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**DAY 22**

**Tuesday March 27, 2001**

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**Iqaluit**

**Deputy Speaker: Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, M.L.A.**

# Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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**David Iqaqrialu**  
(Uqqummiut)

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## Table of Contents

Opening Prayer .....	1119
Ministers' Statements.....	1119
Members' Statements.....	1120
Oral Questions .....	1120
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	1135
Tabling of Documents.....	1137
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters .....	1137
Point of Order .....	1207
Report of the Committee of the Whole.....	1217
Third Reading of Bills .....	1217
Orders of the Day .....	1217

**A.**

**Daily References**

Tuesday March 27, 2001..... 1119

**B.**

**Ministers' Statements**

054 – 1(5): Signing of Audited Financial Statements (Ng) ..... 1119

**C.**

**Members' Statements**

156 – 1(5): Loss of Inuktitut Language (Arvaluk)..... 1120

**D.**

**Oral Questions**

190 – 1(5): Use of Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtuun (Arvaluk)..... 1120

191 – 1(5): Elders in Courts (Nutarak) ..... 1122

192 - 1(5): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Funding (Iqaqrialu)..... 1123

193 – 1(5): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Co-ordinator Appointment (Williams) ..... 1124

194 - 1(5): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Co-ordinator Appointment Process (Irqittuq) .... 1126

195 - 1(5): Translation of Federal Government Documents (Havioyak) ..... 1126

196 - 1(5): Bridging Gap Between Elders and Youth (McLean)..... 1128

197 – 1(5): Payment for Grave Workers (Irqittuq)..... 1129

198 – 1(5): Elders' Meeting Agenda (Iqaqrialu) ..... 1133

**E.**

**Tabled Documents**

019 – 1(5): Nunavut Public Housing Rent Scale Review (Thompson)..... 1137

**F.**

**Bills**

Bill 4 – An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act, Time Zones – Third Reading

(Okalik)..... 1217

**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Tuesday March 27, 2001**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Iqqittuq, 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. Uriash Puqiqnak, Mr. Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Rebekah Williams.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Puqiqnak) (interpretation): I will ask Mr. Iqaqrialu to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Good morning, Mr. Premier, Members of the Legislative Assembly, interpreters. Going to the Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Ng.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 054 – 1(5): Signing of Audited Financial Statements**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in this Assembly, I was happy to participate, along with the Auditor General of Canada in the historic signing of the first Audited Financial Statements for the first year of operations of our government.

Mr. Speaker, the Auditor General's first opinion on Nunavut's consolidated financial statements is 'clean'. That is to say, the Auditor General is satisfied that the Government's financial statements are materially in accordance with accounting standards used for Canadian governments.

Mr. Desautels is satisfied that there are no significant instances where the Government's operations have not been in accordance with its financial authorities. The 1999/2000 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements will be tabled in the Legislative Assembly once they are translated into Inuktitut.

The Government of Nunavut understands that, as is done for his work in the other territories, the Auditor General will also prepare a report that will be tabled in the Nunavut Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. Desautels for his commitment to ensuring that the

financial management of the Government of Nunavut gets off to a good start. This commitment is very much appreciated by our government. Mr. Desautels came to Nunavut in his last week of a ten-year term as Auditor General to see this through and we wish him well in his retirement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Nanulik. Mr. Arvaluk.

### **Item 3: Members' Statements**

#### **Member's Statement 156 – 1(5): Loss of Inuktitut Language**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are proud of the Inuit language and we hope that we use it. Of course in Nunavut and in the rest of Canada, when a language is not used anymore you start losing that culture.

There was a time when our language was not being used here in Nunavut and we realize today that some of the language is no longer being used. When we look back at the usage of our language there has been dissolution of our language. As a government and as Members of the Legislative Assembly, we have to make sure that our Inuktitut language is healthy, and that includes the Inuinnaqtuun language.

We hope that we can retain our Inuktitut language and therefore we have to learn the meanings of our Inuktitut terminology and we have to start using it again. This will retain and promote our traditional Inuktitut terminology, whether it is the Department of Education or any other government department we have to make sure that we promote our language and do not neglect it.

We hope that each government department promotes and protects our language, and I will be asking questions about this when question period begins. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Back to the Orders of the Day. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik. Mr. Arvaluk.

### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

#### **Question 190 – 1(5): Use of Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtuun**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. My question is about local governments and other government funded organizations and businesses in the communities.

My question is, does the minister's department ask these groups to use the Inuktitut language. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is an excellent question posed by the member. Our department funds proposals that are made by the elders and the youth, but to date we have not given direction to the departments or the organizations that we fund to use any particular language. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are you going to be writing, or have you written a letter to the local governments or organizations to promote the usage of Inuktitut. Especially for correspondence and press releases or publications. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What the member says is very true. The Inuit language and culture has been in use for thousands of years. It is our hope that the language is used out in the communities. In response to your question about whether we are going to be writing a letter to the community governments, I will consider it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The minister has taken it as notice. Mr. Arvaluk, I will allow you one more question.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought the minister said that he would be writing a letter to the communities. Mr. Speaker, I have noticed, especially here in Iqaluit, which is the capital of Nunavut, that publications that will be going out to the communities are hardly ever written in Inuktitut.

Will the minister make sure that any correspondence or publications that are coming from the Nunavut Government and going to the local governments are written in Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have already told the member I would take his original question as notice. You mentioned the community of Iqaluit when they are sending correspondence, letters or publications to the communities, I will review your question as to whether we will put together a policy on corresponding with the communities. Thank you.



**Speaker** (interpretation): The minister has said that he will take this as notice and he will be responding at a later date. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Tunnunig. Mr. Nutarak.

**Question 191 – 1(5): Elders in Courts**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. We use the elders to learn about reading the weather and the way the land is. They usually go and listen to people that are going to court in their communities. I just wondered if the elders could perhaps get some kind of recognition when they attend court. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Mr. Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question by the member is not directed at my department. Perhaps it would be better if it were directed to the Minister of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I will ask Mr. Nutarak, Member for Tunnunig, to clarify his question. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): The reason why I am asking this question is the Minister is for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth not the other member for the Department of Justice. It should not be directed to the Minister of Justice. The only reason why I am asking the minister is because he deals with Elders, Language and Culture.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question by the member, perhaps I could answer it this way. The departments of the Government of Nunavut are all responsible to use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. It doesn't matter which department you are in, all the departments deal with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit now and in the future. It is the responsibility of all government departments to follow Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in their departments. Regardless of whether it is the Justice Department, whether it is Health and Social Services or any other department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For example, if you follow the policies of the Department of Education. If you take training in environmental issues then you can get some kind of recognition or achievement certificate or something. But today there is no recognition or achievement certificate unless you have taken some courses. The Inuit have not taken any formal education and they have not been given an achievement certificate of any kind. I just wondered if that Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth would be recognizing elders by giving them an achievement

award. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the question by the member, the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth provides funding to the communities when the entities apply for funding. So we provide funding to the entities or individuals that apply.

But in spite of that we do now have a new committee to deal with applications. I am sure we will be looking into how we can use culture and promote culture in Nunavut because our department is responsible to do that. I am sure we will have more work to do in the future. At this time I don't have any plans to tell the communities what to do. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Supplementary. Final. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to make sure that the elders are recognized for their achievements. I wonder if the minister can consider giving an achievement certificate to the elders and if he can put it in the policies before he recognizes them. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the elders are very knowledgeable, especially in regards to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit such as reading the weather and the dangers and things on the land. I have been thinking to myself about how we can give them some kind of qualification or an achievement certificate. All the things that we use today are things that we have always asked our elders and then they give us our knowledge. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqumiut. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Question 192 - 1(5): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Funding**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Today the language that we use is Inuktitut. Looking at the money that has been allocated to the Culture, Language, Elders and Youth department and that it is the responsibility of this department to make sure Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit language is promoted, is he going to be doing more vigorous work to promote the languages. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Mr. Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the question by the member, there is a committee that is in existence to deal with the question of the

member but they have not reported any recommendations back to me. They will be reporting back to me in this regard and I am pretty sure the committee will be doing the work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand his response. My other question is in his department, in regards to the department's responsibility. I will use this as an example. We have to use the interpreters all the time when we have our session. That is the only way we can run as a government is through using our interpreters. The question asked by the Member for Tunnuniq about giving achievement qualification papers for Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, I just wondered if the department could give an achievement or qualification certificate to people that know the Inuktitut language. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we can look into it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hearing this, if you are just going to be reviewing this it will not go ahead. I was wondering if you would actually act on it instead of just reviewing it. If you just review it, it will not go anywhere. If you act upon it after doing your review, I would like the minister to just commit to acting on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After reviewing it that is the only time I can make a decision as to what I should do. So therefore, I will have to review it. That's the only response I can give you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. He will look into it, according to my understanding he has taken it as notice. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Members for Quttiktuq. Ms. Williams.

### **Question 193 – 1(5): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Co-ordinator Appointment**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. The other day during his opening comments it states, that for this committee the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Tunngaviksaliuqtiit Task Force, a co-ordinator has been identified and the individual will be appointed.

I would like to ask the minister why we have to appoint this individual, why wasn't it a job opportunity for everyone to apply for. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the member's question, I don't have the details in front of me so I will get the response to you today if not tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your response will be given to you, so it is taken as notice. Thank you. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was going to ask a supplementary to my question. I don't think the minister will need to respond. (interpretation ends) The minister said, my department is also continuing to support the importance of the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Tunngaviksaliuqtiit Task Force. We have identified an appropriate candidate for the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit co-ordinator position and we are currently working to appoint the individual.

My question is, was this job advertised to the public, and why is it that they are appointing somebody. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. I apologize, the minister said that he would take your question as notice. I am sorry for not noting that. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, she asked if we advertised this, and we are trying to get this co-ordinator according to the rules we have in our department. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I would like to ask again. Did you advertise this out to the public. This job opportunity.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to your question, when she first asked it I responded by saying I will get back to you with the information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is was this job advertised. Was this advertised to the public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): That was your final supplementary. I would like to ask the minister did you take the question as notice. Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I first responded that is what I said. But at this time I now have the information. It was done properly according to the rules we have. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): That was your final supplementary. Oral Questions. Going back to Item 6 on our Orders of the Day. Member for Amittuq. Mr. Irqittuq.

#### **Question 194 - 1(5): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Co-ordinator Appointment Process**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was going to ask a different question in regards to the response that the minister was giving. I could not understand his response. The members here were asking if this position was advertised and he said they followed the proper procedure. My question is Mr. Speaker, what kind of procedures do you follow. What procedures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Mr. Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the member asked me the question I responded by saying that we followed the procedure for advertising positions. This was done at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He responded by saying that this was done following the procedures they have. Is his response that this position was advertised. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes it was. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk. Mr. Havioyak.

#### **Question 195 - 1(5): Translation of Federal Government Documents**

**Mr. Havioyak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is for the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. (interpretation) The other day we discussed documents that were translated into Inuinnaqtun. A lot of the work has not been completed into Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtut. Speaking of Inuinnaqtut, these documents need to be translated, especially by the federal government.

When he sees these documents, how does he deal with them when they are not translated into Inuinnaqtut or Inuktitut. People in Kugluktuk should be able to read these documents when they come from Ottawa. How does he deal with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is probably aware that in January I was visiting his constituency and we met with the leaders there. This question was raised then and I told them I would like to see a letter requesting documents to be translated into Inuktitut.

When documents come in from the federal government, I know that it is a concern in Kugluktuk when the documents aren't translated. However, I haven't received a letter from the community asking for the documents to be translated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you. I am glad that he is aware. My question is, if you see information that people should be aware of, whether it is from the federal government or wherever, when they are not translated, how do you deal with it. How will you rectify this if the federal government doesn't translate those documents. How are you going to co-ordinate this with the federal government, so that they are aware that Inuit need this information, the people in Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Before I go on to the minister, there is still 30 minutes for oral questions. Just to inform the members. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I responded to his question. I know this is a big responsibility. Once I have received the letter from the community, I will see if I can work on this with our MP for Nunavut in Ottawa, I will look into it further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I am not saying it very clearly. For instance, this is part of the thought, not only government but airlines, different airlines are utilized throughout Nunavut. Once they take off, there is a language that is utilized in the aircraft. The minister must be aware because he's gone to Kugluktuk. The message comes across in Inuktitut not in Inuinnaqtut. How is he dealing with this so that it is rectified in our community of Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. His questions are more directed to the Federal government. So I cannot respond to his question. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Final supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are in Nunavut. The ministers are here. They should be assisting us when we have concerns within Nunavut. They should make Ottawa aware. We in Nunavut are not very happy about what goes on in Nunavut at times. Will you be getting together with people in Ottawa so that our concerns in Nunavut can be made clear. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Yes.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake. Mr. McLean.

### **Question 196 - 1(5): Bridging Gap Between Elders and Youth**

**Mr. McLean:** Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti, my question today is to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Uqaqti over the Christmas period I had the privilege of having supper with the elders. One of the questions that was brought up by a few of the elders was, now that Nunavut has been established what is the Government of Nunavut going to do to bridge the distance between elders and youth and bring them together in Nunavut. That is my question today to the minister. How does his department see bridging that gap between the elders and youth today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Ma'na. Minister for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Mr. Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** That is a good question. I think all of us, all the communities want to bridge the gap between elders and youth in the communities. I think working together in communities is a very positive way of doing things. I want as the Minister responsible for Elders and Youth to get the communities to work together but I think sometimes the funds that we receive are not enough. But we try to use it as best as possible to help the elders and youth in communities. So I think what I am saying is that we will try our best to help the communities get the elders and youth together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti, that's a good answer. I know the department isn't funded very well for programs and services and the demands that are put on it by the communities. But could the minister give me a brief outline as to what programs are now in place to do the sorts of thing in the communities to try and bring the elders and youth together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ma'na, Mr. McLean. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think in answering that question, that in communities or in Nunavut as a whole, I think I want to see elders and youth having a conference together at some time in the regions. I think that could bring a lot of the elders and youth together in the regions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a good first step bringing the elders and youth together for conferences. We hear a lot about the wisdom of our elders and I for one listen to them quite a bit in my community. I also listen to the youth.

There has been some talk in the past about an elders' day in Nunavut. Has this department thought about bringing forward an elders' day in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ma'na, Mr. McLean. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not as of today, but I will take your advice about having recognition for the elders in Nunavut.

**Speaker:** Final supplementary. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad that the minister is considering it. Would he also consider inviting some elders into our Legislative Assembly for sittings from other communities. Because I think it is nice to have elders involved in the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ma'na. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would consider that. This Friday there will be elders together from the Baffin region. So I am expecting a lot of elders this coming Friday, possible over 20 elders will be in the legislature this coming Friday. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. That was your final supplementary. Oral Questions. Item 6 on the order paper. Member for Amittuq. Mr. Irqittuq.

### **Question 197 – 1(5): Payment for Grave Workers**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will give that minister a break. During our sittings I was raising questions for the Minister of Health & Social Services and I have met with the minister. He said that there was money allocated for the individuals that worked on the project to relocate the graves.

The money has to be spent before the end of March. When he said that I informed the individuals that they would be receiving the money. Can he give me an update because



the end of the month is just around the corner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister for Health & Social Services. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the member's question. Mr. Speaker, this question has been going on now for several years. At the present time after the member's questions here in this House, we are now, with the Department of Health & Social Services, as well as Intergovernmental Affairs and the Executive, trying to get to the bottom of the situation.

Originally, when we spoke to the member Mr. Speaker, the indication was that local government had authorized the movement of graves. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding now that because it was prior to April 1, 1999, the Nunavut Government wasn't even in place, 1968, what mechanisms can we find as a government, again being aware of the precedents and so on, to try to help the individuals in moving the graves.

I promised the member that we would have a response to him before the end of the month and Mr. Speaker, I am still committed to doing that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is March 27 today and we are going to be sitting to the end of the week. We only have four more days. He said that they have been working on this for a while now, does he not have a response for me today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the short answer is no. I have tried to explain, I don't know how more clear I can be Mr. Speaker. The member earlier talked about the form and I talked about the contribution agreement that we have in place that we can do for healing and so on. That's the way I envisioned it.

Mr. Speaker, he first asked the Minister for Community Government, somehow it shifted to me in the NWT and I was there for four years listening to the questions from the previous Member for Amittuq. It always went to Intergovernmental Affairs and the Executive because it was prior to that government being set up. It is the same situation here.

How do you try to help the individuals involved without setting a precedent. That's the concern the government has. So that is not a short answer that you can get. But as I said, I will have a written response for the member before March 31, on his original questions as I promised in this House. But that's the best thing that I can say now Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Iqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When Mr. Anawak was the minister we started working on this and I have been raising this concern ever since. He requested some documentation from me and I was able to give it to him. I was told that the Minister of Health & Social Services, and the former Minister of Justice were going to be working together.

I know that the member has replied to my questions saying that they found some money and that the only problems they were having were the documents showing what was done were not available. I was told that the money was available. Today is March 27 and he has replied again that he will give me a written reply.

Is there a problem. Is that why we need to reply on paper. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, originally I believe and I believe the Hansard will show that I said that I would get a written response to the member before March 31st. That is what I said. I am committed to doing that. Mr. Speaker, I think we have to just back up. Originally, with this file Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of research done on it from the NWT and we have a staff person who is involved in researching this for a number of years now. I believe it pointed to the Americans, it had something to do with because of the DEW line sites, with moving it.

The member says that is not the case. Someone else said it was the Catholic Church because of the priest that was there. Someone else says that is not the case. They have gone through local government to see what official orders requested the graves to be moved. So Mr. Speaker, first before the government sets a precedent I am trying to explain why it can't be settled that fast. Before the government sets a precedent and pays out money, you have to find out who authorized, who instructed the people to move graves. Were they promised to be paid to do that, and should it be the Nunavut Government to say because you promised something 30 years ago that you pay it. That is the precedent.

There are legal circumstances surrounding this. Every conversation that we have had I tried to say I understand that it was a very emotional thing. The member did an excellent statement explaining the emotional problems associated with digging up the graves and reburying them. I think everyone in the House sympathizes with that. But it is not just a case of paying out money because of that. Is there something that we could do through a healing program. Are there grants that we could give the Hamlet so that they could have actual healing and bring closure to this incident that happened in 1968 or 1967.

Again, the date is arbitrary here. So that is what I have been trying to answer to the member. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): If you are going to be asking questions please keep it to the

point. Our Speaker has also told us that the responses should be to the point. Last supplementary. Mr. Iqittuq.

**Mr. Iqittuq:** It has nothing to do with the American government. (interpretation) If you didn't understand I thought just to be clear, I'd say it in English. The American government said we need to relocate one grave so that they can make a building on that site. They just bulldozed it away and that is a different story. The Americans did not have anything to do with the relocation of the graves.

I can even show you where the sites were. They had to move the graves because they wanted to build houses over there. When we are talking about healing, even if you give money to the hamlet, myself and from what I know they're over 60 years old and I think they are over it. They just want to get compensated for relocating the graves. I think it would be kind of useless to heal them. I think the elders said that to me.

You said that Mr. Anawak and you had a meeting and you said you had found 30 thousand dollars and that the people who dug the graves could be compensated with that as long as there was documentation. So what is your problem. What is holding you back. I know exactly what you are saying and I know what you are trying to say. But I don't think we should blame the Americans. I lived in that community and I saw what happened. So what is your problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Mr. Speaker, all I tried to point out was that there are different stories out there. You have given us one story, the member has given us one story. There were different stories for four years while I was sitting in another House listening to different stories. There has been an investigation, we have had a person who has contacted all the authorities and this is the information that they have brought to us.

All I am saying to the member is that before this government, your government, the member's government and our government, the people of Nunavut's government, before they pay out money, we pay out any money, should we be doing, is it our responsibility for something that happened 30 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, that's the precedent I talked about. The member has talked about the conversation that he had with Mr. Anawak and me, we talked about closure. I have a fund within the government of the Department of Health & Social Services, I think it is 30 thousand dollars, that's the money we talked about. We didn't say here yes, here is a blank cheque and you can take the 30 thousand. That never, no one said that.

What we said is, or I said it here, I would like to pay them today, Mr. Speaker, I would pay them right now if I had the money. But we have to make sure of the precedent, we have to look at the legal circumstances and should the government pay money for something that they weren't responsible for, we weren't even there 30 years ago. Should the member be bringing this to NTI, should it go to the Aboriginal Healing Fund, is there

another resource, is there another access.

Mr. Speaker, that's what the government is trying to find out. You don't find out those types of answers in an hour or a day or a minute. Mr. Speaker, I understand what the member is saying, I know some of the people that are involved. I said and I said it earlier again, I would pay it if I could, but Mr. Speaker, we have to look at the precedent and that's what we are trying to do in the government, and we have to be fair. There may be other instances like this across Nunavut. What would happen then. So that's what we are trying to find out Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Question 198 – 1(5): Elders' Meeting Agenda**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know which minister to direct this question to, but I will direct it to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. The minister said that there is going to be an elders' conference, some elders from the Baffin, Kitikmeot and the Keewatin. We know that elders, using their traditional customs aren't given any work to do. They have policies that they have to adhere to during that conference. Is it possible for these elders to have an informal meeting so that they can give out their information so that we will find out exactly what traditions and culture that they still retain.

It is up to us to get that information. I think they should have an informal session so that we can get the information that the elders have, so that we will find out the true customs that the Inuit and the elders have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. It is always better to make your questions brief and to the point. Minister for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been having meetings for many, many years. We know the customs or the procedures of our meetings. We give every delegate an opportunity to say whatever they want to say during those proceedings. Also there are various organizations from the communities that go to those meetings and they make reports to the delegations that are sitting there.

They also give options. The elders can say anything that they want during those conferences and I have been a board member for many, many years for various organizations and I am sure that they will get all the information that they require and they will be able to say anything that they want. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been on boards as well for many, many years, but I have never been to a meeting where the delegations can say

anything that they want. We have the Robert's Rules of Order and we have procedures and everything else.

The meetings are co-ordinated by co-ordinators and they have agendas and they have specific things that they can say during specific times. I think that the elders should be given the freedom to say anything that they want so that they can tell us what they know. It might be story telling but we do have to do that now because the elders are growing fewer, they should be given the opportunity to say anything that they want. Do you agree, Mr. Minister.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well you don't even agree to it. It is already a custom of any meetings. The delegation can say anything they want that's what I said before. I know that in the Baffin region, the conference that I mentioned will be open to the elders. They will be able to voice their concerns and their opinions.

We have already told the delegations that we invited. I know there may be something more we can do, but the delegations will have an agenda, and the time and everything else will be set, but the elders have been asked prior to the meeting and prior to their arrival, what they want to see on the agenda. It is a procedure that we always follow. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Members of the Legislative Assembly, we have a specific agenda that we have to follow. We have the Orders of the Day that we see every day and I am sure that when the elders are coming, they will see exactly the same thing, like you have to stick to the agenda. They should be given the opportunity to say anything they want. So I am asking the minister if they elders can have an informal meeting and be able to say anything without having a set agenda that they have to follow.

This is alien to the elders. A long time ago since we were an oral custom we talked about everything, lifestyles, whatever, they didn't have a specific agenda that they had to follow. So I would like to give the elders an opportunity to say whatever they want and have the meeting in the Inuit custom. Maybe that way we will be able to hear something that we don't know today and maybe it will enrich our lifestyle today. That's my question if you just agree I will be very pleased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well the member said that the Orders of the Day is something that chains you and you have to deal with specific things at specific times. We are a Nunavut Government and we have to follow the Orders of the Day, it is a procedure that we have to follow as a government.

This has nothing to do with the elders' conference that I mentioned. The delegates will come from the communities and they have to know exactly what is going to be discussed prior to their arrival. We have to set an agenda. The Orders of the Day have nothing to do with the elders' conference. It is something that we have to follow through as a procedure of the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Last supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased with the Orders of the Day. But what I am trying to say is that the elders should say anything they want without specific rules. That is all I am trying to say. I just used this agenda as an example of how we have to stay on the subject. I am hoping that the elders will have an informal meeting and talk about anything they want. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The people who run the meetings will be there as co-ordinators during the elders' conference. The co-ordinators will be telling the elders what topic that they are going to be discussing and the Chairperson will direct the members on topics that they are going to talk about. But it is up to the elders what topics they will be discussing. It is up to the Chairperson at the elders' conference. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. According to our time question period is over. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): I just want to get back to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member is asking for unanimous consent to go back to Item 5. If there are no nays. Ms. Williams.

#### **Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual in the Gallery. My brother is here Celestino Makpah from Rankin Inlet and I would like to recognize him. I am sorry we mistook him for the other Celestine.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Welcome to the House. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manito Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to go back to Item 5 as well. I am happy that Ms. Williams wanted to go back. Since we are on that item, I would like to recognize the individuals from the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet as well as the Mayor of Rankin Inlet and the councillors. The ministers will be meeting with these

individuals and I want them to be given whatever they want because we have a new budget and it would be nice to give them what they want. We have been hearing Celestine Erkijuk a lot here in Iqaluit. We always think that he is the only Celestine.

First of all, I would like to introduce the Mayor of Rankin Inlet Jack Kavituk, he taught cultural education in the Rankin Inlet school before I became a minister. I am happy to introduce Jack Kavituk as well as Celestino Makpah. Although he is in the Keewatin region, he is originally from the Baffin region, that's why he is the brother of Ms. Williams.

Also a councillor for the Hamlet and as well my brother in law, Louis Taparti, also used to be on CBC Radio and he knows Inuktitut and English. I would like to welcome him and as well, especially I would like to introduce Ron Roach who used to work with Sustainable Development but who is now the SAO for Rankin Inlet. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the House. We are still on item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague and I usually fight over who is going to introduce the people from Rankin Inlet. Those people that are here I represent them because they are from my riding. I am happy to say that as the Member for Rankin Inlet North, I would like to introduce the people from my riding.

Tikiq, Jack Kavituk, is the Mayor of Rankin Inlet and I have known him for quite some time, ever since there was a mine in Rankin Inlet he has been living there. As well, Celestino Makpah, who has worked in the Kivalliq Region from quite some time. He was involved with the beginning of the hamlet status in Kivalliq and as well, Louis Taparti, is from Rankin Inlet and has been involved with the media for quite some time. I know that the Hamlet Council for Rankin Inlet is involved with empowerment and the SAO for Rankin Inlet is an in-law, he has a lot of in-laws in Chesterfield Inlet and in Rankin Inlet, which is done that way for non-Inuit people.

These people will be meeting with some of the ministers and with the members as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I would like to welcome the visitors once again to our chambers. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. I am sorry, I skipped item 7. Written Questions. Written Questions.

Item 8, once again. 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. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Ms. Thompson.

### Item 13: Tabling of Documents

#### Tabled Document 019 – 1(5): Nunavut Public Housing Rent Scale Review

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to table a document entitled, “Nunavut Public Housing Rent Scale Review”. Mr. Speaker, as per my recent commitment to table this document, I am happy to be able to share this information with all members of this House. Mr. Speaker, the Rankin Inlet conference was attended by up to 70 people and I will keep the members updated as we progress in our review of the Nunavut Public Housing Rent Scale. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Thompson. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Tabling of Documents. Back to the Orders of the Day. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 1. In accordance with the authority vested in me by Motion 002 – 1(5), the committee of the whole will stay in session until it reports itself out, with Mr. Iqittuq in the Chair.

Sergeant-At-Arms.

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

**Chairperson** (Mr. Iqittuq) (interpretation): Thank you. We can begin the committee of the whole. Does the committee wish to deal with the Department of Finance. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue this morning with Bill 1, Appropriations Act, to deal with the Department of Finance & Administration and once completed, we would like to deal with the Department of Human Resources. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Does the committee agree that we deal with Bill 1, Appropriation Act, 2001-2002, and we will begin with the Department of Finance & Administration. Agreed. Thank you. Would the minister please seat himself at the witness table. Does the committee agree that the minister’s officials join him at the witness table. Agreed. Sergeant-At-Arms, please bring in the officials.

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Please introduce your officials please. I didn’t recognize you.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me is my Deputy Minister Bob Vardy. Thank you.



**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. We can move on. There are no capital items for this department. We will go on to the main estimates. Page 3-6. Main estimates. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Directorate. Total operations, 2 million 726 thousand. Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): It is more of a comment, Mr. Chairman. Are you going to give us ten minutes for general comments, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: It depends on how you want to handle it, Mr. Chairman. It's not up to me. If it were up to me we would be finished. Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Yesterday I wasn't clear when we started dealing with the department. I was wondering if we left off with general comments. If not we will do general comments, if not then we will move on. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we adjourned yesterday under general comments. So therefore, I would like to make general comments. Although I am not an expert in finance, but last year what we experienced was we had to approve the Supplementary Appropriation Act 2000-2001. In view of this and in view of the future, if we will be approving Supplementary Appropriations, I was wondering if we would be getting into a deficit situation because in Nunavut the cost of living is increasing.

For Nunavut government expenditures, the way I see it and I have been considering this for a while and I feel that we do have a bit of a problem because in the communities they would like to start dealing with and incorporating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. The communities and the residents of Nunavut according to their way we have our documents translated. Yes, there is funding available to have the documents translated. With the various departments at the community level, I was wondering if you have interpreter translators at the community level or if you provide funding for translations of the correspondence. I was wondering if your department can be looking into this and be more sensitive because the communities require the use of Inuktitut language and English. I was wondering if we could get the communities to recognize this under your department.

Our various projects under Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit with the Bathurst Mandate. It seems like we are not really incorporating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the system. Perhaps due to funding, the way the funding is set or due to lack of funding under this item. I was wondering if you can consider this and be more sensitive towards this and I wanted just to briefly comment on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. That was a general comment. Are there any other general comments. If there are no further general comments. We will move on to

the pages and ask questions. I don't think there are any general comments. We will move on to page 3-6. Finance and Administration, branch summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 726 thousand. Any questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess one could consider the directorate as the brains of the department, the oil and the gears that make it work. Mr. Chairman, yesterday in the minister's opening comments he indicated that the department is going to be involved and has indicated in the past before a program review.

Yesterday, I believe my ears kind of perked up a little bit when I also heard him say a program and expenditure review. I was wondering if I could ask the minister if he could elaborate on that and maybe identify if any areas have been identified to take a look at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member raises a good point. Members know we have talked about a program review of the Government of Nunavut. Of course, a major portion of that is expenditure review, given that we need the fiscal resources to deliver our programs.

Right now, we are in the process, in consultation with EIA, the Financial Management Board is in the process of finalizing a decision paper that will go forward to the Cabinet/FMB on how to proceed. Once we have that decision confirmed then it will be myself that will bring it forward to the regular members' caucus in trying to explain how we want to proceed to obtain some additional input from the members. Then we will move forward Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Additional questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your statement you made some general comments as to what will be reviewed in different departments. Do you have anything specifically in mind as to what departments will be a priority for review. For example, in trying to balance out in the services section of the government, Public Works, etc., and the programs, like Education, Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, which you have inherited, well the services which you have inherited from the GNWT.

My question is what are your plans to prioritize what is to be reviewed from the government so that programs that are going into the communities can increase on the financial side. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, Mr. Chairman, there is no priority of one department versus another. I think I want to make it clear that it is

comprehensive, when a decision is made, it will be all government departments, all programs. As members know, we are doing this for two purposes. First of all, internally with the GN to get an inventory of all our programs and try to identify if there can be an analysis of those programs, if there are specific gaps or shortfalls that might have to be addressed.

Secondly, it is part of also the review process with the federal Department of Finance. As members know we have a commitment from Minister Martin, and this is one of the exercises that we will undertake that will be combined with that process. So in short, to answer the member's question, no there is no specific program that is going to be prioritized in respect of review. It will be comprehensive government-wide. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is difficult several times to try to ask the overall government operations to the Premier or to the Minister of Finance, especially when we are dealing with the Finance & Administration budget. Because it specifically deals with the Finance & Administration department.

I wonder if this is the right department to ask questions pertaining to how the budget allocations can be made to different departments. The part that the minister can answer. I guess without judging or prejudicing the individual departments, what would be the best method or approach in reviewing all the departments one by one, that are administered or managed by the Finance Department.

Will there be a mechanism in place especially for the Committees of the Legislative Assembly, to have a frank discussion as to what should be important to Nunavummiut and to the communities versus what is important to the government's function as an administrative body. I don't know if I am clear. But something along that line. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the member is right in that perspective. That is why I was saying that once we finalize the process I want to bring in all the regular MLAs and advise them as to what we are planning and get some feedback. Because what it comes down to in the end, the end result of the program review financial expenditure review, the end result may require that there be some serious decisions made.

In respect to that if we feel that some departments, some programs that are a priority of government aren't being adequately resourced there may be some shifts in other areas that are going to impact existing programs. We said this right from the start. We want to make sure that when that decision is made that we have as much input as possible before implementing any of these of changes.

So that I think is what we see as the end part of the cycle but first of all I would like to make sure we as a government and we as members are comfortable in the direction we are proceeding and have their involvement to get us through to the end decisions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last one. Will that include for example those that have a benefit or potential benefit for economic development for tourism etc. I guess what I am saying is there are some services by the government, or funded through the government for example income support is one of them. That is fairly significant dollars that are distributed to the people who need it.

That can be turned to something more productive. In Nunavut for example tourism or economic development or the infrastructure development like access roads. That can economically benefit that community as a result of the construction of that access road. That would reduce the dependency on income support. Will these be included as part of the review. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, yes it will be. From the perspective of we are going to try to review and assess all existing programs and there will be recommendations on the latter part of the exercise which may as I indicated earlier, may substantially change how we are delivering our programs or looking at alternative services delivery methods. So, yes from that perspective. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I shortchanged myself by admitting one of my last questions that I was to ask. Would you also consider recognizing recreational facilities in the community as part of the social programs. That and also the income support program in non-decentralized communities for the youth that we are always trying to find a way because we don't have direct control of our children's upbringing.

Because I spend between 9-4 in the school and sometimes they are doing something else in the community that I don't know about at the best of times. Will the recreational facilities and Internet programs and anything that the community enjoys now as an activity or a leisure activity that has a positive impact, how will you consider that as a part of the review under the social programs. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, again to that Mr. Chairman, that as I indicated will be in the latter part of the overall review. That's where more of the program policy review aspect comes into play with the Department of the Executive &

Intergovernmental Affairs. We are trying to match up priorities versus programs and make recommendations, as I indicated earlier, if there are changes that are required. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We are still on page 3-8. Questions. If there are no further questions. Finance & Administration, branch summary. I apologize, I am on the wrong item. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 726 thousand. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, under here there is an increase in the fees and payments and I am just wondering if that is something new or if that is something that has been transferred over from another area. If you could explain where that came from. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is a direct amount in respect to litigation costs in the equal pay process, our involvement in funding legal representation for the process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I also note on the same page that the compensation and benefits have increased on there. I am just wondering if they have added more positions to this section in this department. Are they new positions or are they positions that have transferred from other positions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is a result of the department's re-organization. It is for, actually for the Chief Informatics Officer position. In the restructuring, we have that position reporting to the Deputy Minister so it was placed in the Directorate. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, for that increase was there just that one position. Is that what the minister has indicated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it isn't that specific to just that, that's the largest component of it. There's also as a result of the re-organization there were some adjustments made in the levels of staffing, the classification levels, where there were some existing staff in the Directorate. There is also of course some of the support, some of the office administrative support for the Chief Informatics Officer as

well. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, maybe I would just ask how many PYs are in this or how many positions are in this division. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** We are just adding it. Six positions Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Do you wish to continue. Questions. We are on Finance & Administration, branch summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 726 thousand. Do you agree.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 2 million 726 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turn the page. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Fiscal management. Total operations and maintenance, 13 million 755 thousand dollars. Questions. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the compensation and benefits, maybe I will ask for further clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all I would like to clarify from the previous question on directorate, there are actually 7 positions, not 6. I would like to clarify that for the record. Sorry about that we missed one individual.

For this one Mr. Chairman, it is primarily a result of the risk management section that was contracted back to services, to the GNWT that we assumed those responsibilities back and this is where it rests within the department. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams:** On the same page, contract services. The increase is very large. Can I have an explanation on that one. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** That would be for the Nunavut Construction Corporation for the leases for the commercial properties and with the unique arrangement that was entered into it flows directly into a separate bank account for the Nunavut Construction Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two questions. Under travel and transportation, 182 thousand. It has been increased from last year. Just some clarification, does that money go towards all of Nunavut, or just towards that department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** That would be for positions that would be under the Fiscal Management branch of this department Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the Department of Finance staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is for the Baffin Fiscal Management section. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The other question, under contract services, 9 million 623 thousand. Last year it was 6 million 333 thousand. There is a huge increase, the year before that it was only 85 thousand. It increases annually by a huge amount. Could he explain why there is such a huge increase annually. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is as a result as I indicated earlier of us assuming the lease responsibilities for the Nunavut Construction Corporation for commercial office buildings as they came on line and were approved and the Government of Nunavut took occupancy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has he just stated that it's

Finance and Administration that is leasing the buildings.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** The Government of Nunavut is leasing it. It is just the way that it is structured instead of going through Public Works. Where normally we pay out the leases, because of the unique arrangement that we've made prior to April 1st 1999, the agreement was the Government of Canada would just direct deposit this amount into the bank account designated by the Government of Nunavut and the payments would go right back out to the Nunavut Construction Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): It is about 12 o'clock. It is just about lunchtime and as soon as Mr. Iqaqrialu is done, we will be going for lunch. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do I understand that this amount will be increasing annually. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, no. This is now all the buildings under this arrangement that are occupied. So it is 9 million 372 thousand 437 dollars for the annual rents for these facilities. So there isn't the expectation that they'll increase unless there are adjustments made in the leasing arrangements in the future. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Before I go onto the next member. We will be taking a break. Lunch is being served in the Tuktu room. We will be back in 45 minutes. Thank you.

*>> Committee recessed at 11.57 a.m. and resumed at 12.50 p.m.*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I hope you had a good lunch, thank you for returning. I think Mr. Iqaqrialu was finished his questions.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My other question. I was done but I have a question on another item. Under fees and payments it was 2 million 417 thousand and it now 1 million 532 thousand. I am wondering why it would be like this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We are on page 3-7. Minister.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that's because of the changes in the insurance premiums for the Government of Nunavut. We sponsor self-insurance for a large portion of it, so our premiums have dropped from 2 million dollars to 700 thousand dollars in that respect. But by the same token, Mr. Speaker, we also are starting to build a contingency fund because we are going to self-insure for the ten million



dollars, for the first 10 million dollars in any major loss. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. I apologize to the minister, I used his first name and I apologize. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand his response, but when you talk about insurance, can you explain more clearly what you meant.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Mr. Chairman, this is the insurance premium for our buildings. Basically, as I had indicated, the premiums have dropped from 2 million to 700 thousand dollars as a result of us basically raising our deductible limit to 10 million dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): So does that mean because it is less than what it was before, if there was damage done in one of the buildings, would there be a problem paying for things such as that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Mr. Chairman, what it means is basically because we have a 10 million dollar self-coverage, the first 10 million dollars would be our responsibility. But having said that, we are starting to build up an insurance reserve fund for those unfortunate times when we may require it. So if we were to have our insurance reserve fund not up to the 10 million dollar limit that we would want, in case of a loss, then we would obviously have to find the necessary funds through a supplementary appropriation or a special warrant depending on the circumstances. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to get more clarification, if that money wasn't spent all year and there was no need of spending it, what would happen to that money. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Well, it would be a reserve fund Mr. Chairman. So it would stay there, always allocated and designated for an insurance mishap. So if it weren't to be used it would just stay there and get larger and larger on an annual basis. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): If it was not spent, would you just leave it at that or

would you add more money into the fund. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Well Mr. Chairman, we would leave it in there and every year there would be an additional allocation to that reserve fund. Hopefully that would be the case where we wouldn't require it because of a loss. In that case, the fund would grow on an annual basis. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. The next person on my list is Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question that I had in mind was answered. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I just want to say that I am relieved I guess to hear the minister as he answered earlier to the question on the leases. Is that it now. On these leases. All government offices and the Assembly building. I am wondering what the length of time is on those leases. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, they are all 20-year leases. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On those leases, I don't imagine or is the rate fixed for the full 20 years or does it get flexible. How is that negotiated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am not certain because some leases have annual, sorry periodic adjustments based on refinancing rates and that. I am not exactly sure in the instance of these NCC leases about what adjustment factors there are in there for the base rent. I can certainly find out that information Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I believe the minister indicated before like the unique circumstances that we face with these leases, is that basically this amount is a flow through number that is provided from the federal government and I am

just wondering is everything that we pay in leases for these purposes. Do all the dollars come from the federal government or is there a matching fee. Does the Government of Nunavut have to kick in any as well. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the member does bring in a good point. If there were adjustments made or required as a result of the lease arrangement, because of the unique circumstances surrounding the adjustments being made by the federal government the money would still come from them. The end result would be that there would be no additional cost to the Government of Nunavut directly if there were adjustments made. It would be from the federal contribution to the Government of Nunavut and to the Nunavut Construction Corporation from that perspective. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad to hear that. Also does the Government of Nunavut have to kick in anything on top of what the federal government gives us or is it all these leases are solely covered completely by the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that these leases because as I indicated earlier with the unique structure, our government basically acts as an intermediary between the federal government and the NCC for receipt of the payment on these leases. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So what if, based on these financing or anything like that are there any additional costs incurred, is it the Government of Nunavut that negotiates with the landlord or would it be the federal government that would do that. Basically, as the minister has indicated, the leases are with the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we don't anticipate that there would be, but I mean in that case, obviously our Public Works Department would be involved due to the fact that we are managing the leases right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, at the end of these 20-year leases will the Government of Nunavut have any ownership in these buildings or will they still be owned by the landlord. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, they will continue to be owned by the Nunavut Construction Corporation. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I don't know what the terms of the agreement that we have with the federal government is, if we are going to be potentially leasing these facilities will the federal government be perpetually funding them as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Chairman, right now the arrangement is for the 20 years of the existing leases. I would take it that our Government of Nunavut position would be obviously that we would expect that there would be ongoing support from the federal government, since they entered into them originally on behalf of the Government of Nunavut. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. I don't have any other names on my list. We are on page 3-7. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Fiscal management. Total operations and maintenance, 13 million 755 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 13 million 755 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. We will move on to page 3-8. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Informatics planning and system development. Total operations and maintenance, 4 million 654 thousand. Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, under contract services, 3 million 893 thousand. Last year it was 7 million 412 thousand. I just want to know what the reason is for last year's smaller figure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There has been a significant decrease in this

item as a result of a lot of the programs being developed over the course of the current year. So there has been more of a focus of the programs being shifted over to Public Works in their budget for the operations and maintenance side of those things, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It states under contract services in Inuktitut, I just wondered whether you are contracting less. Is that why the amount has decreased. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is correct for the information technology systems development. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Havioyak. No. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this 3.8 million and roughly 2.9 million. What types of contracts is that for. Is that for contracting technical support for the programs that we have in place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: They are mainly for systems development, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For systems development, I know that I mentioned in my opening comments, that for the first three years now since the inception of the Nunavut Government, we have spent a total of 57 million dollars on informatics. I am just wondering, like our leases, is this something that we are going to see continue to grow in expenditures, or are we looking at now having our systems developed and in place and these numbers drop off. If I could get an indication from the minister what we will see there.

I guess the reason I make that comment is almost every time we have looked at a supplementary appropriation there has always been a large amount in there for informatics, I am just wondering if and when we will ever see an end to this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the fact that we have produced this budget is trying to show that we are trying to focus on trying to manage some of the information management programming, whether it is on the development side or on the

operations and maintenance side with Public Works, more efficiently. I would say that it is hard to judge or gauge the need, because as you know if you wanted to spend, you could develop the most elaborate systems on any program that you want, and of course there is the associated operating and maintenance costs after that.

Given that technology is changing so quickly, there are always new demands and new needs in that area. But I would say to the member and to the members, as you know, and I have said it in the past when the supplementary appropriations have come forward, that we are as a government are trying to put more control and more planning around the information technology area.

The fact that we have two of our senior Deputy Ministers co-ordinating the steering committee, Mr. Vardy and Mr. Mrazek, shows really where the ministerial support and direction is in trying to move on trying to plan out the information planning and implementation and make it more effective Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that technology is something that is always changing, and there is always something buy it today and tomorrow you have something better out on the market. But given the size, if you look at it, there is probably private sectors and corporations out there that are larger than this government, I am just wondering are we looking at ensuring that we have what we need, do we need to have state of the art systems and programs in place that are being developed.

What mechanisms are being put in place to ensure that we don't get more than what we need. I know that any one who is a salesperson always wants to tell you that their job is to sell you as much as they can. We've already spent 57 million dollars on information technology and systems development. I was wondering what system have we got out of this and which ones are we still looking at getting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we are trying to make it simple certainly to make it easier to operate and having a system that is capable of doing what we want it to do. I guess I can use the example of when we first took office we were moving towards a combined payroll and human resources system, as members know and we thought that was too elaborate of a system for us. There were concerns about implementation.

So we went to a separate payroll system as members know through ADP. But by the same token when we did that we lost the capabilities of the Human Resource tracking system. There were questions that were raised about that. Now we are trying to pick up that aspect of it and adding that back onto the payroll system to make sure that we have adequate information on the Human Resources side so we can make effective decisions on tracking and monitoring of our personal. That would be an example of that.

What I am trying to say Mr. Chairman, is you can have two extremes having a system that is too elaborate for our needs and by the same token you may be able to have one that is too simplistic and not be able to provide all the information that you want. So I think there is a balance there and I think we are trying to and we have taken steps to address that through the establishment of the IT Steering Committee, and the Implementation Committee and FMB itself is still is the one that puts final approval through as far as what system to go forward or not to go forward with Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that it is always a challenge when you start with something new to try and get what you need and sometimes you don't realize what you need until after someone asks you for it. On the IT spending and the contract services. If it is system development are there any dollars looking at training and developing this type of technical expertise that we need in this area to have it local people that we are hiring and getting to do this work for us. Or is it all going to contractors and system developers in the south. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a small component of the contract services for finance specific training but the bulk of training dollars for the Information Technology support has been the most popular budget on the operations and maintenance side. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any more Mr. Tootoo. I don't have any more names on my list. Finance and Administration. Branch summary. Informatics planning and system development. Total operations and maintenance, 4 million 654 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 4 million 654 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning to page 3-9. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Controllership and regional financial services. Total operations and maintenance, 17 million 820 thousand. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under grants and contributions, last year there was 3 million 900 thousand. But in 2001-2002 there is an amount of 4 million 750 thousand. Could you give me an example of the grants and contributions given out. What kinds of grants and contributions do you give out. Thank

you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is to reflect the additional demands on the power support program. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could get more clarification. There is also something to do with utilities and there is no figure under utilities. Which departments are given grants and contributions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. That is under the information there. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** If he is referring to the grants and contributions, the power support program, as I indicated last week when we had the supplementary appropriations, this is a subsidy that the government provides to all private homeowners and to some smaller businesses. It is the difference in the first 700 kilowatt hours in the case of residential customers, the difference between the Yellowknife rates and the rates in their home communities so that they would get the first 700 kilowatt hours basically at the Yellowknife rate for power Mr. Chairman.

For the purposes of commercial it is 1 thousand kilowatt hours and that's it Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I just misunderstood but this is the first time I have ever heard something like this under grants and contributions. Contributions to the private businesses. Can this be requested by the businesses in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** It is for private businesses operating in Nunavut with sales of 2 million dollars or less in a year. So it is targeted towards the smaller businesses that may require the subsidy Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a very interesting thing because I haven't had any knowledge of this before. Perhaps it was always like this but I just didn't realize it. Maybe it was during territorial government days, perhaps I am not educated enough on this and I am happy to hear that there are grants and contributions. I



just wondered if the person doesn't request this, do they still receive it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as I have indicated in the past it is automatically applied to the power bills that individuals receive. There will be a line on there that shows Nunavut Territorial Power Subsidy Program and it is taken right off an individual's monthly power bill for private homeowners. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make sure that it really happens. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I don't hear a question. No further questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, controllership and there's no financial services through the division or director of the branch that looks after all the government accounting and things like that. Just, maybe relate a couple of questions here from the business plan with the minister. In there it indicates that they want to look at updating the Financial Administration Act. So I'm not sure if that would be done in that division and I have been waiting to get here to ask it. I'm just wondering if they've identified any areas that need updating. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as members may know, the full Financial Administration Act is quite complex as it stands now. There is a move to try to revamp it, to try to simplify it and make it a bit more workable for Nunavut purposes. But right now we haven't specifically identified any major areas of change. There will be ongoing work in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the department also indicated it plans on expanding the use of internal and forensic audits. Maybe I'll just ask the minister why it wants to look at expanding those areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, some departments have requested some assistance in either reviewing some of their expenditures or an actual audit, so we've been trying to support them in that initiative Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, would the minister be willing to let us know which departments have requested that type of assistance and would you clarify exactly what it is that they're looking for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, not at this time Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess that begs the question of why and when. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, primarily, it's not that we're trying to hide anything. The point is that there have been some specific instances, departments have requested some assistance and some of the results haven't concluded yet so it's a bit premature to say anything.

And quite frankly when you deal with, there may be some particular instances that reflect on that division of the department and individual or individuals of a department. It's not proper to be speaking about those types of things in a public form. I would say that if the members have specific concerns I'd certainly be more than willing to provide that in camera but like I said, there's a proper forum for things. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm really just asking the minister if there's any relationship, have any of these things been pointed out as a result of the auditor general's review of the public accounts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No it wouldn't necessarily be a result of the Auditor General's work, this is more, as I indicated, a request that comes from departments or things that have been brought to the attention of the Financial Management Board that require some additional review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, without getting into specifics of what department or what division or whatever like that, I wonder if the minister could

indicate how many. Just like the number of departments and just generally what types of issues we are looking at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, generally there are about a half a dozen departments. It could be issues around usage of overtime claims, it could be issues around some disbursement through the financial manager of the department, it could be issues around the handling procedures and practices for handling incoming revenues. So those are some of the areas that we have been asked to try to fix up. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, will the minister and the department be providing some kind of a report on any of these once it is concluded and its findings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, a lot of the work that is requested by departments, once the review is done the report would go back to that department to action any recommendations. Obviously if there was something blatant that had come to our attention then we would take the necessary actions whatever it may be. If it involved more than just the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, would any of these issues here be maybe looked at being addressed in the review and the updating of the Financial Administration Act. It is my understanding that it is the Financial Administration Act that is pretty well the bible when it comes to how the government, the different authorities and processes that the government uses in spending its money and receiving its money and how things are done. I am just wondering if there is any link between any of these things and the review of the FAA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would say that yes, some of the things may result in changes to the Financial Administration Act, it may be, like I indicated earlier, we are trying to simplify and streamline the process. It may be cases of things being done inadvertently as a result of not knowing or because of the complexities of the Financial Administration Act. So those may be factors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I won't tread on that ice any more, I will move on to a different sheet. The subsidies, the power subsidy is something that falls under this area here. I know in the past I have inquired as to the overall reviewing of the subsidies by this government, to try to determine that we are spending our dollars in the most appropriate places and we are getting the best bang for our buck and the dollars are going where they are supposed to be going.

I am just wondering if the minister could update us as to any progress along these lines since the last time I asked the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there has been a lot of work undertaken in identifying and reviewing the subsidies that government has within its programs, however, the report isn't finalized yet in as far as receiving the information as anything that we can use. So we are hoping in the next couple of months, quite frankly, even though the work has been undertaken, it hasn't been a high, high priority given a lot of the ongoing needs in the government in trying to prepare the budget and report back to committees and consultations etc. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, does the minister commit to providing members or tabling in the House a copy of this report when it does finally get completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would have no problems with considering that Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am getting to be good at picking up on words and when the minister indicated that he had no problems considering whether he would do it or not, would the minister do it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did use the word considered but I wasn't trying to say that we wouldn't provide the information. My concern is the complexity of what is in there and whether or not, you know how big the report would be when it comes down to it and the need for translation again, when we have to table matters before the House. That's why I wanted to take a look first of all at what is in there in respect of the details and the size, the volume of the report before I make a decision on that.

There would be some that I would make available to members, there is no doubt about that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo, is that all. I have no other names on my list. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Controllership and regional financial services. Total operations and maintenance, 17 million 220 thousand. Agreed. I apologize I meant to say 17 million 820 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 17 million 820 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. We will then move on to the information. Finance & Administration, branch summary. Liquor commission revolving funds. Information. Questions on page 3-11. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question under liquor sales. Are we drinking too much liquor or did the price of liquor go up. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, I was gathering here Mr. Chairman that probably some of the sales levels in some communities have gone up as a result of the population increase and probably increased consumption Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister Ng said probably like he doesn't really know. Does he know that the number of alcohol users have increased to date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman. I would say our population is always increasing, so I would say that the number of people that are consuming alcohol is probably increasing. I think it's important to note that these aren't our numbers, these are numbers that are provided by the NWT liquor commission, which does a lot of the contract work on our behalf. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a clarification here. The total amount on liquor sales, is that directly linked to import permits. That amount, the total amount of 3.1

million dollars, is all of that covered off in the 244 permits that were issued. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. I'm sorry. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No it's actually Mr. Chairman, the import permits is not the total number, the amount of revenues from the permitting and the liquor sales is over and above that. Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess what I'm getting at and maybe I'm not making it clear is, the 244 thousand dollars worth of liquor permits that were issued. Do those permits cover off the 3.1 million dollars in liquor sales. Are they all included within the permits that were issued or are there other sales that people don't need permits for that are recorded in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the actual import permits aren't reflective of the liquor sales here. The import permits would allow individuals to purchase from outside of the territory, so we wouldn't be able to track those revenues. So we wouldn't know how much volume unless you go through every single individual permit of course and add it up exactly what it's for. Because you have to remember, the permits allow the individual to ship it in from whether it's Yellowknife or Edmonton or Winnipeg or Montreal or Ottawa. Other sales points from other jurisdictions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you. Any additional questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you. Under liquor commission revolving fund, I have a bit of a problem or concern. Some communities of Nunavut have alcohol and drug committees at the community level so I don't see any funding geared towards these drug and alcohol committees. This is just for licensing, liquor licensing. Why don't I see any funding allotted for the community alcohol and drug committees. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. This is just an information item. This page is just an information item. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to point out to the member as well that this has nothing to do with alcohol and drug committee programming. That falls within the jurisdiction of other departments. This is more of a revenue forecast for the liquor commission itself that's provided, as the Chairman indicated, for your information purposes. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Any additional questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community drug and alcohol committees, where do they, where can they get their funding for operations and maintenance. Where would you provide funding for those committees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I hope you can understand me.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that would more than likely be under the Health & Social Services Department whose budget will be coming out later this week. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I don't have any more names on the list. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I am getting weak, my collar is a bit tight. What the minister said about liquor permits, I was wondering if that was included under item import permits under 244.

If I am going to be bringing fur bearing animals I need an export permit to take it out of Nunavut. So for liquor permits if they are going to be bringing alcohol to Nunavut, like he said you couldn't tell where the permit came from, whether it came from Ottawa or Edmonton. I was wondering if it could be done through one window or something like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** No these permits are paid through the Nunavut Liquor agency that's responsible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): The liquor commission, where are they stationed. Iqaluit.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you. Gjoa Haven. This is one of the decentralized functions and it is based out of Gjoa Haven. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I have no further names on my list. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For liquor licensing board, where do the Nunavut communities order their liquor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, individuals have a choice of

course, they can order without a permit, from the liquor warehouse here in Iqaluit. Or else if they obtain a liquor permit they can obtain liquor from other agencies outside of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Where do they get the forms. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Through the liquor warehouse, the liquor licensing board itself and the warehouse operation that they have. I believe also some municipalities have permits that are available for the public at large, but they have to be approved by the liquor board warehouse. Thank you.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, if we have an import permit for Nunavut within the last two years have you seen any problems with import permits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have heard from individuals about problems, yes I mean that's why the liquor board has undertaken some consultations very shortly to hear more from the public at large about liquor distribution and sales around Nunavut. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. After the consultation process in Nunavut and once we get the results, you'll be amending the act according to the way we license them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Mr. Chairman, the liquor board itself as a result of their consultation will make recommendations to myself as the minister responsible and I'll consider what those recommendations are and move on from there Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the actual consultation process by your department, will you be giving their reports to the regular members before approval.



**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, first of all I want to make it clear it's not the department that is undertaking these consultations, it's the Nunavut liquor board itself which is an independent board. Having said that, I would be willing to share their recommendations with members. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions. We're on page 3-11. That's an information item. I have no more names on my list. Distribution of budget is an information item. Page 3-12. If there are no further comments, we'll go on to page 3-5.

Finance and administration, branch summary. Detail of expenditures. Total operations and maintenance, 38 million 955 thousand dollars. Questions. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 38 million 955 thousand dollars. Do you agree.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. It is carried. Do you agree that the main estimates are complete.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to thank the minister and his staff. If you want to say your closing remarks.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** I'd thank the committee and thank Mr. Vardy. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. We'll take a short 15-minute break then we'll move on to the Human Resources Department. While they're preparing we'll have a short 15-minute break.

*>> Committee recessed at 1.48 p.m. and resumed at 2.05 p.m.*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you for returning. At this time, we will be dealing with Mr. Ng, Bill 1, Appropriation Act 2001-2002, Human Resources. Mr. Ng you can do your opening remarks. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to present the budget of the Department of Human Resources for fiscal year 2001-2002.

The Department of Human Resources has a total budget of nearly 18.5 million dollars. Of

this budget, the major components are:

- 5.6 million dollars for compensation and benefits;
- 5.7 million dollars for removal;
- 3.3 million dollars in support of government-wide training programs;
- 2.3 million dollars for the decentralization; and,
- 1.5 million dollars for other operations and maintenance costs.

The department has a complement of 53 positions, including 15 positions in Qikiqtaaluk, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions. In fact, I am pleased to report that the department is operating at 94% staffing capacity.

The department is committed to directing, advising and supporting excellence across Nunavut's public service. To achieve this, the department requires the necessary resources to effectively carry out its functions and responsibilities. As a central agency of government, the department's key functions are:

- Recruitment and retention of the public service;
- Job Evaluation and organizational design;
- Training and Development;
- Labour Relations;
- Human Resource Policy Development; and,
- Human Resource Management support to all departments and agencies.

Mr. Chairman, the programs and services of the department are supportive of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement. We are fully committed to ensure the government hires, trains, and retains people in a responsive and fair manner, while putting particular emphasis on our Article 23 obligations. This is a priority within the department and is demonstrated by the fact that we are allocating 1.7 million dollars to implement and support the Government of Nunavut's Inuit Employment Plan.

Mr. Chair, the department is also committed to ensuring the wellness of all Government of Nunavut employees. With this in mind, the Workplace Wellness initiative was expanded to 750 thousand dollars for the fiscal year 2001-2002. It is the objective of the department to provide an effective worksite wellness program for our employees.

Other government-wide training programs such as employment orientation, language, specialized training and summer students will also be made accessible to all Government of Nunavut departments.

In closing Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to address the committee. I look forward to answering any questions the members may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. I would like to ask the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Government Operations to do his opening remarks. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services has carefully reviewed the budget estimates and business plan of the Department of Human Resources for the upcoming fiscal year and we think it is great we have no questions.

>>*Laughter*

As Chairman of the Standing Committee, I am pleased to be able to provide the committee's opening comments as we begin the review of the department's 2001-2002 budget.

The committee notes that the department's budget for the 2001-2002 fiscal year is approximately 18.5 million dollars. This is an increase of approximately one million dollars from the department's 2000-2001 main estimates.

Members were pleased to note an increase in the funding for training and development, as well as separate contribution funding for Nunavut Arctic College to deliver pre-employment programs in decentralized communities. Members will be interested in exploring what types of training are envisioned to be delivered by Nunavut Arctic College, and for what types of positions.

The Department of Human Resource's 2001-2002 business plan clearly articulates some of the major challenges that face the government in the area of recruitment and retention. Two of the main factors include the high cost of living Mr. Chairman, and a lack of affordable housing. Members have been frustrated with the lack of an apparent strategy on the part of the government to address the staff housing issue.

Mr. Chairman, the release last week of the latest figures on Government of Nunavut staffing across Nunavut has some good news, and some reasons for concern.

Members were pleased to note that the total number of Government of Nunavut positions has increased in over a dozen communities from the figures of March 31, 2000. Members also note that while the total number of Inuit hired has increased in about sixteen communities, there has been a decrease in others. Members also note that the share of total GN positions in the three largest communities has dropped to approximately 55% -- this trend does indicate that decentralization is moving forward.

Mr. Chairman, it is unclear to members when the government expects to achieve full staffing capacity. The March 2000 figures indicate that 75% of a total of 2,664 positions were filled. The December figures indicate that 79% of a total of 2,789 positions were filled. While close to 200 people have been hired during the time, it would appear that it will still take a number of years to fill all of the vacant positions at the current rate of

hiring.

Members also note that the total number of positions on the government's organizational charts appears to be steadily increasing with each employment report, even though many existing vacancies are not being filled. Members would question what the "final" size of the public service is envisioned to be.

Mr. Chairman, the government's commitment towards achieving representative levels of Inuit employment in the public service is one which we all share. Members were pleased to note that the total number of Inuit hired has increased.

However, it is clear that the headquarters region is an exception, with only 29% of positions filled by Inuit -- a 4% decrease from March of last year.

The committee has suggested that the department look hard at the reasons why our staff leave the government. Challenges such as the availability of childcare come to mind. We hope that the government's recruitment and retention strategy, which we understand is forthcoming, will look at ways to assist our staff balance the responsibilities of home and the workplace. We must make the public service an attractive place to work.

The introduction of a workplace wellness program is a positive step. Members will wish to see the effectiveness of this program evaluated over the coming year. Members are also concerned that the assistance provided to employees seeking help is delivered in a culturally sensitive fashion, and available in the languages of our territory.

The committee also feels that the different needs of men and women need to be taken into account. As a first step, it would be useful for the government to also produce employment figures that indicate where men and women fit within the public service, as these are not readily apparent in the information published to date, and in the absence of a departmental annual report on the public service.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee have noted the sad reality that while unemployment in our communities is high, the government cannot find sufficient numbers of people competent to do the job. The department's business plan is forthright in acknowledging that long-term solutions lie in the area of education, but the committee continues to feel that every effort should be made for the department to work with partners in the area of training and in eliminating artificial barriers to employment for Nunavummiut who can do the job.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. I would anticipate that individual members may wish to raise their own comments and questions as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister for Human Resources, you may take your seat at the witness table. Is it the wish of the committee to have the minister's witnesses join him. Sergeant-At-Arms, please bring in the witnesses.

Thank you, Sergeant-At-Arms. Mr. Ng, please introduce your officials. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** To my left is Mr. David Omilgoitok, the Deputy Minister and to my right Mr. Tom Thompson, Assistant Deputy Minister. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. We are dealing with the Department of Human Resources. There are no capital items for this department. I would like to inform the members that the main estimates for 2001-2002 for this department begin on 4-6.

Human Resources, program summary. Directorate. Operations and maintenance, total 1 million 79 thousand. Members have 10 minutes for general comments. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just on the opening remarks before we go into detail. Looking at the minister's opening remarks and the response by the committee chairman, these opening remarks seem to reflect or at least are similar to the Finance & Administration opening remarks. That is, it seems to deal with only the Human Resources Department rather than having the principles outlined for the overall government human resource program.

Although you have the department's 18.4 million dollars, itemizing what it is for, with the two pages opening remarks, 1 and a half page opening remarks, it doesn't say very much about the principles and the ultimate goals of the government are. I am not criticizing the human resources department itself Mr. Chairman, rather I would have liked to see more principle statements, similar to that of the Bathurst Inlet document, for example. Also articulating a little bit more on Article 23 and the need for having better representation in the middle management level of the government.

The chairman of the Standing Committee stated a couple of times that the higher management positions are quite fairly represented and the low-end administrative staff. But in the middle management section, the superintendent areas and things like that still seem to be lacking recognition. Maybe because there are few qualified Inuit or aboriginal or Inuktitut speaking citizens of Nunavut or Nunavummiut. I don't think the regular members differentiate very much between Inuit and Inuktitut speaking or long time residents of Nunavummiut. Don't get me wrong on that one. I think this is a general desire at least on my part to have the Human Resources Department to concentrate on that.

On the lower part of the first page of the minister's comments regarding the recruitment and retention of the Public service. It is in the business plan. But I would like to see better recognition, at least better recognition in the service sector or the program sector of the different departments. Whether they are in education or health or Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. That there is a direct access to labour relations from the Human Resources and the department workers. In other words, this is an old dilemma.

When some of us worked for the government in the early 70's and still with the creation

of Nunavut several years ago, there has been a very heavy emphasis on the divisions' management to have very strong roles in deciding who should work for that division or how the employees in the lower ranks are to be treated.

I am very happy that the minister is announcing that the Inuit employees who are coming into the government for the first time or in the last two years will have access to talk to the labour relations people at least to talk about I don't like my boss or my working conditions are poor. I have not been treated fairly etc. Because when we had the division management in the past under the GNWT, it was extremely difficult to go to anyone even if there was unfair treatment of those particular employees. That is one part Mr. Chairman.

The second part I like to generally mention is the lack of recognition of the long-term goals of potential Civil Servants. Again, I am not talking about Inuit only I am talking about all who have been and will be living in Nunavut for the rest of their lives. I think the program should gear towards not just working for the Government of Nunavut and retire to go to Vancouver or elsewhere. I think again the Committee Chairperson mentioned the working conditions in the workplace as an investment in Nunavut.

Secondly, it's also very important to consider the home conditions of the Nunavut employees. In other words, do you have consideration for government employees who have children who are living in the multiplex accommodations, that they have no direct access to outside for example, most of them are usually surrounded by a whole lot of vehicles and the general population of apartment buildings.

I'm sure I'm not only talking about Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay but maybe somewhere else. I think there should be recognition of those who were hired from the community who have to move Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet or Cambridge Bay who are not used to living with their children in a multiplex accommodation. Are they being given consideration so that the children are able to enjoy the natural environment of what they're used to when they were at home.

That's one consideration. I'm running out of time already Mr. Chairman. But there's one quick note and I'd like to see, is that in order to have recruitment and retention of the public service, you have to recognize that they have to have access to your department's personnel in order to complain about if they have not been fairly treated by their other departments or by other divisions of the different departments. I think this is fairly important at the beginning, to make sure the government makes it into their third or fourth year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. We are now on general comments. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have a few comments. When they're recruiting staff, it's good to see your comments, staff within Nunavut government are being hired. Someone in Kugluktuk mentioned to me so that the future in

Nunavut improves, whenever they are looking for staff within Nunavut, recruiting staff, people have to do an interview from Iqaluit and travel onto Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, and Kugluktuk. First, it's in Kugluktuk when they are recruiting staff. They come to Cambridge Bay and Iqaluit to interview potential staff, recruiters for the Nunavut government. For instance, so it's clear, there needs to be in the interview process someone who speaks Innuinaqtut, Inuktitut to do the interview. When you think of this, this is good for the future.

Someone told me, I believe a couple of people told, they weren't too happy with the people that did the interviews. So that it's rectified, I want to mention this to you. Those that do the interview, because the dialects are different, sometimes there may be misunderstandings when interviews are being done. For instance in Kugluktuk, because he couldn't understand the person doing the interview, the interviewer said I can't understand you, speak in English. That person was not very happy with that situation when he went up for an interview because that was a comment from the interviewer. Or the person thought maybe I am not able to speak Inuktitut fluently. Maybe I won't be able to get this position. People begin to think this way, I don't know if it's like that here in Iqaluit. But in my home communities I want the interviewers to know the dialects also. For the future whenever there are interviewers going into the communities they should be aware of these kinds of things.

Our staff at times so that they can get promotions, begin to look after other staff. The Inuit staff should get more training so that they get promotions. I am glad that you commented on this. This is going to be our trend. Our youth are going to be aware of this because this is their future and they are going to be happy about that. Yes, we can proceed like this. During the summer while the students aren't in school, can they apply or try and find employment so that they become more aware of work in the future. I will bringing up questions later on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Now I have Mr. McLean on my list. The next member on my list.

**Mr. McLean**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going philosophize for a little while here. We are getting on the end of our session. It has been a six-week session and it gives me a lot to think about. Sometimes I have to sit back and reflect on what we are accomplishing here. This more a statement and I don't really need an answer. We are coming up to the second anniversary of Nunavut. I just want people to think where this territory was. Or what was here 50 years ago and what we have today.

I think it is in the single largest movement of a people probably in history. I look at where we are at staffing. I look around this room today and sometimes we get too caught up on the negative all the time. I for one would like to see the bright side sometimes and I look at this territory that has been created in such a short time and where we are with the civil service and how many people are involved in it right now. We have over 12 thousand students in the education system and we are worried about a couple of hundred civil service positions that aren't filled right now. To me I know there is a plan in place and

that the young people out there are getting better educated and there is going to be pressure on the civil service in the next 5-10 years for the government to create more civil service jobs.

We know in the fiscal reality that we are going to be dealing with in the future that this might not happen. And it is not very often I praise the government but I want to praise the Department of Human Resources for trying to get to those levels. I have been up here a very long time and I have been involved in private business and I have never had a government job, thank God. But I respect the people that work for the civil service. They have to work under tremendous pressure. So do the people in the private sector for far less. There is a plan in place and I know whoever is going to be sitting in these seats in the next ten, fifteen years are going to make sure that the civil service and the Minister responsible for Human Resources, whoever that is over the next fifteen to twenty years, is going to make sure that the Inuit Employment Plan is followed.

I think as a government, this government has tried to follow it as much as it can and I have to commend the government for doing that. I know the government's tried, and like I said, I can dwell on the negatives of it.

But going back, when we took over April 1, 1999 there were millions and millions of dollars that organizations had and it was their mandate to train Inuit people for the civil service. Whether they did it or not, I don't know.

But like I'm saying, I'm looking for the future and the 12 thousand students that are enrolled in school today that will hopefully, if they want to become civil servants, are going to have the opportunity because there's a plan in place.

Now going back on that, this has nothing to do with Human Resources Department in the government. But I look around at the private companies in Nunavut today, I think somebody should be forcing them to start looking at an Inuit Employment Plans, because everywhere I go I see more southerners in their businesses than northerners.

They have subsidized housing, they have VTAs and things like that. So all that I'm going to say today, and like I said I don't expect an answer or something I just want to philosophize, keep up the good work and hopefully in ten or fifteen years you will have a civil service that reflects the population.

Then maybe the private sector companies in this territory will take some time to invest in Nunavut employees so they won't have to fly in their southern transient work force. Thank you, Mr. Speaker that's all I have to say, or, Mr. Chairman that's all I have to say.

>>Applause

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman first of all, I'm



not quite sure exactly what I'm going to say, but I will be saying something.

When we are dealing with the Human Resources, I can only read and write Inuktitut and when I become a civilian, I would like to become a Deputy Minister. I'm sure you understand exactly where I'm coming from, because of course we have to represent the Inuit population in Nunavut.

There's 18.5 million dollars here that has been distributed and this money is for Nunavut and I think we should get some more, increase the employment and we do want to give full support to the people of Nunavut and their obtaining employment.

We do want to support the Nunavut Government in this end of it, but for the last two years we see more and more employees who are leaving their positions or are getting laid off or moving onto another form of employment. I don't know what their problem is but they've been moving. In the Nunavut Government we should be receptive to the people who would like to work for the Nunavut government, because of course we want able and willing employees who also know Inuit Qaujimagatunangit.

We have to put all this together so that the Nunavut government is more established and we also know that these are some of the issues that we have brought up in this House. The young people and the growing population, there has been a lot of suicide because there is a gap between the government and our people and also high unemployment in the communities because of a high level of unemployment.

There are able-bodied people who are just sitting at home and who have dropped out of school. The 3.3 million dollars in support of government wide training programs should be made more accessible to the people of Nunavut. Not necessarily highly educated people but it should be used so that it can be accessed by people who would like to get into carpentry apprenticeship programs for example.

It should not only be geared toward people who just speak English. I think it should be open to bilinguals and also unilingual Inuktitut and English speaking people. A lot of the time it's the unilingual Inuktitut speakers who are left out in the cold while everybody else accesses the programs. I think that even if we read and write Inuktitut and speak Inuktitut only, we should be able to get into the Nunavut gap. I think that there would be a lot more co-operation and better social standards in the Nunavut communities.

Also, in regards to employment, the people of Nunavut can be trained to do anything they want to do if they have the desire. Even a unilingual Inuktitut speaking person can get high jobs. I'm sure that we should be able to do that. But even if that's the case, a lot of the time, we want educated people to fill these positions and we're urging our youth to complete their education so they can access higher jobs and the jobs that they want to get into with the 29 positions, only 4% are filled. That's lower than what it was last year because some of the Inuit who have been in higher positions are now leaving their employment. I don't know what the problem is. I don't know what the reasons are but we keep stating that we'd like to fill them with Inuit.

We recognize four languages, Inuktitut, French, English and Innuinaqtut. These four languages are recognized in Nunavut but the people of Nunavut in the outlying communities do not have any jobs that they can access. The Nunavut Government is there but Inuit are not filling the positions. We have no Inuktitut, there are no French languages taught in my community. Only English and Inuktitut are taught in our school in my communities of Clyde River and Broughton Island. We should brainstorm so that we can create employment in the Nunavut communities so that we can fill out the mandate that was outlined in Bathurst.

Those are the comments that I wanted to make. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. I have no other names on my list. I would like to ask Mr. Iqaqrialu if you could go up and be the Chairperson. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): I agree.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, when we are in Committee of the Whole do you have to move out of your Chair in order to ask a question to the witnesses. Is that in our House rules.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu please come to the Chair.

**Chairperson** (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Thank you. It is one of the rules of the House. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have brief comments. I would like to thank the officials of Human Resources for being here. I am very pleased that there is Inuit employment that is coming out. I am very proud of it. It is one of the mandates of the Government of Nunavut from the time that the Office of the Interim Commissioner was setting up the Government of Nunavut. This has been one of the priorities of the government to create more jobs for Inuit. We have to make it a reality.

The Government of Nunavut is a government for all people. We are representing all people of Nunavut whether they are Inuit or non-Inuit or if they are a different colour. But this was one of the priorities that was set by the Office of the Interim Commissioner and we have made it our mandate to create more employment for Inuit. It is something that we don't like to hear when we are focussing on a specific group. But there is very high unemployment out there and I look forward to seeing more jobs created.

I hope that it becomes a reality. Hopefully sometime in the future this gets implemented and we hope to see higher numbers. I do know that there is a high school population out there who will be filling those positions sometime. But I tend to think fast and look short term. There are people who don't have certificates or diplomas or people who are not

certified for drivers' licences or heavy equipment operators. There are a lot of people out there who have all the necessary skills and their knowledge. The only problem is they are not certified or they don't have the required qualifications. So, I think we should make a change in that Act so that we'll quit talking about this already because we are always talking about it.

The decentralized communities of Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Cape Dorset, and in the Kitikmeot and the Kivalliq areas. Those are the main places that we have to do a review so that the people who are willing and able to work will access those jobs and get further training. As somebody has stated earlier one of the members stated and I believed him. I would like the hamlets for example to be more involved. Also, I feel for the people who don't want to move out of the capital and into the decentralized communities but if they don't want to move to those decentralized communities, I think the people of that particular community should have the right of first refusal on those jobs that are going to be created in their communities.

The Nunavut government, if they really want to help the people of Nunavut and if we're going to follow Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, as we say every day, it could become a reality and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit should not just be lip service. Those are some of the comments that I wanted to make and I welcome the officials for being receptive to my comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. You can return to the Chair. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (Mr. Irqittuq) (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. We can then go ahead, Department of Human Resources. Program summary. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 79 thousand dollars. Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I don't want to approve these right away because we need to have a quorum before we can go page by page. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We're right on. I think there are some members coming back to the House. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Do we include Mr. Ng.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Yes he is included and also myself. Anything else. Okay, then we're on Human Resources, branch summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 79 thousand dollars. Agreed. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The contract services 20 thousand dollars, what are the contract services with no details, it's kind of hard to know what it's being used for. I would like to ask what this 20 thousand dollars is used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This would be consulting contracts, equipment use and things along that nature. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Different types of contract services. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng** (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman here it indicates that it's this branch of the department that looks after initiatives related to Article 23 of the land claims agreement and as I indicated in my opening comments, the total number of beneficiaries that have been hired has gone up over the last report, in March I believe, or June.

But the percentages overall have gone down and maybe if I could just get an update from the department, you know, what types of things or initiatives is it undertaking to try and reverse that trend where we can see the percentage, that percentage going the other way.

Maybe I'll just stop at that one before I get to some more questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman a lot of the initiatives were at the end of the training and development section, some of the programming to support the Inuit Employment Plan. I think it is some of them now, because I remember one, there are probably more appropriate areas for them. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry, I'll wait until we get to the program, the training part there to hear that. But I'm just wondering also, you know, what concerns or issues has the department identified that are problems or issues that are keeping us from achieving the numbers that we want to see in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, we think, as members know we are

trying to undertake a recruitment and retention strategy that we are planning on putting out for advertisement very shortly.

But some of the early indications, as I said in the past overall in trying to meet staffing recruitments is some of the competition from other major employers in Nunavut. The skill levels may not necessarily be there amongst all the beneficiaries as a whole across Nunavut and some of the education levels and those are some of the things we are encountering that we are trying to eliminate more in the longer term. But in the short term, as well we are trying to you know, do some, provide some additional support to alleviate that problem. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman the minister indicated they were trying to provide some additional support to alleviate some of those concerns. Are they talking of providing additional support in training and education, the skill levels or in dealing with some of the competition, I wonder if he could be a little more specific there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak, sorry, Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you. I could see how he could easily get confused between the member and myself.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, more along the lines of the training and development initiatives that I have indicated earlier that's in the training and development branch. But also by and large, as members know, we also have our priority hiring policy that we actively use to try and promote for beneficiaries and the positions with the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm trying to think of how to word this question carefully in a way that the minister will be able to answer it.

In dealing with the issue, I guess that the minister raised as being one of the problems of being able to keep Inuit employees and beneficiaries working with the government and you mentioned one of them was the competition with other areas.

Are there any, is the department looking at any initiatives particularly targeting that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, not outside I guess of some of the collective agreement process that's under way with the Northern Employees' Union and trying to reach a solution to that issue and allowing some stability from the perspective of employee benefits, over some certainty around that. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Any additional questions. Are you finished. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It says you are developing some policies and procedures, just to get a clearer picture for me, can you give me a couple of examples of the types of policies that you're working on or developing. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the ones that has been more recent, we are trying to change or trying to reflect probably continuing circumstances of outside employment by employees or other interests of existing employees. Similar to what members would right now think of as being a conflict of interest. So that's the policy that is being considered as I indicated earlier, under the priority hiring policy that the government has. Those are just a couple of them that we have right now. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** No, I was just curious if they were going to use it, you mentioned outside employment. I wasn't sure if you meant when you're drafting or developing a policy, what you meant by outside employment, is it outside this government or outside Nunavut. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I mean specific to our employees that may have other interests like outside of the work for the government to ensure that there is no conflict in the individual carrying out other means of income that they may have Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I have no more names on my list. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize Mr. Chairman, Thank you. In regards to my question, I will be asking along the same lines in regards to the contract services. In regards to the 20 thousand dollars. You stated that this is used just so you'll know how many contracts you've had. This 20 thousand dollars is used for these various contractors that we have to pay a fee for. Is that why it is that way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Chairman, I indicated that it may be for some existing equipment leases for example, a photocopier that the department may have. Or for contracted services that may be required, for example, I mentioned the recruitment and retention development of a policy that we'll have to go out to hire somebody to try to work with the government and the department to formulate a draft policy that we can move on. So those are, like that's just an example Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, again going back to an issue that I look forward to hearing from the minister on, was on our turnover rates within the public service.

I recall during the last session I asked the minister in a written question about exit interviews that were being done and I am just wondering if the minister has any stats or ideas since then. Recent ones in relation to beneficiaries that are leaving the government. As to reasons why. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as members know we had started to undertake some exit interviews with employees that were leaving the civil service but right now we haven't compiled all the information yet. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it is all part of that manual system. Keep working on it. I can't wait until we have an automated system down there. The staff can't wait either. Has one of the issues that has been raised by people living here is the lack of affordable housing. Staff housing. Has that been an issue that has been raised. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, like I said earlier we haven't really put together all the information that summarizes that to have anything that would be valuable. I can say there has been general review of it and of course, salaries and benefits is one factor I would say for some. That is what I am told.

But I mean we also have to recognize that some of the employees leave when they move on to other positions with the Government of Nunavut. Others stay in Nunavut as well. So it is really premature to be making any statement, a broad analysis of certain segments because we just started to undertake these interviews and there is not enough of a database that would suggest any conclusive decision factors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions. I have no more names on my

list. Human Resources, branch summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 79 thousand. Are there any additional questions. Do you agree.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 1 million 79 thousand. Do you agree.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. It's carried. Moving on to Human Resources, branch summary. Staffing. Total operations and maintenance, 7 million 50 thousand. Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to talk about the selection process within the government. I talked about different dialects across Nunavut. I'll use as an example a person from my community who experienced difficulty during the interview process because of the different dialects. One of the interviewers was Inuktitut speaking. The person was comfortable in her own dialect and then during the interview they had difficulty communicating I guess. Individuals can speak English but she was comfortable with her own dialect in the interview so she chose to do that.

But as she's going along, she was stopped by one of the selection committees who said you have to stop and I can't understand you, you might be speaking English. So, it was really difficult for the individual anyways when that happened. I guess I'm just bringing that to your attention. How can we, I guess the question would be then, resolve this problem in the future so we won't have similar situations again.

How can we, is there something in place that you can, your department can work on for if you have a different dialect in the area. Something has to be done on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman it's the first that we've been aware of a situation like that. But if that were the case, I know we can make some provisions to allow if a candidate wanted to use Inuinnaqtuun as a main interview language.

We would make the arrangements to have an Inuinnaqtuun interpreter there or have somebody that is fluent in Inuinnaqtuun dialect as part of the interview team, I would suggest. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'm just trying to make sure that this



doesn't happen in our region again, especially my community as an example, it might be happening in other places but it was a bad experience for the individual.

When that happens, you know, the individual is you know, now, can't really put forward her application again because of the situation she already experienced and it was not a good thing for the individual. So I just want to make sure this doesn't happen again and I'm glad that you answered that by saying, yes, it will be looked after. Thank you. There's no question on that I just wanted to make a comment. Koanna.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng would you like to respond.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** No, I would just like to thank the member for bringing that matter forward and we'll see what we can do to address it. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The staffing division, I guess, I'll ask the question that I asked earlier on. I'm just wondering, I know the minister had indicated in his minister's statement, I believe when he tabled "Toward a representative public service", the latest one.

It indicated the department had initiated 85 competitions during this last quarter, I'm just wondering, out of those 85 competitions that were held, how many positions were filled. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman since that question was asked, staff have been putting together information. We don't have it as of yet because of our having to do it manually, as members know. So, I can't answer that today, but I've committed to provide it and will still provide it once it's available. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I guess, I'll just ask if the department doesn't have an idea of what kind of success rate it has in staffing competitions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, Mr. Chairman, I guess, if you want to have an accurate answer, I mean, it goes back to reviewing all the information and providing it. I'm told though, I mean, if we wanted to have our best guesstimate on it, that of our competitions that the large majority of them, 90% plus result in job offers going out as far as the recruitment process. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that 90% of job offers go out. Out of that 90%, do all have offers that are accepted. My concern that I'm raising is I would think that you, you would think that you'd want to keep track of what kind of success that you're having. That would be an indicator to the department and to the government of problems that maybe arise.

If there is a problem, you know, take a look at some of the percentages, and the way that they're increasing in the report and some of them, you know it's going to be many, many, many years before the levels are at where we're targeting. Where we want them to be and if we go with the rate that we're going right now and that's why I say I guess that we want to try and identify to see what works and what doesn't work and try to identify areas things that need to change in order to attract and retain people.

You know, by having our levels at what they're at right now, that has an impact on the people that are there as well. So it's an issue that I see, I'm not blaming the department for not doing anything, but it's important to know the impact of the vacancies that are there. That they do have an impact on the existing people that are in the public service. I think it would be prudent to be able to identify those things and identify things that would help solve that situation. I guess on that, where the minister indicated that they're just now looking at an RFP for recruitment and retention, I would just like to ask them when they hope to have a report on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Obviously, I think the mike was on when I was saying probably the fall. We would like to have it as soon as possible but given the time it takes to go through the evaluation process and carry out the work, we would think realistically to be ready by late summer, early fall.

But having said that, I think it's important to note that I don't know what members think is realistic as far as levels, staffing levels. No jurisdiction is at 100% because there always is a turnover in any civil service. Really full, mature, depending how you look at it, I think the rates can vary anywhere from 85 to 95% of staffing levels for a mature bureaucracy.

If you use that figure, if you use the lower end, obviously, the 85% we're closer than that than 95 but I mean, having said that, to get to a median of 90% is more realistic as far as reaching full maturity levels Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, looking through the latest report, stats that the minister tabled, was showing, I believe it was around 600 jobs that were vacant and nearly half of those positions are here in Iqaluit. Mr. Chairman, I'm just

wondering that is a large number of jobs that aren't filled in Iqaluit. I know the vacancy rate and staff housing is probably close to zero right now. I am just wondering when do we plan on seeing these filled. Is there a schedule to it. Is this a planned number at this stage of the game, where we want to be at as far as those numbers go. Are we ahead of schedule. Are we behind schedule as far as those vacancies go here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, you know I would say that we are trying to staff up as aggressively as we can. Given that members have brought up the issue about staff housing or the need for additional staff houses, it is a matter that the Minister responsible is working on now. We are hoping in a very short time frame for a decision as to how we can proceed to deal with that matter and obviously the staffing actions for those requiring staff housing would be contingent upon what housing is available as a result of that decision. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, going back to the other part of my question there. The vacancy rate and the staffing levels that we are seeing here in Iqaluit right now. Are we where we want to be in that right now. Or are we ahead or behind schedule. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well it depends I guess. Each department is at different levels of their staffing. The Department of Human Resources puts out the competitions as quickly as we get them and as I've indicated in the past it hasn't been, there haven't been any competitions that have been held back as a result of not having housing available as it stands now. So really some departments probably are not at the levels that they want to be at. Others are comfortable with levels that they are at now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any further questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I like to follow up from my friend from Kugluktuk's line of questioning. First of all, I worked for the government in 1971 on a contract for 6 months. However, I think like most dreamers I was getting involved in Inuit organizations and more or less stuck with them in the last 30 years. However, I was disappointed in trying to get myself a government job in the Kivalliq. I applied for the adult educator position in Repulse Bay and I was not qualified because I didn't have a certificate, an Adult education teaching certificate. That was fine.

The advertisement also stated that for those who have no teaching certificate they can go on the training program for the same positions. I asked if I could be trained. They said no

because I was already qualified. It is a catch 22 situation I guess. For those who have no certificate but can't be trained because they are already qualified according to the government personnel.

My question is do you have Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtut, speaking staff recruitment members in all of the divisions, regions, language regions. If so, are they always involved to ensure that language barrier does not become a difficult part of the interview. Qujannamiik.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we do. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's good to know. The second question I have, I think, I don't know if I'm going off track a little bit, sorry. I can't see for some reason between page 4-7 and 4-8, we are not on 4-8 yet, but, staffing and the community operations, do they go hand in hand in terms of efficiency for your department. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, they do. The Assistant Deputy Minister of community operations works quite closely and the staffing components work with all regional offices and they have staff also in the regional office. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, that 's good to know because I think we are going to try and get our communities far away from the headquarters to know that these can be had from their own region.

The last question I have Mr. Chairman, is how do you attract potential staff members. In the smaller communities, non-decentralized communities, who have no access whatsoever to your advertisements for the job positions or don't know where to go.

Can they generally write to the Human Resources Department and say here is my resume, here are my qualifications, is there staffing that suits me at least reflective to my resume or application without actually seeing a position that is being opened. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman currently all the notices for the competitions go up in the municipalities through the government liaison officer and as members know they are advertised in all Nunavut based newspapers.

So, it's an ongoing dissemination of information and we also accept collect calls at the department for individuals that may want additional information. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Two questions to that one. Sometimes if you have never worked for the government it's very difficult sometimes to read the, to understand the jargon as to, what do you call it, the terminologies that are used in the advertisements especially at the hamlet offices.

Are you now planning to make them more, everyday language type of language or the new applicants to see if for example applicants in Coral Harbour or Chesterfield Inlet, Clyde River etc. understand exactly what you want them to do once they are applying for that job. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman as it stands now we do give our jobs short, brief descriptions of what the job entitles and then when individuals require more or inquire again about position then there's more detailed information provided, or explanations given to that individual. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Specifically, on the page 4-7, purchasing services, 4 million 616 thousand dollars, I believe this is for bringing the staff and the removal. Correct me if I'm wrong because I think the biggest fear of those potential employees for those communities far away, Grise Fjord, Coral and Gjoa Haven, Kugaaruk etc, is a fear of not being able to get back home if they don't like it in Iqaluit or Cambridge Bay or elsewhere.

During the interview, they know that they can be removed if they choose not to continue employment with government in that particular location, they can be removed to their home communities or am I wrong in that one. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the removal allowance is part of the collective agreement but by and large, the longer an individual stays employed, the more entitlements they're allowed as far as removal goes. But if those questions come up, certainly during the interview or the job offer process, I mean, they're explained as to what is in the collective agreement now. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** So is this the staff counselling, do staff members who are not happy with their employment or the conditions of their employment or their immediate boss for

example, in plain language, can they be helped. I heard that in your opening remarks. Before that person knew there was such personnel in human resources to deal with those kinds of stress, due to a number of problems, like, maybe lack of babysitting, or reliable babysitting or the cost of living etc. Is there help that can be given to them respecting what other easier avenues they can use to have a better lifestyle or enjoyment of employment more. Is this under the staffing purchase services etc. Or is it elsewhere. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of other areas in the department that provide that kind of support. It's either labour relations, or something more specific for the job conditions, work environment, and also there's under training and development a workplace wellness funding for some of the other counselling and support that an individual may require. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is this Human Resource Department the only one that has some kind of a counselling or at least assistance available. Individual departments don't have that and if not then all those other departments have the information that if their member, no matter how junior that person may be, can go to human resources department and tell them about the predicament that they're in. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, a lot would depend on the circumstances. But obviously you know, each department I'm sure would have individuals that could counsel or at least, speak to the employees that may have problems and make recommendations of where they might need some assistance if it's required whether it's through, formally through, the process that's outlined as I said, labour relations or the workplace wellness counselling program or even other departments like Health and Social Services that may have some programs for individuals to offer assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. I'd like to inform the member that will be your final question and we'll move onto another member. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the staffing still on 4-7, it seems, looking at the overall government recruitment stats or at least visiting different departments, seeing that Kivalliq is doing very well and the Baffin is having their own share of getting government jobs.

However the Kitikmeot, although they may be well represented in decentralized communities like Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk or Gjoa Haven but the absence of

Kitikmeot at the headquarters level, I am very happy that your Deputy Minister is a good one too, he's from Kitikmeot and my friend from Kivalliq.

Is that, do you feel that because they are not moving to headquarters in Iqaluit because of the language barrier they fear that they will not be able to have on a daily basis because most people in Iqaluit will be speaking eastern Arctic dialects.

Do you have any information as to why their representation in the civil service at the headquarters level, very few are from Kitikmeot. Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, no, I don't have the answers to that question. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. I will have, Mr. Havioyak is next on my list.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We talked about, trying to, I guess, try to increase Inuit employment at the senior level, I guess, you could say now. Is there in place now, or in each department, say, a trainer on contract to train for some senior positions in each department. Is there such thing in place now, a trainer on contract, who could handle Inuit to take over within a couple of years or something. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman in the training and development branch later on there's some initiatives for senior management training. Right now, I know that there's a senior personnel secretariat that deals with some of the senior management in the government and the Premier chairs that.

So, it might be appropriate for when Executive & Intergovernmental Affairs comes up on the senior management training issue some of those questions may be asked. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Human Resources Department, do you have such, in your department is there some, let's say for an example, if there's a vacancy in Human Resources Department at the senior level, would you look at those types of program for the Inuinaaq in your department aside from the overall Nunavut government hiring, I guess, or training. So, maybe using your department as an example. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Mr. Chairman, outside of the broader

Inuit employment plan initiative, each department also has their internal Inuit Employment Plan to try to address the issue that the member brings forward and yes human resources also has a plan to identify individuals and tries to slot them into positions that allow for their development to advance themselves. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak**: Yes, okay, that's good to know. So you're doing that by hiring a trainer for that position, the logistics position. Is that how it works. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In our case, what we have is we have an individual that's on a term position that is providing some training for the individual that plans to move into that individual's position in the future. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. GN staff, how long does it take to put out a job opportunity advertisement. For instance, if they were to hire a specialist, do you hire people for all the departments, hire staff for all the departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Generally Mr. Chairman, it takes around 4-6 weeks depending on the volume of the regional offices we're dealing with. We do it for all employees except for nurses' positions and teachers. The department of health and the department of education have their own recruitment specialist for those positions. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): So how do you select new staff members. If they need a new staff member in public works, would a person from public works be involved in the hiring.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Yes, whichever department is requesting the individual, they are directly involved in the recruitment team along with human resources. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Is there a hiring committee in each department or do you involve just one individual from each department or from one department if you were to



hire for a department.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Generally one from one department, one from human resources but there are occasions where there are two for the sponsoring department. But generally, again, it's the supervisor of whatever position is being advertised that would be involved. That individual. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): How many individuals are there on the committee that selects the individual or person. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Two or three Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): The government staff, GN staff, there's, people have different personalities or some members or staff have to leave the government because of certain things, other commitments. For instance if the department of Sustainable Development was to hire an individual, or if a department wanted to fire an individual, would the firing have to go through your department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Mr. Chairman, labour relations provide the support for that process. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): This is my last question. If there were somebody that had to resign from his position, would you get a replacement right away from your department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** No, how it works, Mr. Chairman, is the department that has that employee would have to initiate a job request for an advertisement and then we would put it out for competition. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. I have no further names on my list. Human resources, branch summary. Staffing. Total operations and maintenance, 7 million 50 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total expenditures, 750 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total expenditures, 750 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Before we move onto the next page, we'll take a ten-minute break.

*>>Committee recessed at 3.48 p.m. and resumed at 4.07 p.m.*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. We will resume our meeting. I would like to welcome my good friend. I haven't seen you here for a while. We are on page 4-8. Human Resources, branch summary. Assistant Deputy Minister. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 342 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 2 million 342 thousand. Agreed. That person over there is not understandable, please stop speaking. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Human Resources, branch summary, 4-9. Job evaluation and organizational design. Total operations and maintenance, 685 thousand. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Quick question here. From a historical point of view, Inuit are not very good at interviews, they don't put themselves into, I'm good, and I'm all these things, stuff like that except for politicians I guess.

Mr. Chairman is there work being done between with Human Resources and Arctic College in trying to get the potential employees to prepare them for developing them to be good at interviews, or interviewing.

As I, some of us take some courses, I took a course in Banff and learned that, that was years ago before you were born Mr. Chairman.

*>>Laughter*

Our instructors stated that 60% is on the basis of presentation and articulation as to who you are, what you are capable of doing and the 40% may be on qualifications from your papers, from curriculum vitae. But it comes to actual interviews, there must be some difficulties in getting the person to say exactly what his capabilities are. Especially from smaller communities, I don't know how you say that in English. A program being designed to help potential employees on presentation. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Thank you. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all Mr. Chairman, I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce a couple of individuals that are in the gallery today. They're doing work right now with our current Nunavut Management and Services Board and they have done work with the Management and Services Board of the NWT in which I was a member as well. They are from a renowned international consulting firm Hewitt and Associates, Bob Vandersanoe and Mike Masuhara. I'd like to welcome them to the Assembly first of all. They charge as much as lawyers Mr. Chairman, if not more.

>>*Applause, laughter*

But anyways, just to answer the member's question, Mr. Chairman, there is a career development branch with the department of education that undertakes the kind of work that the member asked about in respect to preparing individuals, helping them put together job applications, resumes, assisting them with the process. Preparing them for interviews and those types of support for individuals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Job evaluation and organizational design. I'm sure, the money at the bottom line is for this portion of human resources. I would like further clarification on this topic in regards to the job evaluation. How much work do you do with this amount of money. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Well, by and large, Mr. Chairman, we carry out the job evaluation and organizational design work that's listed in the branch summary. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The grants and contributions, are quite small. There's a small amount of money here totalling 685 thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** The member is correct. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is this for all the Nunavut employees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes it is. It provides support to other departments in the area. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just trying to get this clarified. This branch of the department is the branch that does up, prepares job descriptions and assesses and evaluates the rates, I guess of pay that would go along with whatever the different jobs are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Yes, that's correct Mr. Chairman and it's based on the, if the member is speaking about the job classification, it's based on a modified pay management system. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I believe Mr. Ng is talking about the pay management system or a modified system. I know in the past I brought up questions regarding positions that you know, do more than their, like if they just have a certification for one level but they, you know, the number of years of service in some cases, you know, are any other things taken into consideration like experience in looking at how positions are classified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman an item such as an individual's experience wouldn't necessarily be part of the job classification process. But it would be in respect of negotiations for starting salaries. You know, the experience level of the individual that he or she might bring to the job. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If an individual or whatever in a position was looking for or felt that their classification or the rate that they were set at based on whatever wasn't adequate.

I guess, what would be the process that they would follow in order to have, you know, I don't know whether you would call it a grievance or what to have it evaluated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman there's a job evaluation appeals process within the government if an individual feels that their job hasn't been correctly classified then there's avenues for them to have that review. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman just for more information I could pass on, who in the department would an individual get hold of if he had a concern in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Sorry. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The director of the division, Mr. Tom Critelli. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman would they, and I know I've asked this question before and this deals with the departmental staff but would this also include the teachers and nurses that have always otherwise been outside of that. Do you know those results. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It will be for all employees except for teachers, teachers have a different process because they have a different collective agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): That's it. I've no further names. Human Resources, branch summary. Job evaluation and organizational design. Total operations and maintenance, 685 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 685 thousand. Do you agree.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. We'll then move on to page 4-10.

Human Resources, branch summary. Training and development. Total operations and maintenance, 4 million 13 thousand. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Contract services it went up quite a bit about 1.5 million, can you touch on that for me. Why is it so much of an increase.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The bulk of the increase is the result of moving it from fees and payments from last year, a move to contract services Mr. Chairman. I knew that there may be a lot of interest in this. It is a lot of the training program and services in there. The Inuit employment plan, employee wellness program, employee orientation, Inuktitut language, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and specialized program training. That is all in this area of contract services Mr. Chairman, with this branch. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You didn't mention the summer students. Where can we find this under the numbers here. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry there is also a summer student program, 350 thousand dollars is in that amount as well. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On summer student programs I guess or projects. Is this within the Government of Nunavut or do we subsidize some of the private sector out there so they can hire summer students. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is specific to Government of Nunavut departments in the hiring of summer students. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a way that we can assist the private sector in hiring summer students. Is there a program the private sector can have access to.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I believe this issue was brought up fairly recently in the House. At that time I committed to having us look at

what is available from the federal program side. If they normally have a lot of summer student employment initiatives from federal departments then we've tried to manage that to enable other employers to access funding for summer employment over the course of this coming summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you. Now going back to the summer students within the Government of Nunavut. With the numbers that you gave earlier how many students are we looking at for the upcoming summer.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We hope to have 40 students. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is on the same page. The employee workplace wellness program. How much money do we set aside annually and does this money come from Health Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is the first year that we are putting in for the full fiscal year and we have 750 thousand dollars set aside for the workplace wellness program itself. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like clarification because I'm sure that's very beneficial to the employees because of course you might have a problem and it would be good to utilize this program. My question is, how would you access this program and how well is it utilized by the people from the outside communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there's a toll free number that is advertised and the services currently are going to be contracted out through Health Canada to provide these services and the services will be bilingual. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To follow that up. I was given a number that looked like a calling card and I was told I was able to call that number. I

called the number and it's a very long process you have to go through. I tried to speak in Inuktitut, this person of course didn't know me and didn't speak Inuktitut and I was instructed that I would have to make an appointment so that they could get an interpreter and once the interpreter goes there then I would be able to talk to that person from the program.

I think we have to look at it further because if you have a social problem or some other kind of problem, it takes too long and I think we have to look at it further. Is your department going to be looking at this program because it could be very beneficial to the employees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** I agree with the member. I mean this is the first step in getting some form of work place, just in terms of employees. The plan would be to develop our own and have one based in Nunavut that we can more readily access and influence any policy change that we may require. So that's the long term plan but as it stands now in order for us to provide some service, we contract it out with Health Canada for this upcoming fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ng. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams:** This is a lot of money and we could hire a whole lot of people to do our own in Nunavut with 750 thousand dollars a year. On the same page, I would like to ask if there was a large increase in staff when you look at compensation and benefits. I just want some explanation on that Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there is that increase of a couple of new positions. One is the Inuit employment plan manager and the other is the work place wellness coordinator. It also covers the salaries of manager trainees that will be identified under the Inuit Employment plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I misunderstood. Are you saying that this increase covers three new positions. If it's three, then that's a lot of money for three new employees.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Two positions Mr. Chairman, and twelve senior management that we plan to hire for senior management development. There's also, I understand Mr. Chairman, a component for Akitsiraq Law School as well of 175 thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk is next. Thank you.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also in the same program, when the teachers are bilingual and if they speak Inuktitut, they get a bonus. Does that apply to all Nunavut government employees too.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: By and large it does apply government-wide for positions that require individuals to be bilingual. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does that also apply to Inuit as a second language for bilingual Inuit. Thank you.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: I'm not sure, Mr. Chairman, of what the member is asking me. Maybe if he could clarify. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk could you clarify your question please.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: It says Inuktitut as a second language. I would assume that a person who speaks any language in this world and speaks Inuktitut as a second language would get a bonus or benefits, like Mr. Ng is saying for the most part.

There are also some Inuit employees who speak English as a second language like myself or other Inuit employees, does that also apply. Thank you.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you. I get the question. Yes, it would apply, again for those positions that require an individual to be bilingual. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Following my friend from Kugluktuk's question respecting some employment, did I hear the minister saying that it would be the federal programs that the Government of Nunavut would be accessing to have the student employment outside of this government. Like for example municipalities or housing associations. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Before I recognize the minister, I would like to welcome Kevin O'Brien to the House. Welcome. Mr. Ng.

>>Applause

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman what I said was that if there are federal programs available which there more than likely will be, they've done it on an annual basis, then we'll try to identify what those programs are and help organizations to access the funds if they need it for summer student hiring. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Are there any doubts that they might not be forthcoming from the federal programs and if they will be coming forth when would we know. When do you think we will know, will we know before the end of the school year. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Oh, I can't say for sure, but I know normally they announce it well in advance of when the program dollars would be available. But it's certainly something as a government that we could try and get some advance notice on this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** I know this sounds selfish but I realize that the government will be hiring approximately 40 students this summer in all the decentralized communities and at the headquarters and at the regional offices perhaps but not for the non-centralized communities. Will these non-centralized communities have preference on the federal funds. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I couldn't say because I would probably say that it would be unlikely given that the federal government tries to cover the country as a whole and not to discriminate based on individuals or communities in their programming. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would the minister then advise the federal government that the present system of employing for government employment only for the summer students kind of more or less discriminates against those non-centralized communities. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Chairman, I would say that we could look at that issue from the Government of Nunavut perspective. Certainly, we don't want to be discriminating

against any other communities and we tried to be fair in how we allocate out our summer student dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will the minister then consider those 40 student allocations for the government employment and the Government of Nunavut portion of approximately, to be very conservative maybe 20-30%, going to non-decentralized communities for municipalities or housing associations etc. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I can say that we will try and take a look and balance out the government of Nunavut summer student hiring. Try to reflect the Nunavut wide constituency as a whole. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I have no more names on my list. We are on Human resources, branch summary. Training and development. Total operations and maintenance, 4 million 13 thousand. Do you agree.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. It's carried. Total expenditures, 4 million 13 thousand. Do you agree.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. It is carried. Moving on. Human Resources, branch summary. Labour relations. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 30 thousand. Do you agree. Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Labour relations. Who is responsible for providing professional labour relations advice for various communities. This 1 million 30 thousand is this for all the communities of Nunavut for labour relations.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for the Government of Nunavut labour relations. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is not connected to the labour relations between the community staff, it is just for the Government of Nunavut. Thank you Mr, Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Yes. The member is correct. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Let me ask another question. Since we started dealing with the main estimates for the whole duration. We see utilities included in here in a description. But never see any money in regards to that. Just because we were planning for April 1st, is this the reason why it is there. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is because it is normally a standard line item in each department and each branch that it shows up. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): There is never any figure included in there. Where do you include that line item in the main estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are some departments with utilities. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any additional questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Labour relations and with this various compensation and benefits. I am sure that they were given support and I've never seen funding that is geared towards this in any one of the departments' estimates. Why do we include that part. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): All the departments start from compensation and benefits and grants. Although they are included, they don't necessarily have to have the figure. I just want Mr. Iqaqrialu to understand. Mr. Ng would you like to respond.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope he understands Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Although I understand it clearly, it seems like it is added here and it is not used. We have never seen any figure for that and it seems just to be sitting there useless. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): You were told that it is clear. It has to be included under the description. Utilities are being paid by others. But the one we are dealing with does not have utilities. Mr. Ng would you like to give him a final response.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** I guess. I don't know if it is very relevant if the member wants us not to print utilities in the future. I don't know. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): If you have a different question. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The main estimates for each of the various departments. Looking at some do have utilities and some don't. It is included in all of the descriptions of the main estimates. Does it mean that government departments pay for other departments and some other departments don't pay for their utilities. I was wondering if he could clarify that for me. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Public Works and Services by and large pay for the majority of the buildings that the government operates. So they have the component that is centralized there. The utility payment. That is by and large why there aren't a lot of utilities shown in all the other departments. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. Page 4-11. Contract services. You finally have money in there. In previous years there was none. Do we have a new contract now.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is primarily to cover the cost of the collective agreement, of the handbook. The translations are the same. Printing and publications and translation for the collective agreement. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Under contract services again. After we agree to them. Is that for Innirvik like the Blues. The Hansard.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No it would be for the collective agreement with the Northern Employees Union. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): If this is for the translation of the union handbook. Will

they be, the reason why I ask the question is because, say for instance the money in the budget, when they do the Inuktitut translation of these budget books and the main estimates, some of them are not translated properly.

I just wondered whether this was for the translation of these main estimates and the capital estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Mr. Chairman it doesn't have anything to do with that. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman I just wanted to, I just used it as an example. The main estimates or capital estimates are translated and they said that they would do the translation of the union books or handbook.

I just wondered if maybe they could give the money to the union and the union could find their own translators.

Maybe give it to Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, or to Innirvik for them to find a translator, a good translator to translate those handbooks.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman right now, first of all it's a shared cost between the northern employees union and the government and we're responsible for undertaking the process of the translation and the printing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): If they're translated into Inuktitut can you make sure that the translated version is good and correct, because it's going to be very expensive. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, we'll try to endeavour to the best job possible. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. We are under Human Resources, branch summary. Labour relations. Labour relations. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 30 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 1 million 30 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. To 4-12. Human Resources, branch summary. Decentralization. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 299 thousand. Any questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under line, I just want to get some clarification under decentralization. Last year it was 3 million, perhaps there's less money for this year because decentralization is almost over.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Partly, the process, we have made some progress but by and large the large part of it is that the money was moved over for the Inuit Employment Plan and workplace wellness program. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I have no more names. Human Resources, branch summary. Decentralization. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 299 thousand. Agreed. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** What are the grants and contributions of 508 thousand for. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's for the create employment programs for all the decentralized communities and it's being delivered through Arctic College. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How we do this entry here of 500 thousand dollars. Is that the same that is on 4-15. I'm trying to get it clear in my mind. I'm not an accountant but are we saying that we should ignore 4-13, because if we don't then it will just increase the total amount. Because you have 400 thousand dollars on both sides of the page. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I would just like to let the member know that this is just an information item on the other page. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it just shows the 500 thousand dollars for the grants and contributions on page 4-12. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will that 500 thousand dollars include potential employees of the Arctic College in Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it would.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under decentralization, under 4-14, I would like to ask a question under one of your items. Under purchased services, 5 million 680 thousand dollars. This for 2001, is that an estimate or an actual cost. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a projected estimate for the 2001/2002 year that's before us now. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps, is that for decentralization purposes, like to get office equipment and, is that what it's for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Chairman, is the member on page 4-14, distribution of budget. I ask because if he is, this is a summary of the branches, the branch summary that we've been questioning and speaking about for the past two and a half hours Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): For the member's information, I just want to let him know that 4-14 is the information summary. Those are all together. These are just the information for all the stuff that we have been discussing. We are on 4-12. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought we were under 4-12. I thought that's the page we were on. Those are from 2 million 299 thousand dollars, is that the total under distribution of budget. Maybe I can get some clarification, maybe I misunderstood.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the page 4-12 that we're on, decentralization, is all of the human resources costs for decentralization. There are, as



members know, other department cost components for decentralization as well. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand now. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We are under page 4-12. If there are no more questions. Human resources, branch summary. Decentralization. Total operations and maintenance, 2 million 299 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 2 million 299 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Going back to 4-5. From the beginning of Human Resources. Program summary. Details of expenditures. Total operations and maintenance, 18 million 498 thousand. Agreed. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under distribution of expenditures. In that pie, there is the Assistant Deputy Minister, Community operations 13%. Is the Assistant Deputy Minister doing a lot of work in communities for community operations.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this oversees the three regional offices. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What three regions.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Qikiqtaaluk, Kivalliq and the Kitikmeot.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything further. Do you want to continue. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Staffing is 39%, and they talked about 94% earlier. Why does it state 39% here. Is that just estimates.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Just to inform the member that 4-6, 7, 8, 9 has been approved and we are on details of expenditures. So I'll get the minister to respond. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** What this just shows isn't the actual staffing levels. It is just the proportion of spending of each branch to the overall human resources budget, 39% of the human resources budget is at the staffing branch. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you want to continue. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The details of expenditures after they've been approved we go back to this page. So I just figured I could ask questions on this page just to get some more clarification. For instance, job evaluation and job organizational design is 4%. That money 4% of that budget will be spent on that. I am just trying to get some more clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Chairman, yes the member is right. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you finished. Human resources, program summary. Details of expenditures. Total operations and maintenance, 18 million 498 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 18 million 498 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you agree that the department has been completed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you. I would like to thank the committee members and Mr. Omilgoitok and Mr. Thompson. Thank you.

*>>Applause*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** I would just like to inform all the members that I'm going to be leaving tomorrow. I just got a phone call from my wife a few minutes ago, so I have to leave

tomorrow morning because of illness of my father in law. So I'll see you guys.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do the members wish to go on to Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Qujannamiik Itsivautaq. I am pleased to be presenting for your review the 2001/02 Budget for the Department of the Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

(interpretation ends) Approval of this budget will allow us to continue to build on the work of many individuals and to begin new initiatives, consistent with our objectives outlined in the Bathurst Mandate.

Briefly, the role of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs to co-ordinate and help to build consensus on policy issues within the government, to seek political direction and support political decisions, to communicate that direction and those decisions, to collect, analyze and provide information to government and to the public, and to provide co-ordination and leadership for the public service.

(interpretation) I had the opportunity to meet with the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services at the end of November to present the Department's preliminary Business Plan 2001/02, and to provide that Committee with a mid-year report on the operations of the Department in the 2000/01 fiscal year.

I have read and appreciate the comments of that committee on that presentation and those reports and the Department has taken those comments into account in finalizing the Business Plan.

Specifically, the Department has acknowledged the Committee's encouragement to provide, as one of the central agencies of this government, better co-ordination in the development of policy proposals and decisions.

The Department will continue to provide evaluations of policy proposals, and to participate with the Department of Finance and Administration in the evaluation of departmental Business Plans.

(interpretation ends) Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is developing, in co-operation with the Department of Finance and Administration, an intensive process for the review of Nunavut's programs.

In the Opening Address to this Session, and in the Budget Speech, our government has indicated its intention to examine the financial and program experience of the first two years of Nunavut's operations, through a process of Program Review.

Today, the focus of our presentation is the Main Estimates for the Department 2001/02.

At the outset, it is important to note that the Department has no capital expenditures in this budget. The total budget for operating and maintenance allotment for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs in 2001/02 is 8.64 million dollars which represents a decrease of 2.66 million from the 11.3 million budgeted for 2000/2001. The reduction is related primarily to the transfer of responsibilities for the supply and delivery of electrical energy in Nunavut to the new Nunavut Power Corporation on April 1, 2001.

The department's new initiatives include: 1) Access to Information and Protection of Privacy. The department has budgeted 154 thousand dollars for a position and support to co-ordinate and manage the government's responsibilities under the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. That priority was noted in a response to our November 27 presentation to the standing committee, in reference to the first annual report of the information and privacy commissioner of Nunavut.

(interpretation) 2) Maligarnik Qimirujit funding is renewed for the balance of their term, to December 31, 2001. Their work has been allotted a budget of 329 thousand dollars. The commissioners appeared before the committee on February 6, 2001 and there was an excellent opportunity for the committee to do reviews with the commissioners both on their first report and their current work plan.

As a government, we received the recommendations in the first report and the relevant departments, primarily health and social services and justice at this time, have begun to look at ways to review programs and statutes in order to respond.

(interpretation ends) 3) The utility rate review council. The Council replaces the former public utilities board and assumes responsibility for the regulation of the utilities in Nunavut. The legislative proposal is currently before this session of the Legislative Assembly, and has tentatively been allotted a budget of 244 thousand dollars for the year 2001/2002.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, these are the highlights of EIAs budget for 2001/2002. I would be pleased to answer any questions or address the comments of my fellow colleagues. Thank you again for the opportunity to meet with you today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Does the committee chair have opening comments. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Always Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, thank you. The Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services has carefully reviewed the budget estimates and business plan of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs for the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, as Chairman of the Standing Committee, I am pleased to be able to provide the Committee's opening comments as we begin the review of the department's 2001-2002 budget.

The Committee notes that the department's spending is returning to the level that it was prior to the creation of the Nunavut Power Corporation Implementation Secretariat.

The Committee has discussed a number of issues with the Premier during the course of its business plan review.

These include:

- the need for effective co-ordination of such government-wide initiatives as Program Review and I should say, program expenditure review now, and the introduction of departmental performance indicators;
- the need to vigorously represent Nunavut's interests and priorities at the intergovernmental level;
- the importance of a communications strategy that effectively reaches the residents of smaller communities;
- continuing to move forward with decentralization; and
- ensuring that the Government of Nunavut's land claims obligations are met and that its relationship with NTI is harmonious;

The Committee will be interested in following progress and results over the coming months in such areas under the department's jurisdiction as follow-through on the recommendations made by the Nunavut Law Review Commission, as well as the results of the Nunavut Household Survey.

The Committee recognizes the important leadership responsibilities that the department has with respect to ensuring that the GN is a transparent government. Members were pleased to note that the department plans to move forward with implementing access to information processes in the coming fiscal year, and ensuring that the policies of our government are available to the public in Inuktitut and English.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. I would anticipate that the members may raise additional comments and concerns as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo, chairman of the standing committee. We seem to be losing our quorum. I'd like to ask Mr. Okalik if he could be seated at the witness table. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During oral questions, I am able to ask three questions and we have procedures that we need to follow. When we're meeting here, we have to have 10 members in the House to be able to proceed. So I'd like to take a ten-minute break and come back with a quorum. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Following our rules, we have procedures, rules that we have to follow. We have to have 10 members in the House in

order to continue. In Nunavut, we have to make sure that we work well together and members should be in the House. I'll ask Mr. Iqittuq if he would like to take, or Chair the meeting from here on.

**Chairperson** (Mr. Iqittuq) (interpretation): Mr. Minister, could you take your seat at the witness table. If your officials could be seated at the witness table. Will you have your officials joining you. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the committee of the whole, we often start to lose members and I think the ministers already know about the main estimates but I think members should be in the House during general comments. I'd like to take a break if it's okay. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Point of Order.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

### Point of Order

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Chairman, my point of order is that all members are responsible for their own actions and accountable for their own constituents. I don't believe any other member should be dictating whether a member should or shouldn't be in the House. They are elected by their constituents and are able to make their own decisions based on that representation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I will now ask Mr. Iqaqrialu. We have a quorum. So did you make a motion. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know we have a quorum now. But I'd like to make a motion to report progress. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): The member has made a motion to report progress. All in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions. One member abstained. We will continue. We are on Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Total operations and maintenance. Directorate, 1 million 543 thousand. We are on page 2-6. Agreed. Questions. Agreed.

**Some members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total expenditures, 1 million 543 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning the page. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Evaluation and statistical services. Total operations and maintenance, 629 thousand. Agreed. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under evaluation and statistical services. This has been one of my biggest concerns is getting a complete and accurate set of statistics in regards to unemployment. Unemployment rates. Does the minister responsible see a new set of statistics coming forward that really reflect what is happening in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently we are undertaking a Nunavut household survey and updating that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When does the minister think that the results will be brought into the House and tabled. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The figures should be done this summer. We should be able to table the final results by the fall session. Qujannamiik Itsivautaq.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We are on page 2-7. Questions. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Evaluation and statistical services. Total operations and maintenance, 629 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 629 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning on to the next page. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Communications. Policy and planning. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 345 thousand. Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman if you recall my opening comments had indicated you know, that one of the concerns that is always out there and is always a problem or a challenge I should say in any organization and that's being able to adequately communicate.

I'm just wondering if the minister can elaborate on any communication strategy that the department has developed to ensure that the communities and the people of Nunavut are aware or have the ability to be aware of the programs and services and going on of the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Qujannamiik Itsivautaq. We are trying to do a number of things; the website, we're hoping to update that very shortly, it's out of date right now, it's up but we want to update it with the latest information.

Further in this budget, we're trying to get materials for recording our own audio messages to the communities so we will be able to ship those tapes to the communities so they can be broadcast in each of the communities.

So we're trying a number of ways but, there's always ways of improving it and we'll continually try to look for ways to have effective communications with our constituents. Qujannamiik Itsivautaq.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any further questions. We are on page 2-8. If there are no questions. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Communications, policy and planning. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 345 thousand. Agreed. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year there was 15 thousand dollars for purchased services and this has now been increased to 133 thousand, which is a huge increase. Could you let me know why there has been a huge increase in these numbers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you look at the line item, there's 310 thousand dollars that was there and it's now only 85 thousand. It used to be, they were re-allocated to purchased services from contract services. It's just moving from one line to another. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything further. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): One million 345 thousand total expenditures under communications policy and planning. When we're talking about communications what are we talking about here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are talking about all the communication systems and the information that goes out to the communities. We put all the information that is required by the communities together. We put out booklets and documents. To date we are making tapes that will be sent out to communities and we will be producing more taped announcements. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.



**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we are talking about communication, does all this information goes out to all the Nunavut communities. Especially to the government departments that have been decentralized to the smaller communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Well that is not only to the Hamlet Councils. That includes all the information and the Press Releases and everything else that have to be sent out and we also put together information that can be accessed by computer. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, how is the communication system. Has it improved. Thank you. Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well the communication system is always updated. We're always looking at new ideas that we can use. For this year we are going to be ordering tapes so that we can send them out to the local radio stations. We also use the e-mail system that can be accessed by anyone out there and we do keep sending out information to the Hamlet Councils. There is always room for improvement when we are talking about communications. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any further questions. We are on page 2-8. I don't believe there are questions. Intergovernmental affairs, branch summary. Communications, policy and planning. Total operations and maintenance, 1 million 345 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 1 million 345 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning over. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Total operations and maintenance, 861 thousand. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Just for further clarification. When we are talking about Intergovernmental Affairs. Exactly what does that mean. Could you clarify that point.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is dealing with the governments outside of Nunavut. We have to work together with the other governments for example the federal government and we are also talking about the governments from the other Territories and Provinces. They also have Intergovernmental Affairs and they work with the other governments. So that is what it means. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. This is information. Please note that. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This 861 thousand. Do you use this money to visit other governments outside of Nunavut. Is that for travel for the Premier and for the staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for the staff because of course we need staff that can work with the other governments. That's only for the staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We are on page 2-9. Any other questions. If there are no further questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have another question. On page 2-10, it says intergovernmental affairs. It's the same thing as on page 2-9. Can I ask a question on page 2-10. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): This is information only. I will let you ask that question.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Yes, it's part of 2-9, it's also in regards to the Inuit Circumpolar Conference that now have an office here in Iqaluit and we'll be working with them. The ICC is funded by different countries and we also help support the ICC. We have a very close working relationship with the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and then if you can recall, last year ICC took the initiative and attended meetings on POP. The ICC are the ones who were very instrumental on environmental issues. We support them every year because of course they help us as a government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Every year, I guess the prices increase but the 90 thousand dollars has remained the same over the years. Do you take the cost of living increases into consideration when you are putting in the numbers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the money comes from us and it's to help support this organization and they do get other pots of money, for example, from the federal government. It is our contribution for this organization. But they do get more money from the federal government and other countries. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Any further questions on page 2-9. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. Intergovernmental affairs. Following the Inuktitut, you stated that you work with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated in regards to the gun legislation. Is it also included on this particular page. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

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

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): In regards to intergovernmental affairs and working with other organizations, there has to be improvement with the relationship with the various departments. When Nunavut is working on the gun legislation, and in regards to the articles outlined in the NLCA, do you think that it's going to improve our system in the future. It has been 2 or 3 years now. Do you think that things are going to improve in 2 or 3 years down the line. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot tell you what it's going to be like in the future. But today, we have had a good working relationship with Nunavut Tunngavik and of course, at times we disagree, but we do want to work together and we have worked closely to date.

Today, we're working on various projects and it's very good to have a close working relationship with an organization like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the government legislation, we heard that Nunavut Tunngavik was working on it. Have you set aside some money that will be used by for the government legislation. The reason why I'm asking that is on the next page in the information we have the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, where you make a contribution.

That's okay with me, because of course it's a circumpolar issue and the people of Nunavut were opposed to the gun legislation and we heard the NTI and Government of Nunavut

were going to work together.

Are you going to make a contribution to NTI so they can work on the gun legislation. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you. We've worked together and also with the Department of Justice. We are using money from these two and because we are going through the court system we are using our own employees which is a contribution in kind and Nunavut Tunngavik, we support Nunavut Tunngavik in their endeavours and they are trying to resolve this gun legislation issue.

I think it's going to start progressing faster in the summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We're on page 2-9. Questions. Comments. If there are no further questions or comments. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Total operations and maintenance, 861 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 861 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning the page, the other page from Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Total, 3 million 514 thousand. Under Nunavut Cabinet. Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Yes. They too had members. How many members were there. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Yes, the ministers are the executive. My office and the rest of the ministers' offices and the ministers each have two support people along with their Deputy and Assistant Deputy Minister. This is what that page is. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): They must have, the ministers must have their own budget that they expend themselves for travel and other items. The Nunavut Cabinet has 812 thousand. Is that for their travel expenses only. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. That is for the travel for the ministers and that's in my office. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I just want to give the members information that it has Nunavut Cabinet in the English, but in Inuktitut there is a mistake. In regards to the Nunavut Cabinet, I don't think the Board of Ministers should be there but in Inuktitut there's a mistake. This should have just been Nunavut Cabinet, not the Board of Nunavut ministers. Anything else. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's good. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are there any more questions from the members. Under Nunavut Cabinet. If there are no more questions. Executive and intergovernmental affairs, branch summary. Nunavut Cabinet. Total operation and maintenance, 3 million 514 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total expenditures, 3 million 514 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Approved. Carried. On page 2-12, Executive & Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Commissioner of Nunavut. Total operations and maintenance, 181 thousand dollars. Agreed. Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was 154 thousand dollars the previous year and now it's 181 thousand dollars. I wonder what the increase is for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Because of the travel and transportation, and we had an increase in the compensation and benefits. Those are the two reasons why it has been increased. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Commissioner goes to different communities and some of the communities request that he visit. There's no other assistance in the way of compensation from other departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): The federal government pays for the Commissioners' wages and accommodations. We contribute by paying for the travel and transportation and the compensation and benefits for his employees. Sometimes he can hop on any charter, such as the RCMP court charter and any other charter that he might be able to get. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Under 2-12, any more questions. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Commissioner of Nunavut. Total operations and maintenance, 181 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 181 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning to the next page. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Decentralization secretariat. Total operations and maintenance, 567 thousand dollars. Questions. If there are no more questions. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total expenditures, 567 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning to the next page. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, branch summary. Nunavut Power Corporation, Implementation Secretariat. Total operations and maintenance, there's nothing. Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year there was 2 million 600 thousand. Is that the end of this Implementation Secretariat's job. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There will be a stand alone Nunavut Power Corporation on April 1, 2001. We will not be responsible for their funding. This is just for the information purposes of the members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Yes, I'm not asking about having no money this year, but last year we spent 2 million 600 thousand, was that enough. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. It was adequate. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Any more questions. Under 2-14, 2-15 is information items and 2-16 information items. More questions. Going back to page 2-5. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, program summary. Detail of expenditures. Total operations and maintenance, 8 million 640 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total expenditures, 8 million 640 thousand. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. From the ministers' side. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs as a whole.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier if you have your final remarks.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes. Thank you for completing this department and I would like to thank my Deputy Minister, Anne Crawford and I'm happy that we were able to continue and to finish this department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. What is the wish of the committee. Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Nutarak..

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman at this time I would like to take a break, I have to read my opening comments as a chairman and I would like to report progress. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There's a motion to report progress. All in favour. All in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions.

At this time we will report progress. You can have the Speaker come into the Chambers. It's another chairman. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Going back to our Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Irqittuq.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering bill 1. I 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** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Seconder. Mr. Akesuk. All in favour. Thank you. The motion is carried. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Premier.

### **Item 21: Third Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 4 – An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act, Time Zones – Third Reading**

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the member from Uqqumiut that Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act, Time Zones, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. The motion is in order. All in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. The bill has had third reading.

Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 22. 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 6:15 in the Tuktu Board Room. Tomorrow, meeting of full caucus at 9:00 a.m. in the Nanuq Board Room.

Orders of the Day for Wednesday March 28, 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
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** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Just before we close, I would just like to inform the members that the Speaker will be back tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned until March 28, 2001 at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 5:55 p.m.*

