beach School

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition stating that there is a definite need for an addition to our school. There are 128 signatures.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Petitions. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of standing and special committees. Reports of standing and special committees. Item 12. Reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 12. Reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Mr. Premier.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 018 - 1(4): Day Care Funding Final Report

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier I am pleased to be tabling the Day Care Final Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Tabled Document 019 - 1(4): Members' Indemnities & Expenses to March 31, 2000

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Pursuant to Section 34.1 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, I am tabling the report on members' indemnities and expenses for the year ending March 31, 2000. Tabling of documents. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Mr. Irqittuq.

Tabled Document 020 - 1(4): Hall Beach School Architectural Design

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a document prepared by the GNWT on the architectural engineering design that was done for the Hall Beach school. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Item 14. Notices of motions. Mr. Premier.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on November 2, 2000 I will move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting days and hours as the Speaker deems fit to assist the business before the House. I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my motion is on an appointment. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday November 3, 2000, I will move the following motion.

Whereas, Section 55(1) of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act requires that there shall be an Executive Council of Nunavut; and

Whereas, Members of the Executive Council of Nunavut are appointed by the Commissioner on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

Now, therefore, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Amittuq, that this Assembly recommends to the Commissioner of Nunavut that Mr. Olayuk Akasuk, Member for Baffin South, be appointed to the Executive Council.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. We will proceed. Notices of motions. Item 14. Notices of motions. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 15. Notices of

motions for first reading of bills. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16. Motions. Motions. Mr. Premier.

Item 16: Motions

Motion 009 – 1(4): Extended Hours and Days

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Honourable members I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting days and hours as the Speaker deems fit to assist the business before the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. There is a motion on the floor. The original seconder on the handout was the Member for Kugluktuk and because he is not present, the Member for Iqaluit East has seconded the motion. If there are no objections from the members, he is the seconder and we will deal with the motion today. Agreed. Thank you. The motion is carried.

We are on motions. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First reading of bills. First reading of bills. First reading of bills. Looking at the orders of the day. Item 18. Second reading of bills. Second reading of bills.

Item 19. Consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters; Bill 1, Ministers' Statements 006-1(4), 007-1(4), 008-1(4), Bill 7. Mr. Iqaqrialu will be chairing. Before we go into the committee of the whole we will have an 18 minute break.

Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>House recessed at 3.47 p.m. and resumed at 4.13 p.m.

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

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you we can get back to business. Yesterday we did not conclude under consideration in committee of the whole, Ministers' Statements 006-1(4), 007- 1(4), 008-1(4) and bill 7. What is the wish of the committee. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We would like to start off with Minister's Statement 7-1(4), Fuel Price Increases for Nunavut and once we have concluded that we will go on to bill 7. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Does the committee agree. All in favour. Thank you. We will now deal with Minister's Statement 7-1(4), Fuel Price Increases for Nunavut. Madame Minister if you could also ask your witnesses to come to the witness table and introduce them.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't have any comments. We have been dealing with this item for a few days now. On my right is the Deputy Minister of Public Works and Services, Mr. Ross Mrazek. Roy Green our finance administrator is unable to be here with us today, so I will be here with Mr. Mrazek.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Any comments from the members. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, just a few questions that I would like to ask. The first one, we have heard a lot of talk about the price stabilization fund and I would like to go to a different fund now, the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund that we approved in the Main Estimates of 60 million dollars.

From that fund is where the money comes from that we use to buy our fuel and pay to get it delivered to the communities. I would just like to ask the minister how much of that did we spend this year on the resupply and if possible, if they have last year's numbers as well. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This year I don't have the details of how much we spent but I know that they had to spend an extra 14 million, but I don't have the details of how much we have spent this year. But we are aware that we are able to spend 60 million, but presently we have had to spend another 14 million. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I appreciate it. I don't mind knowing just on average over the past two years at least what we have spent out of that revolving fund to purchase our fuel. I would appreciate it if the minister could commit to getting us that information.

My other question, on the 2000/2001 Main Estimates that we approved this spring, there was roughly a 600 thousand dollar amount that was to be going to Local Housing Organizations across Nunavut to increase their funding based on the five cent per litre increase that we all got last year. I believe that amount was just for the last quarter and I am just wondering, I heard the President of the Housing Corporation on the radio earlier this week and she was indicating that they were going to be looking for required increased funding to offset the fuel increase to the LHO's in the communities. I was just wondering if the minister knows how much they are looking at in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. The item he refers to is not in the Minister's Statement. We are dealing with the Minister's statement but I will respond to his question. We approved 600 thousand for fuel for Housing Authorities in communities for the increase of 13.9 cents. We will have to increase it by about 900 thousand. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Madame Minister. Before we get started on this item, I wanted to make a comment to help the members that they should just stay on this topic on the items that are on the Minister's Statement. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was trying to look at the subsidies or the increased costs that have been faced as a result of fuel price increases, which is the idea we are dealing with. The minister indicated that they will be increasing the funding to the local housing organizations.

I believe, you will also probably be hearing about increases in funding for the Municipalities and Hamlets, as well. So, in a way, we are subsidizing, the government is going to be subsidizing those organizations to offset the costs incurred by this increase.

I was just wondering where the subsidy offsets were going. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask another question. I would just like to know, or ask, in order to affect a 50% cut in the increase of the price of gasoline and home-heating fuel, what type of actions would your department and the government have to take to do something like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Mr. Chair, the actions can be through this committee by recommendation to the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Then the minister is saying that it is possible to do something like that, I was just asking. I know that the department put together and analyzed the different options in order to come up with the option they approved. I was asking, if they were told to implement that 50% decrease in those two areas, if they were told to do that, what would they have to do. What specifically would they have to do in order to implement that. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. We have nine products that we sell to the communities. Is he saying that all those nine products should be cut by 50%. Can the member clarify that please. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. No, Mr. Chairman I indicated the first time I raised the question just in the area of gasoline and home heating fuel alone. That is it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know that Mr. Green and his staff did analysis of all the numbers. If we were to lower the heating and gasoline fuel together, let us say by 3 cents, the deficit in the PPD stabilization account would be as follows.

If we decrease by 3 cents for those two products March 31, 2001, the stabilization fund would be up to 1.7 million dollars. By March 31, 2002, the stabilization fund would be up to 4.1 million dollars. Based on the current price to purchase fuel next year the government would have to increase retail prices again next year if we were to do both those fuel products but we can look at one if the members wanted to go that route.

We have said that we do not want to raise the fuel again for the next year. To stay within the stabilization fund we felt that 13.9 was the best number to work with to increase fuel. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is nice to see that there were other options sitting there but what I asked was for a 50% reduction in the increase that's a 7 cent reduction in the increase for gasoline and home heating fuel. What specific action would have to be taken by the government in order to meet that. I guess that is exactly what I am asking. Whether, what effect it would have, what would have to change, depending on the change, what would have to happen if that was the decision that came down. What would we have to do in order to implement that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. If there were to be any change to the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund Act, that is governed by the following legislation and regulations; one Financial Administration Act of Nunavut, two Revolving Fund Act, three Petroleum Products Stabilization Fund Act.

These would have to be approved through legislation if there were any changes because the way the fuel prices are going we already know that when we purchased the fuel in July it has gone up by 9 million already so that is a 300% increase on the world market. So if there were any changes to be made they would have to be taken into consideration in those three acts through the legislation.

If we did not increase the price of fuel at all by March 31, 2001 we would be in a deficit of 9.7 million dollars which would be way over our limit for the stabilization fund and then 13.2 the following year. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I believe that two out of the three I caught, of the regulations the minister mentioned, one was the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund and the other was the Stabilization Fund. How would implementing a change like that effect, or necessitate a change in the Revolving Fund itself.

I am just wondering because based on all the questions and answers that we have heard over the last four days I guess and looking at it my understanding was that the only place that would require a change in the Act is the Stabilization Fund Act to increase that amount because right now it states that it is 5 million if that were done they would have to change that Act.

So I don't know if you could explain the other two pieces of legislation, with the Revolving Fund I am going to ask her to repeat that. Why would those have to change. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chair. What I said was that there are three Acts that would have to be changed if you want to make any major changes. The first one is the Financial Administration Act of the Nunavut Government because the Revolving Fund Act connects to that. The Petroleum Products Stabilization Fund Act connects to the Revolving Fund.

I think I can say that I am not an expert in this area and I apologize for that. I am a minister that makes decisions that are the best that can be made by this department. I can say that the Stabilization fund is part of the Revolving fund, however when the stabilization fund is in a deficit position it is recorded as a loss in the Revolving Fund.

Losses in the Revolving Fund form part of the Government of Nunavut deficit position in the financial statements. The stabilization fund is not actually zeroed out each year, it is accumulated through the year and must be paid down through the funds recovered through the pricing. It is legislated as we know at a maximum of 5 million dollars.

It is a debt and it is part of the Government of Nunavut's deficit position. That is the bottom line, it is part of the Government of Nunavut's deficit position. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I can see the relation but the only Act that would really impact on any broad change would be the Stabilization Fund Act and there would be consequential amendments necessary in those other two pieces of legislation.

It was my understanding in meeting with and questioning Mr. Green, and when I inquired to officials from the Auditor Generals' Office, that any loss in the fund within the specified limits of the fund only showed as a liability or an asset if you have a positive balance in there on the balance sheet. As long as it is within those limits it wouldn't have an impact on the operating budget of the government. It would just show up as a liability or an asset on the balance sheet.

I guess, if a decision were made to increase or cut the price increase in half like that, how long would it take for the department to take the necessary steps to implement those changes and I appreciate what the minister said about the change would have to be an amendment to the price stabilization fund and consequential amendments to those other Acts.

I was just wondering how long it would take if that were the decision that was reached, how long would it take to implement. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chair. The decision has already been made by cabinet and the only room that I said I could consider after the MLA for Nanulik was talking about home heating yesterday, was that we may be able to have some room to move just for heating fuel.

The decision has been made already by cabinet but there is that option I can look at just for heating fuel. We do not know what the status of the stabilization fund will be but we are hoping we will not have to increase it for the next two years.

If we do not do that, if we do not increase enough we will be above the stabilization fund the way the crude market is going. That is what we are concerned about as a department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Usually we ask the same questions and some questions are redundant so let us be careful and ask not too many redundant questions. Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Also it is nice if we get proper answers and I asked if a decision was made to do that how long would it take to implement those changes. I said if, I just want to know, if that decision was to cut those two areas in half how long would it take the department to implement the changes as a result of that. If. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The decision as I said, has been made by looking at all the options already. So we would just have to repeat the whole process again and we would come to this same conclusion that a 13.9 increase is the option. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I still never got an answer to my question. I asked if that were implemented how long would it take to implement it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Your question was brief. Madame Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. It would depend on how fast we repeat the same process because we would just be repeating the same process as we have already looked at all the options that are being offered today. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess I am not going to get an answer for my question Mr. Chairman. I think in light of what the minister has said, to me it seems like they made their decision already and they have offered to say oh we can look at this but only this. I am wondering if that was a decision that was made prior to this decision being made so that would be, prior to us discussing it here in committee of the whole.

I am just wondering if the decision to look at a reduction in one area was previously made prior to us coming to committee of the whole because it seems like any time we ask if we want to change this and this, they say no, no we can only change this. I am just wondering if that was a decision that was made before and that's why it keeps coming back to we have only one product. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Was that a question. As I was saying we looked at all the options on the increase of the stabilization fund, we chose a 13.9 cent increase. Some members have had concerns about the price, so we analyzed the costs but we can get back to it. That's what I am saying. It is just before that, because the hunters we will look for harvesters' subsidies and we are also reviewing the home heating subsidy. Therefore we have already established 10 million dollars for subsidy programs. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. As usual we are doing the same thing. Talking days about it and really not a lot of action has come out of the talking yet. We have to live within our means I guess. I find that who this is going to hurt is the hunters and the fishermen and things like that, that we all have in our communities.

So far it seems like we can't do a lot to help them. I know that I am going to have to put up with a lot of questions from my constituency regarding these fuel price increases and the private homeowners who were encouraged to get into homeownership by the old GNWT and now we seem to be taking it away from them.

My question today to the minister is, will she commit to this House, to working with somebody in her department to help the private homeowners with some kind of fuel subsidy at a certain level like the ones that I would like to see targeted are the lower low income people. I wonder if the minister would, the elders, the pensioners, the fixed incomes, if she would commit to working with her other departments on trying to find some kind of fuel subsidy program for the homeowners. Thank you.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Yes I can do that. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister. Do you have any additional questions Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Itsivautaq. That will help tremendously in my community and I am sure I can probably speak for some other communities, not all of them. But the minister when, I am getting off topic here a bit, but I want to get to a point. The minister when the Nunavummi Nangminiaqtunik Ikajuuti policy came up, some of the questions we asked was would she work with NTI.

Because we are partners in Nunavut. I think so far we have worked together, I know the cabinet and the Premier have worked with NTI in this partnership in Nunavut. The Nunavummi Nangminiaqtunik Ikajuuti policy I thought was well done with working with NTI in developing a made in Nunavut policy for business. I know there are some problems with it but I think policies were made to change, and I think down the road it will be a policy that works well for all of us.

The point I am getting to here, is I know NTI have a hunters' support program out there and we have all heard the good side of it and we have all heard the bad side of it. Sometimes people say to me Glenn, you know is the Nunavut Government getting too close to NTI and I say certainly not they are a partner in Nunavut.

Which brings me to this point. Would the minister commit her officials to work with NTI on trying to bring forward some kind of gasoline rebate or subsidy for subsistence hunters and fishermen and things like that. Those types of people that really need it. I keep saying the people that are in need. Can the minister commit to working with NTI on trying to

deliver or work on some sort of rebate or subsidy for the hunters and fishers and people like that. Thank you.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes we have already started talks with NTI. My staff is providing technical support and I do know that Sustainable Development is involved in that also so we are working towards that already. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Madame Minister. Anything further Mr. McLean. If there are no further comments or questions, what is the wish of the committee. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a motion. Because I wanted to raise some questions and my colleagues can't seem to get any definite answers, maybe through a motion.

Committee Motion 066 – 1(4): Reduction of 50% in Fuel Price Increase

Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee recommend that the Government of Nunavut take any and all actions necessary to implement an immediate 50% reduction in the price increase of gasoline and home heating fuel. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Maybe you can re-read it because not all the members have a copy of the motion. Just so that all the members have a full, clear understanding.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I move that the committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut take any and all actions necessary to implement an immediate 50% reduction in the price increase of gasoline and home heating fuel. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Are there any questions or comments. There is a motion on the floor. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. Mr. Alakannuark.

Committee Motion 067 – 1(4): Subsidy Programs for Fuel

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I move that the committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut be vigorous in pursuing co-operation with NTI where appropriate, in the development and implementation of fuel subsidy programs for low income residents...

Hon. Paul Okalik: Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just want to inform the members that we do not have a quorum ...but we do now as I speak. Maybe you can inform the members when we are dealing with a motion, to encourage the members to be here. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier that was a very good point. We have a quorum. Mr. Alakannuark re-read your motion.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): I move that the committee recommend that the Government of Nunavut vigorously pursue, in co-operation with NTI where appropriate, in the development and implementation of fuel subsidy programs for low income residents, homeowners and subsistence hunters and that such a program be implemented by the end of calendar year 2000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alakannuark. Comments. To the motion. Agreed. Opposed. Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 068 – 1(4): Petroleum Products Review to be Made Public

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I would like to make a motion as well. I move that the committee recommend that the Government of Nunavut make public the results of the review of the operations of the Petroleum Products Division of the Department of Public Works, Telecommunications & Technical Services within the next 90 days. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Motion is in order. Comments to the motion. All those in favour. Opposed. Motion is carried. Make sure you hand out the copy of the motion to all the members. The minister at the witness table is included also. The motion was carried. Mr. Iqittuq.

Committee Motion 069 – 1(4): Alternate Energy Sources

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I move that the committee recommend that the government continue to work towards a long term solution in the area of expanding the use of alternative energy sources and reducing Nunavut's present dependence on fossil fuels as its primary source of energy. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. To the motion. The motion is in order. Comments to the motion. Any comments to the motion. No comments. All those in favour. Opposed. Carried.

Are there any more motions or comments. If there are no other comments I believe we can go on to Bill 7. I would like to thank the minister and her witnesses, you have been sitting there for about four days and even though this was very important and very

delicate and will effect us all, I know you have a large work load ahead of you and for that reason I would like to thank both of you, the Minister for Petroleum Products and Mr. Mrazek, the Deputy Minister. Thank you for appearing before the committee.

Thank you. So the minister's statement 007 – 1(4) is finished. It is completed. Bill 7. We will be dealing with Bill 7. Mr. Okalik do you have any opening remarks.

**Bill 7 - Legislative Assembly Members Removal and Disqualification Act –
Consideration in Committee of the Whole**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Using Inuit Qaujimagatugangit I don't have any presentation planned. We have been working on this for quite a long time. There are mainly two issues that we will be dealing with on this Bill. One is to discipline members if they break the law. That is very important, and if they do commit a serious crime they can automatically be removed.

This includes crimes under the Criminal Code of Canada and Acts of the Territorial Government as well. These can be dealt with by the members by removal or suspension. That is the first one. The second item is, after that person resigns or is removed or suspended, whatever the case may be they cannot run again unless somebody else first replaces them.

So we are trying to amend those two because we all know what we went through and we learn from mistakes of ourselves or other people and we try and make amendments.

This is very different from anywhere else. It mainly affects Nunavut because in other jurisdictions the political parties have the authority to remove because they have party politics but within Nunavut we have consensus government. If you belonged to a particular party down south and if you are removed, you would have no right to ask questions and you would no longer be involved by the procedures of the Legislative Assembly and that is how they deal with it. They can also disqualify people to run again for their party.

In this Federal election, there is one of them who committed a crime and was dealt with by the courts and he can no longer run for the Federal party. That is how they deal with them so because we do not have a party system, this mainly affects us and we are going to try and govern how we are going to deal with this and that is why this bill was introduced.

I believe some would have us go further than what is proposed but we have to keep in mind that we still have to follow the Constitution. That is why we have to put restrictions if any one wanted to run after committing a crime. So we have to make limitations or restrictions as to how far they can go. So those are the main contents and I wanted to point that out for the public to know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Okalik, according to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit that was very clear and understandable. Thank you for your presentation. Will you have somebody to assist you. Are you going to the witness table. Thank you for sitting at the witness table.

Are there any comments in regards to Bill 7. If there are none, we will go onto Bill 7. According to the pages there, page one. Do you have it in front of you. Clause one. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause two. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 7, everybody agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill as a whole.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree that Bill 7 is ready for third reading.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Okalik for sitting at the witness table. Bill 7 is ready for third reading, so what is the wish of the committee. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you. I move that we report progress Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk wishes to report progress. The motion is not debatable. The Speaker will be able to come in now and we will see you tomorrow. I could not pronounce his (Mr. Chandler) name properly. I wish to thank you for being able to come here sorry if I mispronounced your name. Sometimes when you do not speak English it is very difficult to pronounce them. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Please be seated. Thank you. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the committee of the whole. Chairman, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Minister's Statement 7-1(4) and bill 7 and would like to report progress that Minister's Statement 7 - 1(4) is concluded and four motions were adopted. Bill 7 is ready

for third reading and I also move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

Speaker (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I second it.

Speaker (interpretation): Those in favour. Opposed. Thank you. Item 21. Third reading of bills. Third reading of bills. Item 22. Orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Meeting of the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment at 5.45 in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for Thursday, November 2, 2000;

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 1
 - Minister's Statement 6-1(4)
 - Minister's Statement 8-1(4)
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
 - Bill 7
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker : Thank you Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow Thursday November 2, 2000 at 1.30 p.m.

Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 5.11 p.m.*

