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Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Table of Contents

Opening Prayer	1018
Ministers' Statements.....	1018
Members' Statements.....	1021
Returns to Oral Questions.....	1029
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery	1030
Oral Questions	1031
Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills	1034
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	1034
Report of the Committee of the Whole.....	1058
Orders of the Day	1059

A.

Daily References

Friday March 23, 2001..... 1018

B.

Ministers' Statements

046 – 1(5): Minister’s Absence from House (Ng)..... 1018

047 – 1(5): Human Rights Consultation Workshop (Okalik)..... 1018

048 – 1(5): Arctic Science Summit Week April 21-28,2001 (Kilabuk)..... 1019

049 – 1(5): World TB Day, March 24, 2001 (Picco)..... 1020

C.

Members' Statements

142 – 1(5): Weekend Trip Home (Irqittuq) 1021

143 – 1(5): Public Works & Services Portfolio (Thompson) 1022

144 - 1(5): World TB Day (Nutarak)..... 1023

145 - 1(5): Pangnirtung Athletes (Kilabuk)..... 1024

146 – 1(5): National Social Workers’ Week (Williams) 1025

147 – 1(5): Sanikiluaq Dialect (Kattuk)..... 1025

148 – 1(5): Recognition of John Quirke (Picco)..... 1026

149 – 1(5): Toronto Maple Leafs to Win Cup (McLean) 1027

150 – 1(5): Recognition of Full-time Specialized Hunters (Arvaluk) 1027

151 - 1(5): Discipline and Suicide (Iqaqrialu) 1028

152 – 1(5): Toronto Maple Leafs vs. Montreal Canadiens (Akesuk) 1029

D.

Returns to Oral Questions

Return to OQ 097 - 1(5): Staff Housing Rental Rates (Thompson) 1029

E.

Oral Questions

177 - 1(5): Status of M'Clintock Channel Polar Bear Tags (Tootoo) 1031

178 - 1(5): Support and Assistance to HTOs (Iqaqrialu)..... 1032

F.

Bills

Bill 6 - Nunavut Power Corporation Utility Assets Transfer Confirmation Act – Notice

(Picco)..... 1034

Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday March 23, 2001

Members Present:

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irqittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Honourable Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Rebekah Williams.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Acting Speaker (Mr. Havioyak) (interpretation): I would like to ask Mr. Kilabuk to say the prayer for us.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Ng.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 046 – 1(5): Minister's Absence from House

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise members that the Honourable Jack Anawak will be absent from the House today. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ng. Mr. Premier.

Minister's Statement 047 – 1(5): Human Rights Consultation Workshop

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise the Members of this House of the progress our department has made in moving ahead with human rights issues in Nunavut.

I would like to thank my colleague, the former Minister of Justice for taking the initiative this fall to announce in the House that Nunavut will be moving to have its own "made in Nunavut" Human Rights Act.

Mr. Speaker, with this commitment in mind, my departmental officials and the Deputy Minister of Justice concluded a very successful first phase of human rights consultation with a workshop in Iqaluit this past weekend. The workshop was very well attended with great interest. I know this, as I was there myself at the beginning of the workshop.

The workshop participants included representatives from the Nunavut Council for People with Disabilities, Nunavut Employees Union, Maligarnik Qimirujit, NTI, Nunavut

Social Development Council, Legal Services Board, Maliganik Tukisiniakvik, the Languages Commissioner, Department of Justice and some community representatives that included youth and elders.

(interpretation) This workshop was the first in a series of positive steps that the Government of Nunavut is taking to develop human rights legislation that is truly reflective of the needs of Nunavummiut.

During the workshop, special attention was given to the unique situation of Nunavut including the small population in many scattered communities and how to incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into Nunavut Human Rights Act.

Participants also discussed the terminology that is used to describe human rights, and suggested that the term "Makimatjutiit" would be more appropriate than "Inuit Pijunnautingit". Makimatjutiit refers to standing up within your rights.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the workshop participants also made it very clear that however we structure the Nunavut Human Rights Legislation, that the process should be efficient, less time consuming than other jurisdictions in Canada and most of all be user friendly, and as much as possible, not be intimidating.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote Peter Kanayuk from Pangnirtung who was one of the participants, he said and I quote "I am very pleased to be part of this process to develop human rights legislation, to us this is the reality of the Nunavut dream". Qujannamiik Uqaqti.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Ministers' Statements. Minister Kilabuk.

Minister's Statement 048 – 1(5): Arctic Science Summit Week April 21-28,2001

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Nunavut will be hosting an annual gathering of approximately 200 senior science, education and research representatives from around the circumpolar north. The meeting, to be held in Iqaluit, anticipates representation from over 25 countries, including delegations from Russia, China and Korea.

The Summit is co-ordinated under the auspices of the International Arctic Sciences Committee, the major science advisory body for the Arctic Council. The "Summit" or "Arctic Sciences Week" is actually a collection of meetings of various arctic sciences bodies, held over a one week period in different location each year.

Meetings include the national logistics and operators' agencies, national and circumpolar funding and priority setting bodies, and a "Sciences Day" which is organized on a specific theme or topic. This year's topic is "Science and Technology for Sustainable

Northern Communities."

Mr. Speaker, the Summit is self-funded, with support coming from eleven participating federal government departments and corporate sponsors. A contribution of 88 thousand dollars is expected from the federal government. Participants pay their own costs of attendance.

Hosting the "Summit" will provide an ideal opportunity to showcase Nunavut science, research and post-secondary education programs, and to present fellow circumpolar countries with our approaches to Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, a topic of great interest at the Arctic Council and to other circumpolar countries. The Summit receives extensive national and international media coverage.

The Summit is being organized through the Nunavut Research Institute and Nunavut Arctic College, in consultation with a national and local organizing committee. Mr. Speaker, detailed information about the Summit can be found at www.nac.nu.ca/nri. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter, applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kilabuk. Ministers' Statements. Minister Picco.

Minister's Statement 049 – 1(5): World TB Day, March 24, 2001

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform you that tomorrow, Saturday, March 24th, 2001, is World TB Day. As you know, Mr. Speaker, TB, or tuberculosis is well known to Nunavummiut. Early in the last century, Inuit experienced epidemics, Mr. Speaker, epidemics of TB, many persons spent years in hospitals in the south, and Mr. Speaker, a great number never came home.

Mr. Speaker, TB is still with us. About 15 years ago, TB prevention programs were reduced, because it was felt that the antibiotics had eliminated TB. In northern Canada, and elsewhere in the world, nurses and doctors ceased vigilance for tuberculosis. Then, unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, as the population aged, the disease reappeared. But there are some notable improvements, Mr. Speaker.

Even though our TB rates here in Nunavut are 10 times higher than the rest of Canada, very few Inuit have died of tuberculosis in recent years. And wherever possible, Mr. Speaker, treatment is provided in the patient's home community. This has been great news to the five Nunavut communities that experienced TB outbreaks last year.

Our strengths have always been our committed health care workers. Mr. Speaker, virtually all children are immunized against TB in the first months of life. This vaccine prevents the most serious cases in childhood which are blood borne TB and TB meningitis. We have provided extra help when communities experience outbreaks.

Mr. Speaker, the fact that our TB rates have been increasing in the past 3 years indicate the need to return to the TB prevention programs like those of the 1980's. Children used to be tested each year in school. This gave us Mr. Speaker, a window into the health of their families and communities. Persons with a history of TB were followed regularly to make sure their disease never came back – and Mr. Speaker, if it did, it was dealt with swiftly before families and communities were put at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to announce that many Health Centres were able to recommence school testing programs last year. This year, we hope to have other elements of a comprehensive TB strategy in place. Funding has been identified in this upcoming fiscal year to provide two more community health nurses to achieve these goals – and Mr. Speaker, a territorial supervisor for TB programs. This is a good beginning, Mr. Speaker.

As for World TB Day, Mr. Speaker, the theme is “Direct Observed Therapy – a TB Cure for All”. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform you that all Nunavummiut with TB are on observed therapy. A health care worker observes each dose of medication as it is taken, ensuring a very high cure rate. We all know what it is like to take pills, Mr. Speaker. TB patients must take drugs for six to nine months, Mr. Speaker, sometimes longer. It's no wonder they need a little support to complete treatment.

Given all that has been done in the fight against tuberculosis, it gives me great pleasure to recognize Saturday March 24, World TB Day in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. We will go on to item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 142 – 1(5): Weekend Trip Home

Mr. Irqittuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to do my best. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to celebrate the end of the week by speaking English.

>> *Applause*

I have been thinking about what I will be talking about all week. To this day, I still don't have any idea what I am going to be talking about.

>> *Laughter*

I would just like to say thank you to my colleagues, the Premier and the Cabinet Members, especially that good friend of mine, Ed Picco. I am sure he will be sleeping better knowing that I won't be asking any questions over the weekend.

>> *Laughter*

But I will be back.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I am going home for the weekend to be with my children, who I miss and love very much but I will be coming back in time for next week's session. I look forward to spending time with them this weekend. Have a safe and wonderful weekend. God bless you all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Well done. Good job. Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 143 – 1(5): Public Works & Services Portfolio

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It turns out that Enoki is very good at speaking English, I am proud of him for that.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I am thankful that the individuals near Kugluktuk that were missing have been found.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, in keeping with an unofficial tradition on Friday, in the hope that I can also show that we have a sense of humour, I would like to offer the following statement of appreciation.

Mr. Speaker, members have heard me state in the past when the Premier gave me the Public Works portfolio, I experienced a period of absolute terror. I believe Mr. Speaker, you may even recall during our first budget session at the Parish Hall when one regular member said if you are having a difficult time with this department I can take it from you. I would just about have choked the little guy if he had been standing beside me.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to try and picture someone that had lived by the needle and thread as well as the Lord's good book and the cook book, all of a sudden I found I was dealing with hammers, fuel tanks, contracts, blueprints and the Cambridge Bay school.

However Mr. Speaker, there was one individual that made it his personal mission to help train me. He constantly tested my knowledge. He pushed me to work harder and he didn't let me get away with any easy answers. If I responded with "where" he asked "why". If I answered, "why" he asked "when". If I told him "when", he asked "how many" and finally Mr. Speaker, if I told him "how many" he would then ask "where" or he would run out of supplementary questions.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, today because of this individual I feel as comfortable talking about round rooms or square rooms as I do when I talk about making a parka. Mr. Speaker, when I think about the Lords great plan I wonder if he has his own blueprint. I wonder if it came from Public Works and Services and I wonder what part we all play in it.

But, Mr. Speaker, no matter what else I remember about taking on this portfolio there is no doubt that this individual has done his best to ensure that I know what I am talking about. Because of this Mr. Speaker, I hope the honourable member will accept this in the spirit that it is intended. On behalf of all my family I would like to express my appreciation for the investment the Honourable Member Mr. Tootoo, MLA for Iqaluit Centre has made in me. I would like to present him with this gift, a T-shirt. And I hope you guys all have a very good weekend.

A Member: It says, “ Is that your final answer”.

>>*Laughter, Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Thompson. Order. (interpretation ends) Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

Member's Statement 144 - 1(5): World TB Day

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the World Tuberculosis day, which is tomorrow Saturday March 24. Mr. Speaker, tuberculosis has had a devastating effect on the Inuit of Nunavut. In the past many were sent away from their lives and family in the north to institutions in the south to be treated for this disease.

They had to stay in the south for a long time and when they came back it was very difficult for them and for their families and many Inuit didn't come back. This disease caused much hardship to the lives of Inuit. To speak of tuberculosis brings up painful memories but we also must recognize that it is still present here in our lives. Over the past few years we have seen more and more cases in the north.

In 1997, there were 26 cases reported. In 1998, there were 37 cases reported and the information for 1999-2000 shows that the numbers of cases in Nunavut are still high. Mr. Speaker, the treatment for this disease is better than it used to be. People don't have to leave their families for so long and the treatment is more effective.

But tuberculosis continues to have a big impact in our lives. When a person is diagnosed with this disease it puts great demands on our medical workers and they have to test and investigate everyone else who may have caught the disease. It is frightening for people especially for those who have memories from the past.

Speaker (interpretation): Time is up for you Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am just about done my member's statement. I ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker: Member is seeking unanimous consent to finish his member's statement. Are there any nays. Continue Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Even though living conditions have improved for many Nunavummiut, the lack of social housing is still a big issue. Overcrowding often leads to health problems such as the spread of colds and infections and diseases like tuberculosis.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to support and encourage the Minister for Health and Social Services for his department's work in this area. I would like to encourage the Minister responsible for Housing to continue with her efforts to provide more social housing. Together we can work to prevent the spread of TB. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Members' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

Member's Statement 145 - 1(5): Pangnirtung Athletes

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I would like to recognize Gabriel Bourassa, from Pangnirtung, who will be traveling south to attend volleyball training camp in Winnipeg from March 25 to the 30th. This program is for athletes age 14-18, and is geared towards obtaining athletic excellence for aboriginal youth and is organized by the Canadian Volleyball Association.

I would like to join his parents in telling him how proud we are of him. I was a bit disappointed that the other participant, Sam Kilabuk was not able to go with him as planned. It turns out that Gabriel and Sam are twin brothers. Sam was going to attend the course with him but Sam is also a hockey player and is going to a hockey tournament in Saskatoon.

So I'd just like to say that I am proud of Lucassie Etuangat, Brian Alivaktak and Sam Kilabuk. They will be participating in the Air Canada Hockey Tournament. They are going back at the end of the month and I hope they have a fun and safe trip home when they are done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Members' Statements. Ms. Williams.

Member's Statement 146 – 1(5): National Social Workers' Week

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to rise today to praise a very important group of professionals working in Nunavut, our social workers.

Since it is National Social Workers' Week, there is no better time to express our thanks for the work that they do. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I can speak from personal experience when I say that the work of a social worker is often taken for granted and given little praise.

(interpretation) They work tirelessly in our communities, taking on several roles from delivering social assistance to counselling families of suicide victims. It is reassuring to see that some of the workload has been taken by other departments. The Department of Education is now giving social assistance, income support, and the Department of Justice is beginning to take over the probation and parole services.

This gives the social workers more opportunity to focus their efforts on child welfare and family counselling matters. The work of the social worker often exposes them to a negative side of the community. Social Workers are on call 24 hours per day, seven days per week. They are often in situations where they have to investigate cases of neglect and abuse of children. In some cases they address the family member to move away from a violent situation.

Many social workers work in their own communities with little outside support and this situation can place great emotional strain on them. The social workers as well as the people they counsel need our support here.

I would like to encourage the regional supervisors to develop a solid support structure for our social workers and visit them regularly as they work on the front lines. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to call on the Members of this Assembly to join me in expressing gratitude and thanks to Nunavut's social workers for their tireless efforts. It is also good to see one of the social workers here, Ms. Akeeagok, and thank you Mr. Speaker.

Some Members: Hear, hear.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Williams. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

Member's Statement 147 – 1(5): Sanikiluaq Dialect

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since today is Friday I will be using my own dialect to make my comments...

>>*Applause*

...smile if you can understand my Inuktitut. Since today is Friday we call it Niqitchik, which means to go find food and tomorrow, Saturday is Ulingisunga, which means the day before resting and Sunday is when you rest.

Today on Friday, the men are going to be going hunting and the wife stays in the community with her own work. If those that are left behind at home see a raven going by they would yell Nigalagit, Nigalajit and if the raven answered back while flying away it means that the hunters have found their prey.

If the raven called back Rrqau Rrqau, that means that the hunters are coming back with your dinner, food is on its way. That would be one of the old beliefs of the Inuit, many of which relate to food and survival.

Our dialects in Inuktitut are different and that is something good, it is Alianaituq. The meaning of Alianaituq in my dialect is good or positive. I hear a similar related term from the dialect here Alianaliuqut, which in the Baffin dialect means going through a difficult or unhappy time. The same word in my dialect means "you are very funny", the total opposite. This is the importance of understanding our dialects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter, Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 148 – 1(5): Recognition of John Quirke

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, over 25 years ago a young man began his career as an employee in government. He began in the bowels of the Brown Building and arose to stratospheric heights of the bureaucracy in Yellowknife.

Mr. Speaker, he became part of the senior bureaucracy in Yellowknife, known with derision as the Baffin Mafia. The Yellowknife senior civil servants saw these government employees come from the hinterland to gain power and control of the senior functions of the GNWT civil service.

Mr. Speaker, he joined the likes of Ken Lovely, Mark Cleveland and Jim Britton to name a few of these very important wise men from the east. Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Kelvin Ng who could have a career in fashion co-ordination after his political career as he always points out the length of members' ties, their suit colours and helps the members select their footwear, but Mr. Speaker, I digress.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ng once told me that individual, that first incomparable ability Mr. Speaker, was one of the most efficient senior administrators in government. I am told that he had to wind down a department and integrate it into the WCB, and he was given 14 months, Mr. Speaker, 14 months to do it and he did it in a record six months, Mr.

Speaker.

He hasn't had a holiday in two years, he leads by example, the Legislative godfather, a constituent and Mr. Speaker, I consider him a friend, Quirke the Clerk, Mr. John Quirke, our own clerk Mr. Speaker. Congratulations John, on your 25 plus years of long service, the other night he wasn't even able to make the ceremonies.

>> *Applause*

Thank you, and congratulations. Mr. Speaker, very quickly and as a footnote, Mr. Quirke has taken up the challenge and we have a little bet going on that if any of the members see me with a foreign object in my mouth I would pay the 50 dollars, including a pen or a pencil and so on. Mr. Quirke is playing the referee for that, and is keeping an eye on me and to date I have not had to pay that money out. Thank you, Mr. Quirke.

>> *Laughter, Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. John, congratulations, Mr. Quirke. Members' Statements. Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 149 – 1(5): Toronto Maple Leafs to Win Cup

Mr. McLean: Koanna, Uqaqti. Uqaqti, since we have come in here at the end of February there has been an uneasy pall over the Legislative Assembly that really disturbed me. I have noticed that the cabinet members have been down on the first floor quite a bit of the time.

Wandering around, trying to see what our agenda is and what our secrets are and stuff like that. To this date, I didn't really realize what they were down there for. But it became very clear to me Mr. Speaker, that last night the hopes and dreams of that crew over there that are Montreal Canadians fans were quashed.

But Mr. Speaker, the upside is they will be out fishing before the Toronto Maple Leaf fans and they will hopefully contribute their fish to us when the Toronto Maple Leafs win the Stanley Cup. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause, laughter*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. McLean. Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 150 – 1(5): Recognition of Full-time Specialized Hunters

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I will be speaking about hunters. We all know that there is a class of hunters that hunt for the joy of it, big game hunting. There is another class of hunters that hunt in good weather only and there are also weekend hunters.

The fourth class, which the government does not recognize properly, are the full-time hunters, who hunt for a living, that is their occupation. I would like to recognize them today.

They provide food for their families and to the people of their communities. Especially for the needy and for the families who don't have a hunter. They provide all that meat for the community. They go out hunting whether it's nice outside, or if it's bad weather. They go out to work in a very dangerous environment.

Even when they know that there are risks involved, they will never give up. The government does not pay them but they are appreciated and are supported by the people of their communities.

The government has a system that only provides funding for certain groups that they, the government, recognize on an annual basis like we're doing in the main estimates and so on. We do not provide funding for them even though they do a lot to support their community. So at this time I would like to ask members to recognize those full time hunters who provide for the needy and for their community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 151 - 1(5): Discipline and Suicide

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning we have heard some statements that made us smile, and that is important, but today I will talk about a serious subject.

Mr. Speaker, when I was a child I made mistakes without realizing it. Sometimes if it was called for, my father and my mother would spank me and help me correct my mistakes. That is how I found out the difference between right and wrong. This was good for me and helped me become a happier person.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that for the youth out there and even to the people who have matured and elders, that not every day is a happy day. We can all get hurt in our lives, mentally or otherwise. No matter who you are, you can get hurt mentally.

We all have to accept that our lives will come to an end. Our time will come. Because of that I want to see suicide eradicated because we will all pass away when our time comes. Our grandfathers and our grandmothers have brought us to this day. Some of them have passed away a long time ago. I would like to thank my ancestors, because of them we are here today.

We now even have our own government, and we can create systems that are made in

Nunavut. This is something that was never anticipated by our grandparents but was talked about.

Even as members and even no matter who you are, your life will have its ups and downs. There is always good and bad throughout your life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Back to the Orders of the Day. (interpretation) Sorry, Members' Statements. Mr. Akesuk.

Member's Statement 152 – 1(5): Toronto Maple Leafs vs. Montreal Canadiens

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would first like to say hello to the people in the two communities in my constituency, and apologize for not having the time to visit recently.

(interpretation ends) A couple of weeks ago I was in Toronto for the PDAP over in Toronto and Mani was there and a bunch of us from DSD.

So I went to Toronto and I was looking for a cup of tea, a place where I could have a very good, decent cup of tea in Toronto. Of all the restaurants in Toronto I couldn't find one. I found the reason why I couldn't find a cup of tea in Toronto is because all the cups are in Montreal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter, applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Back to the Orders of the Day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Thompson.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to OQ 097 - 1(5): Staff Housing Rental Rates

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't know what the member was talking about when he was talking about tea. (interpretation ends) I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Hunter Tootoo on March 8 of 2001.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide a response to a question posed to me by Mr. Tootoo on March 8, 2001. The member raised the issue of staff housing rental rates and asked if the age and condition of the units are taken into account when calculating the rental rates.

Mr. Speaker in calculating the monthly rates for the government staff housing units the age and condition of rental units are not taken into consideration. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Public Works and Services is currently reviewing all aspects of staff housing in consultation with the Housing Strategy committee. It is anticipated that a draft

of a new staff housing policy will be brought forward to cabinet by the fall of 2001.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Thompson. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Returning to the Orders of the Day. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Premier.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize one of my constituents, this person has been here for the whole week and I think everybody knows this individual. You may have seen her on television teaching hockey. She is one of our pages, Jessie Mike. Welcome to the gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Okalik. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to introduce to the gallery today and the House, a person that we usually see the by-line of, that intrepid reporter with the seventh estate, Ms. Jane George. She usually reports from Northern Quebec and Nunavik. But she has been reporting from Nunavut and the Assembly. I would like to welcome her to the gallery, Ms. Jane George. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to recognize some people. I would like to recognize four people from Arctic Bay's Inuyak School. Noreen Pettypeace is here as one of our pages, Wayne Taqtu, is sitting over there, and Matthew Akikuluk is behind me. Also one of the other pages Alvin Enoogoo. They are from Arctic Bay and they are going to be paging for us. I would like you to warmly welcome them because they are new here and they are kind of shy.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you for being here from Arctic Bay. (interpretation ends) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, sometimes when young people that I have never seen before see me they still recognize me. This young person from Arctic Bay came up to me and said hello. I didn't even know that person and I would like to return that respect to the person who said hello to me. With that, I wish him a safe trip home.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. (interpretation ends) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 177 - 1(5): Status of M'Clintock Channel Polar Bear Tags

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a question today to the Minister responsible for Sustainable Development. Mr. Speaker, I know that the department along with other wildlife officials recently cut the quotas for polar bear hunting tags in the M'Clintock Channel area from 38 to 12 as a result of a decline in the population over there. I would like to ask the minister if those 12 tags have been issued out to the community yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just recently the Kitikmeot Wildlife Federation board met and they issued all of the 12 tags for the M'Clintock channel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased that they were issued. I would like to ask the minister if he is aware of when these tags are normally issued. Is it the same time that they are issued annually. In the past have they been issued earlier or later. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the polar bear season opens these tags are issued. That is usually in January or February especially when daylight starts coming back. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know that they are issued in January or February and we are now into March and the tags have just been issued. I am just wondering if the minister or the department feel that, maybe some concerns in being able to fill those tags in the timelines that are faced by the hunters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are aware of the

timelines and we have consulted with the communities about the polar bear season. Some of these tags were already used and some are still outstanding in Taloyoak and Uqsuqtuq. Of course, some of the tags are given out to those communities that always will use up their tags. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 178 - 1(5): Support and Assistance to HTOs

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Sustainable Development. When we met in Committee of the Whole yesterday, I should have mentioned this, but I have the opportunity now.

The communities have HTOs and they lack office space. I want to ask why this has not been dealt with. They really need office space. We depend on wildlife for nourishment. In the communities we have to follow rules and regulations. The HTOs require proper facilities and they end up using old used facilities for the offices. I would like to ask the department if they could look into this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your question is very good. Some communities do and some don't have good facilities. Not all the communities have mediocre facilities. I am sure that's not the case in all the HTO offices.

Yes, we contribute funding and the funding has no criteria, it is up to the HTOs to determine how they spend it. We also contribute to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and they add even more to the contribution. The contribution that we make to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board is without criteria, it is just to give them assistance.

I know it is hard to find out how to support the HTOs with the limited resources we have but we can look into it because not all the HTOs have very old facilities. We are willing to work on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The wildlife officers that come to our community from the government departments, they have wonderful facilities and office space. But for the HTOs of Nunavut, they are the local organizations that know the community. They rarely give them any good facilities or good support.

So looking at it is not very nice to see. I would like to see a concrete plan for them for the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, as the Nunavut Government we cannot work on this alone. We need the co-operation of other organizations, because it is very expensive to build facilities. Perhaps NTI and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board by working with them we can, we already have a working relationship with these two entities, so we can look for ways with them to resolve this.

Especially in the communities who are lacking facilities, I would like to know which communities have very old and badly deteriorated facilities. As the Nunavut Government we cannot deal with this alone, we would require assistance from NTI and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and we will have to work together to improve this and find out what the status of the community offices are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to hear this response that he is willing to look into this in the future. But when they say how expensive it is, as I said before, the government officials that come into our communities, their facilities and offices already exist and they are very nicely built.

One individual or one staff member from the headquarters comes into the community and they have very nice offices, so therefore I was just wondering if the HTOs could be treated the same. I am sure it is possible because we require adequate facilities. I just wanted to have a concrete plan for the future and I am willing to assist the Department of Sustainable Development on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Before the minister responds, I would just like to remind the members to keep your preambles short and your answers to the point. Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Nunavut Government, we give funding through our department. The HTOs in the communities are funded by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and NTI.

As the government, we contribute to NTI and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and that is their responsibility. Perhaps one could write a letter to these two entities. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Back to the Orders of the Day. Item 7. Written Questions. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions.

Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister Picco.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**Bill 6 - Nunavut Power Corporation Utility Assets Transfer Confirmation Act - Notice**

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday March 26, 2001, I shall move that Bill 6, the Nunavut Power Corporation Utility Assets Transfer Confirmation Act be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Bill 1, with Mr. Iqaqrialu in the Chair.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Sergeant-At-Arms.

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

Chairperson (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Please be seated. Thank you. During the Committee of the Whole, we will be dealing with the Department of Justice. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman., we would like to deal with Bill 1, 2001-2002 Main Estimates and the Department of Justice. We would also like to commence the review of the 2001-2002 Capital Estimates for the Department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Do we agree to deal with Bill 1, 2001-2002 for the Department of Justice. We will start with page 5-6. Minister Okalik you may go down to the witness table. Do the members agree that his witnesses can come into the Chamber. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before the witnesses come to the Chamber. If we could take a short break. Perhaps 5-10 minutes.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Before your officials come in we will take a short 10-minute break. Do all the members agree.

>> *Committee recessed at 11.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.20 a.m.*

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik take your seat at the witness table. Thank you for taking your seat. Please introduce your witnesses. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are the same two as yesterday. Nora Sanders is at my right, Deputy Minister and on my left is Simon Awa, Director of Policy and Planning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Before we start with questions, I will give members 10 minutes to make general comments. Are there any general comments to the Department of Justice. If there are no general comments. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a brief comment. I'll be talking about Inuit culture. Justice is a very important part of our lives. I know when an individual is incarcerated a lot of the inmates are in for a very long time, it is very hard on the family. They spend time in jail for such a long time and they don't see their families. The children that are left behind tend to go through hardships and I think there should be assistance or some kind of help for children. When a person is sent to jail I think we should look for ways for sending them for a short time. I know it is very hard as a person and sometimes, if it is an indictable offence an individual might stay for a very long time.

They have to spend time in jail. I know Inuit used to talk to their people advising individuals and disciplining people that offended or broke the law. I think we should look for ways of using traditional knowledge to advise inmates of how they could better their lives. I know our cultures are different. Inuit culture and Qallunaat culture are different but the pain is the same and we all have the same feelings, they can be hurt the same way.

We have to look for ways to better our lives and the lives of the people in our communities. I just wanted to make those comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Are there any other general comments. Mr. Iqittuq, I would like to ask you to take the chair, for a bit.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to be talking about what I understand and what I think about the justice system and our culture. I have been involved in the justice committee in our community. I have also dealt with offenders and I myself have misbehaved in the past as well. I think we all at one time or another in our lives break a rule and we often learn from those mistakes. I know everybody has lived through embarrassment, and there are things in the past that we don't want to reveal and everyone has gone through something like that at one time or another.

The justice system has been around for many years and I really appreciate the work the department does. They work hard towards making sure that people follow the law. I know in the past before the justice system came to the north, we used to go through really hard times. I also know some individuals that have been charged with a crime have to wait for many months for their case to be dealt with by the courts.

When an individual is waiting to be taken to court, many tend to think about suicide. When they attend court they tend to reveal a lot of shameful incidents or things that have happened. The justice system, the federal government has asked the government to review the justice department and I think that was a very good suggestion.

When you live in a smaller community, I know that when a crime has been committed in the bigger communities we often feel for the victims and also the offender. When we live in a small community, the community is very good at working together, but we also see people disagree with each other and it makes it very hard for the community.

When you are involved with the justice committee you tend to work with the community and I have served as a justice of the peace and dealt with a lot of members of our community. We have gone through hardship in our community under the justice system. I know that this affects people in the community and the Justice Department has dealt with a lot of people and it is really hard on the families when an individual has committed a crime and that individual has to realize what he or she has done and correct those mistakes. I really appreciate the work that the department does because they try to make life better in the community.

Since the 1960's, that was the turning point in our lives and there are some of us who are in between. During that turning point, we started losing our identity which created more social problems. We started taking on an identity that was totally alien to us and we started taking on a different lifestyle. Because of the change over the years, looking back, I think we are going to be taking back our identity and looking at what kinds of tasks lie ahead of us. I think that we will start realizing that once we start getting our identity back and that will influence the Department of Justice.

I will be very appreciative if the Department of Justice looks at the traditional and the contemporary lifestyles and I will be a full supporter of this department when we start doing that. The Justice Department has an effect on all of us and I think we should all work together. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me this opportunity. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Did you want to take the chair again. Please return then.

Chairperson (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. Any general comments, if there are no further general comments, we will go to the estimates. Page 5-6, Department of Justice, branch summary. Directorate. Page 5-6. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Before we go to the main estimates, I would like to ask some general questions if it is okay with you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. You can go ahead with your questions.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): In the opening remarks yesterday and today the members said that they will be training Inuit to become lawyers. My question is in regards to the training that will be held. Is that just for Inuit or is that for all Nunavummiut. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it will be Inuit only. Because of course we all know that there are no Inuit lawyers and we would like to see Inuit take on this profession. In our department we find that we have to increase the Inuit numbers and we have to train Inuit to take on these professions. That is where we would like to see some training for our department, so we can take on more Inuit who will give assistance to the people out there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I am very happy that you would like to do some training for Inuit only as the trainees will be using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in part of their training. Once we get these Inuit trained, will they be able to work nationally and will Inuktitut be recognized nationally.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can't change the national Acts or the standards, but we can deal with our own up here. In our department we use Inuktitut, we draft bills and legislation that will be used for the people of Nunavut. We are going to be training Inuit on those. We will also integrate the Inuit culture because it will be applicable in the future.

We will also look at possibly integrating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into this training component so it can be applied in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Going to another issue. Regarding the juries that are selected during court proceedings. What are we going to be doing about the rates that are paid to the jurors and who deals with that. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The federal government sets this but we administer pay for the jurors. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I have received a letter about the rates that are paid to the jurors that are selected. For example if I have to take time off work, if I work for the

Hamlet Council and I have to take time off to attend court as a jury member. I would to take time off without pay. If I were making 75 dollars or 90 dollars per day, I would be losing that if I was selected to sit on the jury.

I would be sitting as a juror for two or three days and I would be paid for example, 45 dollars per day.

If I didn't show up the judge could summon me. If I didn't show up I could be arrested. I think that we should do something about it, and reconsider the rates that are paid by your department.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have made some adjustments to that but it is mostly for our employees, where we can cover lost wages. But for the people that don't work for the Nunavut Government we may have to reconsider it. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. How long would the review take or would you have to introduce a bill for the rates that are paid for jury members. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The rates are set by our regulations and we would have to review the whole policy carefully. I can't tell you exactly when that would take place. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to ask another question that is totally different from that one. During some proceedings elders have to be included. I don't know whether that applies to all the Nunavut communities. But the elders attend during the court proceedings and the court can either accept the advice of the elders and apply it or not use it at all.

That's what we do in my community of Pond Inlet, and I assume that's what it is like in all the Nunavut communities. The elders' circle has to be involved during the court proceedings and the elders give advice to the person, or the person is asked to go in front of the elders in the justice circle.

Are you looking into ways of paying for elders in the courts. Or are you doing anything about alternative justice systems, or community justice.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the first time that I have heard about the alternative justice system separate from the community justice committee using the elders. I know that the elders are included in the justice committees and they are involved during the court proceedings. We have set aside some money so that the elders can be paid more in the community justice committees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you very much for your response. Maybe you would know a lot more as you have become the Minister of Justice. It is something that I just wanted to bring up but it is a comment more than anything else. I am very glad that you are going to be reviewing the rates that are paid to the elders but I think that they need more support. Because using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit they are involved during the court proceedings and I think they should be adequately compensated.

I think they should also have a clerk or reporter so that we can start integrating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit at the community level. That is more of a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. I didn't hear a question but it is something to be considered. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the first time that I have heard about the elders' situation that you mentioned. I thought they were already in the committees but we are going to be giving them more responsibility so I will have this checked into. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik, for your response. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a similar line of questioning as Mr. Nutarak regarding jury duty. The government has legislated a minimum wage for all the employees in Nunavut, or have grandfathered minimum wage legislation.

The hours of work before overtime is paid is also legislated. My question is can there be legislation for jury duty, not just for the government employees, but for all the employees of Nunavut, private sector or otherwise, to be on jury duty not to lose their pay. Can this be legislated as part of the Nunavut made legislation. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. To make a brief comment, we will be breaking at 12 o'clock for lunch and we will probably be taking a half hour or 45 minute break, before I forget. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can look at it further. Right now we currently pay our employees for jury duty, but it would involve talking with the

businesses whether they could afford to pay for their employees that have jury duty.

To date it has been more of a civic duty to be chosen as a jury member, so that is why it has been left as it is, but we can look at it further. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This civic duty is very much taken with pride by all citizens of Canada including Nunavut. Does this policy by the government to pay their employees when they are on jury duty, include government sponsored or government funded organizations like the hamlets or agencies and boards and commissions. Does that include the local government and other government funded programs. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Anything else. I have no more names at this time. We will then move on to the Department of Justice, main estimates, branch summary. Directorate. We are on page 5-6. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 882 thousand. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Why is there a requirement for contract services in the directorate. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask my Deputy to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Ms. Sanders.

Ms. Sanders: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Directorate includes our policy and planning division and also our corporate services. From time to time, there would be things like the contract for our photocopier I think is included in that and it could also include a minor contract for a research charge and that kind of thing that would be done through our policy and planning division. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Sanders. Anyone else. We were at 1 million 820 thousand. Total operations and maintenance. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. To the next page. We will be moving to page 5-8 because those are information items. James.

Mr. Arvaluk: On 5-8 is this contract services for the RCMP part of the expenditure of 13 million 891 dollars. Is that still at the 30% on what the Federal government pays. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we pay 70% and the federal government pays 30% of the contract services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that consistent with other jurisdictions that use RCMP for their policing services. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we were looking at the capital I didn't see anything about new aluminium boats and outboard motors in the communities. But in my communities the aluminium boat that belongs to the RCMP is never used, only on the weekend that is used for pleasure purposes, because we have a very good wildlife office programs that attend to on the land enforcement. Is this still continuing, purchasing of capital items such as boats and things like that for the RCMP in the communities. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The federal government does all capital purchases. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Anything else. We are now in Justice Branch summary. Law enforcement, total expenditures 13 million 964 thousand. All agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Carried. Total expenditures 13 million 164 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turn to 5-9. Justice branch summary,

Legal Services Board. Total operations and maintenance, 3 million 126 thousand dollars. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 3 million 126 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Just information item on 5-10. Justice Branch summary, lawyer support services. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 802 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 1 million 802 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. To the next page. Justice, branch summary. Registries and court services. Total operations and maintenance, 4 million 456 thousand. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before you read out the numbers I have a question regarding registries and court services.

Chairperson (interpretation): Which page are you on Ms. Williams. Page 5-12. Go ahead Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask about the Justices of the Peace in the communities. I know that these have been worked on for the last two years. Now in all the communities is there more than one JP now in every community. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot give you the exact numbers of JPs right now but there have been more Justices of the Peace appointed to this date. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also wanted to ask if there are more JPs now and there are workshops held for these JPs as they have different protocols.

Are they level 2 or 3 now for training. Are there any JPs that can take on cases that are more serious and are there more law clerks employed. I also want to hear how many lawyers have been hired to deal with cases.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we still have ongoing workshops so that the Justices of the Peace can take on more responsibilities. So we have been delivering workshops so that they can carry out their role. I can't respond to you about how many JPs we have but I will be able to get back to all the members, especially about what the member is asking. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Ms. Williams, you will be the last person before we break for lunch. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are breaking for meals all the time. (interpretation ends) My question was that there has been some training for JPs in the communities by a person that is well trained in the law. Is this person teaching level 2 and 3 JPs in the communities. If so can they now do more trials in the communities and does this department expect to increase their operating budget for legal and other staff for the JPs to deal with more cases in the communities, which has been a plan of this government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past the JPs didn't have employees, so we don't foresee that. But they do get assistance from our court services, whether it be registering sentences, or assisting with other administrative duties. So currently before you there are additional staff that we are requesting for court services. I would imagine that they will take on additional duties as more JPs go on line and deal with more matters at the local level. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. At this time, total operations and maintenance, 4 million 456 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Total expenditures, 4 million 556 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Going on to the next page. At this time, we will take a short lunch break. We will return in 45 minutes.

>> *Committee recessed at 12.00 and resumed at 12.49 p.m.*

Chairperson (interpretation): We should start as we need to complete some items. We will go on back to page 5-13. Justice branch summary. Community justice and corrections. Total operations and maintenance, 12 million 206 thousand. Any comments. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not sure how I am going to ask this question. This page talks about community justice and correction. I'd like to get some clarification or an update on how this is going. In Igloolik and Hall Beach, the community has made recommendations on how to deal with community justice. Could I get a response Mr. Minister.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We continued to give them responsibilities and more training. If I was approached by a community member with a concern about whether their program is continuing or not, I could check into it. The money was allocated for inmates in Yellowknife. We'd like to bring back the inmates closer to Nunavut. We'd like to see more inmates serving their time at outpost camps or camps close to communities in the future.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The inmates that serve their time at correctional camps, are there rules that are set up. I know that a couple of communities were asking to set up camps outside of their community for a while now. What are the barriers that they kept coming across to have camp corrections. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's training available and our staff is available for training. We look to see if the camps are safe and we will continue to review the incidents that happened just recently this year and we will continue to make corrections when we do so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The correctional camps that are set up, could there be assistance available for transportation in those camps. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand he said yes. The communities that I represent have come across areas where their application for transportation wasn't approved and if a community requested transportation, a community was requesting a snowmobile, would they be able to receive that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sometimes we have assisted communities. If they don't have a snowmobile for their transportation we have been able to assist communities and we will continue to do this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, I appreciate his response and will forward that information to the community. I am wondering how many inmates a correctional camp would be able to receive per supervisor. How many supervisors are available at that camp. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They have a limited number of inmates per supervisor. It is set up so that supervisors can just take care of a certain amount because they are supervising individuals that have committed crimes. Each camp is different. It depends on what crimes a person has committed and the limited space in camps. I don't have the exact numbers.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For instance if I used myself as an example how many inmates would I be supervising, if I was supervisor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is hard to respond to that question. I think we'd have to look at the size. It would depend on the size of the camp and how many inmates were serving time in that camp. So it is hard to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, when an

individual is serving time in a camp is there a limit as to how many supervisors there can be. For instance, if there were 10 inmates there are no set rules saying how many supervisors would be there.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One supervisor would be able to supervise three inmates and it would also depend on what they are serving time for. A camp would not have 10 inmates if there were one supervisor. This is not the way it is set up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. that is what I am trying to find out. Mr. Chairman, when a supervisor is working at a correction centre or camp, what is that salary for the supervisor for the day, or week. What is the method of payment for say an inmate in a camp for a day.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Payment is different. The supervisors are paid about 90 dollars a day for one inmate. Some of them are a little bit lower and some of them are higher. We'd have to check them out and we can also review their wages. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So it might be a little bit lower or higher than 90 dollars. The minister indicated transportation. Everything would be provided for the person in custody including the meals and room and board and also the guards. Could you clarify that for me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We pay 90 dollars per day for guarding the inmate and also for the operations. That's included in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the guard's salary is also included with the meals right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Anything else. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Have you considered, for example, 90 dollars is not very much when you're going to be using it to pay for all the expenses, and operations. Have you considered increasing that per diem. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have done a bit of reviewing. If the operations are more expensive than what they are getting then we'll increase. Ninety dollars is an average that we pay for each person in custody. If there were two, they would be getting 180 dollars for one day. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you. I got the responses that I wanted. Mr. Chairman, in the Baffin region or anywhere in Nunavut, how many correctional camps do we have in the territory. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have six operating in the whole of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Your second last question. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Premier for responding to my questions. If anybody would like to start a correctional camp is it possible to do so even if you have six operating right now. If a person wanted to set up a camp. Is that open. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are open to people that would like to start correctional camps and we are also reviewing how to set up a better system. I would want the people to be well aware and also keep everything safe.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Your last question, Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was my last question, but I would like to ask another last question, Mr. Chairman. If someone were to make a request to start a correctional camp, would your staff go that individual's community and help the

person who wants to set up the camp, to get it started. Is that the process.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. I will allow you more questions if there are more questions. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under corrections we were talking about our inmates that are in southern institutions for over two years. Is there any movement in this government to build a federal institution in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is federal penitentiaries that are currently under the federal system. But we have had preliminary discussions with the federal government where perhaps we could look at a joint arrangement where it is part federal and part a territorial facility. But we haven't had detailed discussions with the federal government yet.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. But there is a plan that we are going to talk to the federal government and maybe do some movement on a federal institution within Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

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

Mr. McLean: Good. That is the kind of answer that I like. I know it is Friday. Under community justice, I had a couple of questions and I don't want to beat this one to pieces because it is a tragedy that happened in the past. With community policing and RCMP contracts, the RCMP are now stating publicly and they were very quiet about it in the past, now they are stating in public that they are short of officers, due to public safety, safety for them and us.

Is your department willing to talk to the RCMP about maybe trying to find some more money for additional RCMP officers in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To date we haven't received any detailed

requests from the RCMP but I believe that there is a review taking place, so I will await the results of the review and consider it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chair, maybe you could direct me as to when I should ask this question about the victims assistance fund. I don't see it in this book. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. You can ask your question Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be asking a question regarding the victim assistance program. Where is that in this estimate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a very excellent question. We don't fund this program. Usually those amounts are restitution paid by the person who committed the crime. They are funds that are collected through the court system. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to know if there was a report by the victim assistance committee. When will the minister be tabling it in this House. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't seen as of yet but once we receive it we will table it. I should add we intend to hire an employee for victims' assistance under the community justice budget during this fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I am just wondering if the community justice committees in the communities are the only link to this department then we may want to do more things for communities to take on more responsibilities. There is very little increase to the community justice committee fund. How is the department, how is the minister going to accommodate this with very little money under the community justice committee budget. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently we are requesting additional money for the justice committees. We understand that they've been under funded in the past. So we are asking for an increase. Further, we have had some training programs for the justice committees and we intend to do some more. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. If there are no more questions. Justice branch summary. Community justice and corrections. Total operations and maintenance, 12 million 265 thousand dollars. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 12 million 665 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. To the next page. This is more of an information item. Any more questions. To the next page. More of an information item 5-15. Any questions regarding this page. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This community constable agreement. I know there is one like this in Coral Harbour. Are there any other programs like this in any other communities.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): We want to know where.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now we have 22 employees present in different communities. We can identify the communities that they're employed in if you so chose. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't know that there is as many as 22. There's only 115 thousand dollars allocated for this program. How many hours do they work in a day. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, it seems like a small amount but they're not the only ones that we are funding. The federal government also pays half of this amount towards the policing services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): I asked how many hours are worked in one day. Also, as an addition, are the communities happy with this program of community constables. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The hours vary from community to community so I cannot really answer that question. What we want to know is if there are problems with this program then we would like to hear what those problems are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps, there are so many questions, we would like to hear a report from the justice department. These community constables are very handy to have for the RCMP and the bylaw officers. When the RCMP officers are not able to be there, these community constables have been a real help to the communities.

They've been beneficial for the communities and they go on further training to Regina, Saskatchewan. How can we improve this community constable agreement because it is somewhat confusing. I would like to see at least a two-page report providing an update on the program, and how beneficial they are for the communities to have. I would also like an indication of how many hours on average per week are worked. I would like to see a report of this some time in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I agree with Mr. Arvaluk. By setting aside funds, we are trying to get more community constables who will help in the communities and we can include this in the report when we draft this report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community constable is not the only resource there is also the Department of Sustainable Development, economic development officers and perhaps in the future we will have nurses. Those are some of the things that are all concerned.

Communities are proud of the community constables. So I would definitely like to see a report on the community constable programs. Because they are becoming more community based, that is just something that I wanted to mention. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is more like a comment and I don't hear a question there. He just said that it is more of a comment than a question. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. That was just a comment. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He just made me smile. I want to ask about the court interpreters that have taken legal interpreting training programs. Are our legally trained interpreters sufficient now because I don't see any more programs of this kind in the future. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Keep that smile on your face Ms. Williams. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now we have sufficient legal interpreters, but if there were a requirement for more legal interpreters we would set aside more funding. Some of the funding was received from the federal government but we are the watchdogs of those programs, if we have to add to those funds then we will. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He has given a good, clear answer. One of the questions that came up in my mind too was the training of the JPs. Training and development funding is provided to enhance their training. Is there any more training to be had in the future, because the Premier briefly touched on this. There is no funding set aside for this program so are we going to see any more Justice of the Peace training and development in the future. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, last year there was 190 thousand dollars allocated by the federal government and we added to those funds. Those dollars came from the federal government and we will be requesting additional funding. We will use our own dollars to keep the program going and we will be asking the federal government for additional funding. The federal government did provide funding last year but it has not been resolved for this year. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Okalik. Right now we are on information items. Information item 5-15. Going on to 5-16. This is just an information item. If not we will go back to page 5-5. Page 5-5.

Thank you, any comments. Justice, branch summary. Details of expenditures, 37 million 495 thousand. Do you agree. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wondered what page you are on now. Rather than 555, I looked for that page but I couldn't find it. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): I am sorry for saying that in Inuktitut. We are on page 5-5. Can you find your page now. Thank you. Total operations and maintenance, 37 million 495 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 37 million 995 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. I would like to thank the people from the Department of Justice. The comments were very interesting and I believe that we are going to go ahead with what has been said today. Mr. Okalik, if you have any closing remarks.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you for those very good questions and also I would like to thank my officials. Thank you, and we will see you very shortly. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, for coming to the witness table while we dealt with the department. At this time we have completed the Department of Justice. Do we agree to deal with Bill 1 Appropriation Act, 2001-2002, Department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, capital estimates. Are we agreed that we will begin with the capital and then go on to the main estimates. Minister Kattuk, you can do your opening remarks now. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I will be doing my opening comments in English. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Legislative Assembly, during the past year the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth made significant progress toward establishing the framework that is required for the promotion, preservation and protection of the traditional Inuit culture and heritage in Nunavut. Part of that progress was staffing our vacant positions. I am pleased to report to the Legislative Assembly that we have now staffed 72% of our positions, and we are actively attempting to recruit and hire staff for any remaining vacant positions.

During the past year we have been working with the Department of Health and Social Services in the area of suicide prevention. Together, we are delivering a series of community-based Youth Peer Counselling Workshops. These workshops are providing many of our youth with skills they can pass on to other youth in their home communities. Increasing the self-esteem of our youth and improving their knowledge of Nunavut's rich cultural heritage is an important part of our mandate. This month we are also holding three regional workshops for our elders, and in the 2001-02 fiscal year we are planning three regional combined Elders and Youth conferences.

My department is also continuing to support the important work of the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Tunngaviksaliuqtiit Task Force. We have identified an appropriate candidate for the IQ Co-ordinator position and we are currently working to appoint the individual. The Task Force held their first meeting in Iqaluit on January 23rd to 26th. Their next meeting will be held this April in Iqaluit.

We have also completed the appointment process for the members of the Status of Women Council, and hired the Senior Advisor for Women's issues and People with Disabilities. The Senior Advisor has just finished assisting the People with Disabilities Society with their annual general meeting, which was recently held in Iqaluit.

My department also continues to support the Status of Women Council, women's organizations and the Council for the Disabled, through the provision of contribution funding.

The appointments to the Nunavut Historical Advisory Board have now been made. This Board will provide an important advisory role during the planning process for any future facilities that are designed to protect and preserve Nunavut's cultural heritage. We have set aside funding for the Board's future meetings.

In the area of language, I can advise the members that our Language Bureau in Kugluktuk is now fully operational, with most of the positions staffed. Our department provides 702 thousand dollars in contribution funding to community-based organizations or individuals for the promotion, preservation, protection, revitalization and enhancement of the Inuktitut language in Nunavut.

Through the Canada-Nunavut Co-operation Agreement for French and Inuit Languages, the Federal Department of Canadian Heritage provides Nunavut with an additional 1.1 million dollars for community-based Inuktitut language initiatives. Because we signed the initial Agreement late in the 1999-00 fiscal year, we benefited from a one-time carry-over of additional funding into the 2000-01 fiscal year.

As a result, we were able to fund an extensive number of projects, including providing the Department of Education with funding for the Elders in the Schools program. We are currently advertising throughout Nunavut for community-based proposals to access these language-funding sources for the 2001-02 fiscal year.

A second component of the Official Languages Agreement with the Federal Government is the provision of 1.45 million dollars in funding for French language services. This funding is for the translation of legislation, support for community language development, and the provision of all Government of Nunavut services in French, as required under the Official Languages Act. Although we do not currently receive funding from the Federal Government for the provision of Government of Nunavut services in Inuktitut, we are actively pursuing funding for this purpose. I look forward to reporting back to the Legislative Assembly later this year regarding the status of this issue.

Mr. Chairman, another area I am pleased to report on is our Grants and Contributions program for Cultural and Heritage Activities, Elders and Youth initiatives, Communications and Radio, and the Arts. The support for community-based initiatives in all of these areas has been highly successful. We are currently refining our accountability process for Grants and Contributions in order to evaluate the performance of the projects, and ensure the approval process is fair, transparent, and reflects community-based needs.

For the 2001-02 fiscal year, our first priority will be local community-based projects. The Nunavut Literacy Council is currently conducting training seminars in all Nunavut communities. One of the components of their seminars is how to draft proposals. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Literacy Council for their work in this area.

My department is also working on the following initiatives with other departments.

Minister Anawak's Department of Community Government and Transportation, to promote the benefits of volunteering to the individual, our communities and Nunavut as a whole, and to recognize the contributions of Nunavut's volunteers during the International Year of Volunteers.

Minister Akesuk's Department of Sustainable Development, to promote the development of a film industry in Nunavut, by contributing to, and supporting, the Nunavut Film Symposium in Iqaluit.

My department is also actively supporting the Arctic Winters Games Host Society, in their endeavour to administer and promote the 2001-02 Winter Games in Iqaluit.

With regard to our 2001-02 capital budget, my department will be focusing on the following three capital projects.

Nunavut Heritage Feasibility Study – 300 thousand dollars. This study will determine our needs for a facility that will house our large collection of museum objects and archaeological specimens originating from Nunavut. These items are currently housed at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife. The return of these items cannot be achieved until Nunavut has a facility that can maintain these materials according to professional museum standards. The cost for housing our cultural artefacts outside of Nunavut will soon approach 300 thousand dollars per year. In order to help offset this cost, my department has indefinitely suspended the hiring of four positions.

Youth and Elders Feasibility Study – 200 thousand dollars. This study will assess the community-based requirements for these facilities, including the identification of design and renovation options.

Language Centre Feasibility Study – 300 thousand dollars. This study will determine the Capital Standards and Criteria for a Nunavut Language Centre. The Centre will provide Nunavut with a facility to study the Inuktitut language, and the resources to preserve our linguistic heritage.

The balance of our proposed capital funding will be allocated to the Cambridge Bay Heritage Centre.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman, we are working proactively to meet the many challenges and objectives outlined in our 2001-02 Business Plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. I would like to ask the Chair of the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health to do his opening comments. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health has reviewed the budget estimates and business plan of the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth for the 2001-2002 fiscal year and I am pleased to provide you with the committee's comments.

The Standing Committee notes that the department's total capital budget remains unchanged from last year. Since the last budget session, 200 thousand dollars of that capital has been allocated to the Heritage Centre portion of the Cambridge Bay High School. The remaining 800 thousand dollars of the 2001-2002 capital is dedicated to background and feasibility studies for various facilities. It appears that future development of these facilities will depend on outside funding and the committee looks forward to learning where the funds will be going. The committee would like to emphasize that clear criteria must be applied fairly and consistently in order to achieve transparent and accountable government.

The committee congratulates the newly appointed Status of Women Council. The committee was pleased to hear that the position of a Senior Advisor has now been filled, providing important support to the Status of Women Council and to the Council for the Disabled.

The Standing Committee had recommended that the minister consider establishing a Status of Men Council, as the committee feels that boys and men need support as well as women. Members have noted from their own families and experiences that many men in today's changing society are also experiencing hardship and need this kind of support system.

The committee had further recommended that an Equality Advisor position be established to provide support to the different Councils. The committee was disappointed to see no change in the department's business plan based on these recommendations.

The Standing Committee fully supports activities involving the integration of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in all aspects of Government and looks forward to hearing how the department plans to progress in this regard. The committee notes that the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Tunngaviksaliuqtiit Board has been allocated 200 thousand and recommends that the Board's activities, outcomes and results be tabled in the House.

The Standing Committee understands that in mid-January, the department entered into negotiations with the federal government for the Official Languages Agreement that provides financial support for French and Inuit language services. The committee feels that more detail should be made available on the types and levels of service provided.

Specifically, the committee recommends that information be made available on the government's current capacity for providing interpretation and translation services; on what levels of funding are allocated to producing advertisements and publications in all relevant languages; and on initiatives aimed at building Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun language capacity in government employees.

Members feel certain that such information will also be valuable to the Special Committee to Review the Official Languages Act. As the minister sits on this committee, he will no doubt appreciate the important contribution that his department has to offer to this important process.

The Standing Committee had recommended that the department work with the federal government to increase the amount of support made available for Inuit languages and looks forward to hearing the results of those negotiations. The committee notes that the amount listed in the Main Estimates remains unchanged from last year.

The department is again budgeting nearly two and a half million dollars to be made available through grants and contributions. The Standing Committee has raised a number of concerns in the past with regards to the way in which grants and contributions are allocated, tracked and evaluated. The committee was pleased to hear that the department has taken the Standing Committee's recommendations into consideration and will have revised policies in place for awarding these funds in the upcoming fiscal year. The committee looks forward to seeing these policies tabled in the House. Members also look forward to a future review of project outcomes as this will be an effective means of evaluating the policy's performance.

The committee has strongly recommended that the department support and encourage more activities at the community level such as suicide-prevention programs and language skill workshops. The committee also looks forward to seeing a number of community-based programs involving both Elders and Youth. The committee has recommended that Elders be supported in the role of passing on knowledge and language skills, as well as in

the special role they can play in the area of suicide prevention. The committee notes that the issue of suicide is addressed in the department's Business Plan and encourages the department to continue working alongside the Departments of Health and Social Services and Education on this issue.

That concludes my opening remarks. I anticipate that individual members will also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. I would now like to ask the minister to move to the witness stand. Can the minister please take his seat at the witness stand. Before we proceed, Mr. Arvaluk would like to make a comment.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Now that the minister is seated, I would like to report progress.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. There is a motion to report progress and it is not debatable. All those in favour. Opposed. Carried. Mr. Kattuk, on Monday, you can come back and seat yourself at the witness stand if you'd like to say something before you leave.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): This morning, during members' statements, I was trying to encourage the members to ask questions but it didn't happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Laughter*

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. We'd now like the Speaker to come back to the House.

Speaker: Back to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1 and would like to report that Bill 1 is still under consideration and would like to report progress. And Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. There's a motion on the floor. We need a seconder. Mr. Nutarak. The motion is in order. All in favour. All those opposed. Motion carried.

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 Government Operations and Services at 2:15 this afternoon in the Tuktu Room.

Orders of the Day for Monday March 26, 2001:

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
 - Bill 6
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 1
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Before we adjourn for the weekend I will take this opportunity to thank two of our pages that have been with us for the past week. Today is their last day in assisting us and they return to school on Monday.

First, Jessie Mike.

>> *Applause*

Number two Leah Appalia Sageatuaq

>>*Applause*

I'm sorry if I mispronounced your name. Thank you for helping us all week. Again, thank you. This House stands adjourned until Monday March 26 at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 2:00 p.m.*

