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Friday November 23, 2001

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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Kevin O'Brien
(Arviat)

Ovide Alakannuark
(Akulliq)

Hunter Tootoo
(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Jack Anawak
(Rankin Inlet North)

Enoki Irqittuq
(Amittuq)

Hon. Ed Picco
(Iqaluit East)

*Minister of Community
Government and Transportation*

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the
Whole*

*Minister of Health and Social
Services; Minister Responsible for
the Nunavut Power Corporation*

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(Rankin Inlet South-Whale
Cove)

Uriash Puqiqnak
(Nattilik)
Deputy Speaker

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(Iqaluit West)
*Premier; Minister of Executive
and Intergovernmental Affairs;
Minister of Justice*

*Minister Responsible for Nunavut
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Public Works and Services*

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Hon. Olayuk Akesuk
(South Baffin)
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Development*

Hon. Kelvin Ng
(Cambridge Bay)
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Finance and Administration;
Minister of Human Resources;
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(Kugluktuk)

Jobie Nutarak
(Tunnunuiq)

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(Nanulik)

David Iqaqrialu
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday November 23, 2001

Members Present:

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Honourable Jack Anawak, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manitok Thompson, Ms. Rebekah Williams.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Ublakkut. Good morning, Mr. Premier, members. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 109 - 1(5): White Ribbon Days

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize November 25 - December 6 as White Ribbon Days. Around the world, men wear ribbons to show their commitment to ending violence against women.

(interpretation ends) I would like to invite all elected members to join me in this campaign. I ask that you all wear a white ribbon from November 25 to December 6, as your commitment to end violence against women. Wearing this ribbon is your pledge not to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women.

We spend time and money in our government focusing on preserving our culture and promoting Inuit knowledge and tradition. Let's start with ourselves. Traditionally, Inuit culture supported the strong roles of men and women in the family and in the community. Men and women work together with respect for each other. Men taught their sons how to hunt, build shelter and work a dog team. Not to hate or hurt women. Women taught their daughters to prepare skins, sew clothing and keep the Qudlik light glowing. Not how to fear men.

Inuit culture teaches by observation, let's continue that tradition.

On this, the 10th anniversary of White Ribbon Days, I invite you all to take the ribbons back to your communities and begin the talks to start the healing process. Building healthy communities begins with healthy individuals. As elected officials, let's take the first step together today. Nakurmiik, Uqaqti.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 110 - 1(5): Funding Increases for H&SS Committees of Council

Hon. Ed Picco: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Uqaqti, I am pleased to be able to inform you and this House, that following the direction I received from this House, and from the Standing Committee on Education and Health, the Department of Health and Social Services has increased the funding levels for all community health committees of council.

Mr. Speaker, funding for the committees is now based on population and ranges from 5 thousand dollars to 12 thousand 500 dollars, depending on the size of the community. Committees of Council have been established in all 26 communities and all have received initial training and orientation.

Mr. Speaker, these committees are an important way to ensure that there is direct input from communities regarding Health and Social Services issues. Mr. Speaker, my department will continue to work closely with the committees of council, consult with them on a regular basis about community issues and concerns, and engage them in developing a strategic plan for health and social services across the territory and at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Minister's Statement 111 - 1(5): Search & Rescue Secretariat Funding

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Nunavummiut we are all aware of how important travelling on the land and water is to our heritage and way of life. We spend many hours hunting, fishing or travelling from one community or outpost camp to another.

Every year we are faced with the challenge of searching for dozens of people who have lost their way. As a result Search and Rescue operations are vital to the safety of Nunavummiut.

In an effort to improve our search and rescue capabilities, the Department of Community Government & Transportation has been successful in obtaining funding from the Federal Search & Rescue Secretariat for various search and rescue programs.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, over the next three years the Department's Nunavut Emergency Management Division will be seeing the benefits of 1.38 million dollars for the development of the following programs:

- A communications program will provide training to Inuktitut speaking operators for the marine radio service which helps provide communication services for people on the land or on water;
- Provision of four global positioning systems and a set of land maps and water charts for every Nunavut community;
- The development of a Nunavut specific training manual dealing with ground search and rescue techniques, first aid and basic emergency preparedness for elected municipal officials;
- The establishment of a web page emergency resource that will give the communities access to information, maps and other resources to handle emergencies, and as I announced recently in this House, the creation of Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Units across Nunavut.

Through this program we will be making travel on land and water, as well as search and rescue operations, safer for all Nunavummiut.

It is through third party funding such as this, that the Department of Community Government & Transportation is working to increase the funds it has available to it for the communities. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 112 - 1(5): Team Canada West

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to inform the members of my plans to accompany the Prime Minister and the Premiers of the Territories and the Western Provinces to Dallas, Texas and Los Angeles, California on Team Canada West.

This trade mission is hosted by the Prime Minister and organized by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. I will be leaving Ottawa for Dallas on November 26 and then going on to Los Angeles on November 28.

(interpretation) This trade mission represents an excellent opportunity for our government and Nunavut businesses to make contact with U.S. government officials, such as the governors of Texas and California, as well as U.S. companies that are interested in investing in Nunavut.

The federal Minister of Trade has extended an invitation to businesses in the Territories and the Western Provinces to go on this trade mission and a special business program has been set up for those attending. The Nunavut business community will be represented on the trip. For example, the Nunavut Development Corporation and Kivalliq Meat and Fish will be going.

(interpretation ends) Nunavut has much to offer our American neighbours, including renewable resource products such as country foods, tourism and resources such as oil and gas. In return we stand to benefit from investment that will help bolster our economy. Mr. Speaker, I will then be travelling to Washington, D.C. for meetings on December 3rd and 4th.

The purpose of my visit there is to present information on Nunavut to journalists and scientists and I will be speaking at both the Smithsonian Institute and Meridian International Center. With the assistance of the Canadian Embassy there, we will be holding some preliminary meetings with the Marine Mammal Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

(interpretation) These are agencies and commissions that would be interested in our desire to have the U.S. amend its Marine Mammal Protection Act, so that in due course American markets might be open to the export of our sealskins and fur clothing products.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the Team Canada West Trade Mission will benefit Nunavut and I am pleased to be part of it on behalf of all Nunavummiut. I look forward to the Washington meetings as a first step in promoting Nunavut exports to the United States. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 311 - 1(5): Mid-term Leadership Review

Mr. Arvaluk: Ullakut, Uqaqti. I rise today on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus. At the appropriate time today I will be tabling a written statement of the regular members on the Mid-term Leadership Review, November 15 to 17, 2001.

As all members know, the Leadership Review was agreed to at the time the Premier and the Members of the Cabinet were first elected in March of 1999. The Leadership Review process was developed by the regular members and took place over two and a half days in the Assembly.

This statement is a summary of the issues raised in the House during the Leadership Review. I will highlight some excerpts of the statement at this time. As members noted,

the government system is not our traditional way of life. If we had governed in an Inuit way, we would not be judging whether our leaders are good or not, as we are doing in this review.

Although we have agreed to use the parliamentary system, we still want to incorporate Inuit Qaujimagatunangit with this system. There is a heavy burden on all members to create a government in a manner that is consistent with the issues of Nunavummiut. The Premier stated that we know that Nunavut has existed in the hearts and minds of our ancestors for millennia.

We as a government are in our infancy, we are in the midst of finding our way, of learning to balance ourselves. To the members the balance seems to be setting up a government that is consistent with the modern federal parliamentary system in which we must operate and be blended with one that is based on Inuit values and makes the changes that Nunavummiut hope to see.

In the interests of this balance, the members hope that this leadership review will tell us where the weight should be shifted in order to continue with our journey. Members noted the forward looking leadership of the Cabinet in laying out principles and short and long term objectives in the Bathurst Mandate adopted after the meeting in Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to continue his statement. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Mr. Arvaluk, continue.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. (interpretation ends) The priorities of housing and education are good ones and the principles of promoting healthy communities, self-reliance, putting people first, simplicity and unity have the full support of the members.

Members felt the leadership review focused on the progress to date and the need for government to re-focus its efforts in order to actually fulfill the mandate laid out in the Bathurst Mandate. Members continue to support decentralization as a model for government and are pleased that the government seems on track to complete this task during their term.

However, members are concerned about the trend of the departments to take on more responsibility for services and they want to see more emphasis on devolution of government services to the community level as well as community capacity building.

Members are also concerned that the Cabinet and the departments do not seem to be working together. Members want see more integration and working together at the

Nunavut Territorial level both at the Cabinet and at the departmental level, as well as across communities to meet the unity principle. Members are concerned that instead of simplicity the bureaucracy is becoming more complex and more paperwork is being required from the communities and from individuals trying to access government programs and services.

Members are also concerned about the lack of attention to social issues, youth and economic development. People need to feel good about themselves before they can achieve the self-reliance described in the Bathurst Mandate.

Perhaps more significant is the lack of progress over the past two and a half years to some incorporation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the government at any level. The statement also summarizes the comments of the regular members with regard to the Premier and each of the ministers. It also lists ten leadership themes addressed to the Cabinet as a whole during the second half of this government as follows:

- Work together more at the Cabinet and at the departmental level;
- Get serious about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit;
- Support communities, all communities;
- Put more Inuit in senior management levels and provide more training for existing leadership positions;
- Help individuals at the community level to access government programs better;
- Re-focus for the second half on social issues, economic development and culture;
- Know what your departments are doing and promote it at the community level with other levels of government and with other Cabinet colleagues;
- Have the government multiply your resources and do more with what you have;
- Reform the current structure of the departments and the assignment of portfolios;
- Look at what programs may be merged because of today's situation.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, without the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement we would still be in the GNWT. We would not have our own Territory of Nunavut in which to build a new government. While putting all the efforts that we have made over the last few years into creating the new government, the government has not been asking the question; how do we create a new government of Nunavut that will meet the needs of Nunavummiut and be respectful of Inuit values, traditions and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

The balance must shift in the second half of the term to address the overall lack of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in the government and the other concerns in this review. If the Cabinet does not act on these concerns by the April sitting, members will take action regarding their leadership. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

Member's Statement 312 - 1(5): Unusual Tracks

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today being Friday I will be making a light Member's Statement. I will try to make my statement brief and tell a short story.

When I was a child we used to live in tents in the winter and collect wood out on the land. During a wood gathering trip, my grandmother said they saw footprints but they weren't human footprints. These were bigger. So my friend and I went to look at the tracks. When we put our feet together our two feet fit in the one track.

During the summer at that time as children we used to have slingshots to hunt birds and small animals. When ducks landed on the shoreline, even though there was a fog we started hunting those ducks with slingshots. The dogs were pretty close and they started howling from the other side of the shore, from the opposite side of our camp.

My friend was older than me and he said we have to tell someone because we can hear someone's dog howling. I said let's go, let's go tell my uncle. And we thought they were my uncle's dogs because we were getting scared because the dogs howling was coming from the opposite side of our camp...

I would like to have unanimous consent to complete my statement.

Speaker: Agreed. Proceed.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): On top of the hill there were rocks. We could hear the rocks falling down the hill and they were coming from that opposite side of our camp. We started walking towards the opposite side of our camp where we could hear the rocks falling down, like an avalanche. We started holding hands because we got really scared.

We knew that it wasn't humans doing that because it was really foggy. We were holding our hands together. When we finally could see the tents we weren't scared anymore.

My friend dared that if any thing wanted to materialise before us it was okay. Since I was younger I could not do anything to stop him from wishing for that.

At that time we used to have clothing made of army surplus clothing that used to be lent to the community. I was wearing those big army boots, which were quite huge for me. They were way too big for me.

As I was saying, we were holding hands and telling the fog to make something appear before us. My friend was saying, "go ahead and appear before us", when we heard someone say yes at our back. Then we started running away from that voice behind us. I started running so fast I threw my other boot away and I started to cry. I got really scared. I left my one boot behind and we had to go get it afterwards.

The Belcher Islands have a lot of ghosts and spirits. I don't know if I should be telling you this but some Sanikiluaq residents have visited the spirits and others are said to have children from the spirit world. Everything I have said today is true. Thank you.

>>*Laughter & Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 313 - 1(5): Concerns Over Legends

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be speaking about a concern of mine. The film *Atanarjuat*, which is of an Inuit legend, has been shown through the United States and other parts of the world. It has been hugely successful, winning many awards.

The concern that I wish to raise is whether the success of this Inuit made film could entice southern filmmakers to use Inuit legends and stories for their films. I will be raising this issue with the government to see what they will be doing to ensure that films about Inuit legends are made by Inuit, not southerners.

I also just want to add that the previous story told by my colleague is a familiar one to me. In my region we have similar stories about ghosts and spirits. So that is my statement Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statement. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Member's Statement 314 - 1(5): Recognition of Police Officers

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make a statement regarding the RCMP officers in our communities. They work hard in our communities although not all people are friendly towards them. I want to recognize the work that the RCMP officers do. Although their job is very hard, they do very well in the communities and I just wanted to recognize the hard work that they do and although don't know always about our culture, many of them bring in their families to live with us.

They are there to protect the people when needed and I appreciate that they move into our communities. In our community when things get tough, they are the people to call upon. I would encourage all the people to be friendly towards them.

I also recognize that they go to schools and talk to the children about their work and I really appreciate that. I just would like to recognize them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 315 - 1(5): Recognition of Rankin Inlet's Kivalliq Arctic Foods

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to remind the members here that we have Girl Guides cookies being sold out there. Please support the Girl Guides by buying their cookies.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about a very successful business in my riding. Kivalliq Arctic Foods started out nine years ago as a processing plant for caribou and arctic char. Last year, I stood in the House as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Rankin Inlet North and announced that they had achieved European market status.

In October of this year, Mr. Brian Schindel and James Inukshuk of Rankin Inlet attended the largest food show in the world, in Kolng Germany. Mr. Speaker at this food show, Kivalliq Arctic Food sold northern Canada caribou to three different restaurants and now anticipates more sales into Germany very shortly.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as a result of this, Mr. Wolfgang Kant of Peter Paulson Import Export have been in active discussions and negotiations for approximately 540 kilograms of caribou meat, that is a little over a thousand pounds. These are some exciting times for the staff, I am not into kilos yet. Kivalliq Arctic Foods will be participating in the Canada West trip, which was mentioned earlier by our Premier who will be going next week.

Mr. Speaker, today Kivalliq Arctic Foods employs 15 Nunavummiut and enjoys great success. It is through these Nunavut projects that Nunavut will thrive. Congratulations to Kivalliq Arctic Foods and keep up the great work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

Member's Statement 316 - 1(5): Recognition of Pangnirtung Volunteers

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought there were more members before me. In any event, I rise today to thank Pangnirtung volunteers. I will name some of them but I do thank each and every one of the volunteers, Mr. Speaker. The volunteers deal with social issues and are caregivers who work day and night. A special recognition to the Vestry from the church and recreation volunteers for their crucial work. They work so hard to give their communities much needed services.

Also to the search and rescue teams and all the hunters who give meat to the elders for free. There are also many elders and young people who do volunteer work. I do thank each and every one of them.

(interpretation ends) I would like to end by saying that not only does it make everybody else's job easier Mr. Speaker, it is the right thing to do. Thank you very much.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 317 - 1(5): Aged Walrus Meat - Wrong Residence

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank God it is finally Friday, I am so glad its Friday. We are tired of being abused.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker I am a person who really likes walrus igunaq, aged walrus meat, so I would like to talk a little about it. I shared this story with Ms. Williams and decided to let you all in on it. It's not something that is really serious but is rather amusing.

A friend brought me some igunaq from out of town but was not really clear about where I should pick it up. I didn't know where the residence was where this friend was staying.

On Saturday morning I went to go pick up my igunaq, as I vaguely knew the location of the house. I had been told that it was inside a box outside this house by the door. When I approached the house I started looking for the box. I poked around and started opening boxes and also looked in the porch. All I kept finding was garbage.

In frustration I started knocking loudly on the door. I think I woke the individual up, I'm sure I did, as he opened the door abruptly. It was a Qallunaaq fellow, wrong house and person.

Sometimes I do artwork and do portraits of my colleagues here in the House. I want to show this rendering of the individual who opened the door, it's for members eyes only.

He was naked and smoking profusely. I apologize to that individual and I won't mention the name or location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter & Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 318 - 1(5): Anniversary of Speaker's Election

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to take you and this Assembly back in time. Mr. Speaker, back in time to the time of the great epoch of joined continents, of early micro-life on the planet Earth. Mr. Speaker, then fast forward to the 1950's, Mr. Speaker, the very, very, early 1950's, on the east coast of Canada.

A time of renewal and the advent of television and the birth, Mr. Speaker, the birth of a very, very special little boy. Mr. Speaker, this little boy, from a very hard working and large family, learned the value of hard work at a very early age. He began to play guitar and work, Mr. Speaker, work at his gift of gab, of his schmooze-king abilities. He again transformed, Mr. Speaker, to a young man.

Mr. Speaker, as a young man he became a successful university student. And Mr. Speaker, this young boy, now a man, became feisty and dedicated to helping people. He became elected, Mr. Speaker, in 1995 and was known as the David, the David of the Assembly, referring to the biblical David and Goliath.

Mr. Speaker, move forward, this Assembly move forward, the people of Iqaluit, Mr. Speaker, the people of Nunavut now will move forward with me to today.

Mr. Speaker, today this young boy, a student and adult is now a serene and judicious moderator. He is calm, he has transformed again this time into our Speaker. Congratulations Mr. Speaker, on the anniversary of your appointment to the Chair as Speaker. Mr. Speaker, congratulations on your nineteen months, to me it seems to be nineteen long, long months in that honourable chair.

>>*Laughter & Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. You are bringing a tear to my eye. Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 319 - 1(5): Construction of Road & Bridge in Kugaaruk

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At times we have to express our appreciation, so therefore I rise today on behalf of the people of Kugaaruk. I want to express my appreciation for the construction of the road and the bridge in Kugaaruk.

The people of Kugaaruk can now gain access to hunting, fishing and recreational areas, as well as the great potential for tourism. The road and the bridge construction links Kugaaruk and Barrel Lake. The road and bridge project in Kugaaruk will greatly enhance the livelihood and economic prosperity of residents of Kugaaruk.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all my colleagues and their staff to visit, rent an all terrain vehicle, just to try out the new road and bridge in my hometown during the summer. Once again, thank you to the Government of Nunavut and thank you too, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Premier.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual from Iqaluit who, an elder. She has always been frank and honest to me, Inuapik Saggiatok. I would like her to feel welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize some individuals in the House today from the Status of Women Council. Madeleine Komoartuk, Lea May, Maureen Dougherty and their co-ordinator, Rhoda Ungalaaq. Thank you for coming. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize this morning in the gallery, some of the people that are very active about our social welfare. Lea May from Arctic Bay. She has been a teacher for quite some time. Madeleine Komoartuk, I would like to recognize her from the Status of Women Council. Maureen Dougherty, she used to teach in Nanisivik and she always used to tell me how healthy you have to be in order to be a social worker. Also, Ms. Ungalaaq who has been a teacher for quite some time.

They are very involved with family issues and healthy family units in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I was a child, I remember that we used to come here on a Sky-van airplane and I have fond memories of our elder that our Premier just recognized, Inuapik Saggiatok. I always remembered her and her husband who is now deceased.

I would also like to recognize Madeline Komoartuk from my constituency. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I'd like to recognize someone in the gallery. A person that is known as a writer, author, a Yellowknife city councillor and sometimes known as a bit of a manure disturber. But an all around good guy Dave McCann. Dave.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome Rhoda Ungalaaq and Mrs. Saggiatok to the Assembly. And a special old friend of mine a community activist, a volunteer and long time adult educator with me and now working at the College. Ms. Maureen Doherty.

And Mr. Speaker I would like to welcome sitting behind someone that you just introduced and it is very difficult for me to introduce this gentleman. As you know Mr. Speaker, and Members of the House, he is the author of the Canadian best seller the NWT Cargo Cult Users Manual. And he is working on a sequel of that book called the Cargo Cult De-programmer. He is a politician, a businessman, he is well known nationally and internationally. A founding member of the Nunavut Arbitration Board Mr. Speaker. He had so many awards I haven't time to mention all of them today.

I really want to welcome him to Iqaluit, to Nunavut and to the gallery. I understand that he is now the Deputy Mayor of Yellowknife. A man that Mr. John Todd once called farther to the right than Attila the Hun. He is the one and only Mr. Speaker and a good friend of yours, a good friend of Nunavut Mr. David McCann.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 319 - 1(5): Health Committees of Council Funding Increase

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. In his Ministers' Statement, he stated that Health Committees of Council in the communities are getting more funding to the tune of 5 thousand to 12 thousand dollars.

I just wondered what he means when he says they'll be getting the funding depending on the size of the community. What does the population have to be in order to get a certain amount of money. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when we first initially set up the Committees of Council, we gave each council 5 thousand dollars. That included the small communities of Grise Fiord right up to Iqaluit. All communities received 5 thousand dollars.

In consultation with the Standing Committee on Health as well as the mayors on each visit I had to communities, they said that it wasn't enough. So we came up with a formula based on population for the increase. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For instance if a community has a population of one thousand, would that community get 12 thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, for example the largest communities in Nunavut, Rankin Inlet for example, has gone from 5 thousand to 10 thousand dollars. Pond Inlet Mr. Speaker, has gone from 5 thousand to 7 thousand 500 dollars.

A community like Arviat Mr. Speaker, has gone from 5 thousand to 7 thousand 500 dollars. So it is based on population and we thought that was the fairest way to do it. Again, we will look at it at the end of this fiscal year to see how the money has been spent again, and to see if there has to be an enhancement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 320 - 1(5): Reason for Increase in Health Committees of Council Funding

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the same Minister of Health and Social Services about the size of the community. I wanted to ask why the more populated communities have to get more funding. Is it because they have more things to do. What is the reason for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the criticism from the communities was that 5 thousand dollars was not enough. The communities themselves, for example when a smaller community got 5 thousand dollars and you went to a larger community like Baker Lake or Rankin or Pang or Pond, it wasn't fair for the size of their community to get the same amount of money for the committee doing the same type of work.

So in discussion with committees, councils and mayors, we decided to look at a population based formula, and therefore Mr. Speaker, we increased it based on population. But it is something that we are again willing to review. Some communities have been very active and needed more money, for example in Clyde River, I think they have gone to 6 thousand dollars for that community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel that this is not fair at all. We have to treat everybody equally whether they are more populated or not. My other question is whether the larger communities have larger committees within their councils. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate what the member is saying. But at the same time, we have to realize that there is a limited amount of money. The majority of communities, when we polled the 26 communities, from the Standing Committee themselves, when I have gone to communities, when I went to the Council of Mayors last year in Rankin, the recommendations from almost all groups was that the 5 thousand dollars was not enough for the larger communities.

Mr. Speaker, some of the communities for example, don't even use the money for honoraria, they actually use the money to buy materials, supplies, to have radio programs, community feasts and so on. It is up to each hamlet to use that money. We thought the best way, in consultation, we thought the best way was to look at a number based on population.

But again, Mr. Speaker, as I said, like I promised in this House last year, I would review it, I did, based on population, if it is not working out we will look at it again, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the minister says that he is going to review it again, that is good. So all the communities could benefit with the same amount of money to treat Nunavummiut the same whether you are a small community or a larger community.

But I know that, as the people of Nunavut, we are all people, everybody has to make money. Everybody has to have money, the same amount. I asked him whether there were more committee members in larger communities than smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe there were a couple of questions there. First of all, the member is right, in some communities they have 12 council members. For example in Cambridge Bay, when we were there last year for the sitting. Mr. Speaker, what we did as a government, the members when we set up the health committees, we had no money involved, we had no funding arranged for them.

The members of the House said that's not acceptable, you are asking people in communities to take on more responsibility so let's try to give them some funding. So we came up with 5 thousand dollars based on the budgeted amounts and I said that we would review that recommendation from the Council of Mayors.

In communities we have gone into whether it's been Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, whether it has been Baker Lake Mr. Speaker, whether it's Arviat or Pond Inlet. They said the amount of money that was available to them was not enough. So we looked at a population based formula.

So I am prepared again as I said to review it. And I think the member has made a good point. That in all instances it should not be based on population because that is what the Government of Nunavut has said when we look at the federal funding that comes through per capita.

At this time Mr. Speaker it is based on the dollars that were available to me to provide the best solution. I am willing again Mr. Speaker look at recommendations from the members, from the Standing Committee on Health on any other ideas that they would have, within the same budget context to increase or decrease the amount of monies that are available.

Plus Mr. Speaker, it is very important to point out that the money is not used for honoraria solely. And the money is not to send people, the money is used for administration, for faxes for using computers. Maybe it is used for office space. Each health committee uses the money differently. That is the uniqueness of the program to help to make it work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister for further clarification. I would like to ask again whether your department has been more involved in training the committees as to spending money wisely. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, The money is given out, for example, when I went to Hall Beach and Igloolik I took the cheque and gave it to the Mayor. I don't tell the hamlets how to spend their money.

We have done an orientation package with the health committees and they decide the priorities in each community, in each hamlet what the money should be used for. At the end of the fiscal year they give us a report on that. And then they gave us a recommendation on the amount that they receive, and that is why it increased. So the orientation package is in place. Now we need to follow it up with more orientation to work on different issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 321 - 1(5): Health Committee Funding in Smaller Communities

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. It is in respect to the same issue. The government is aware of the shortage of funding in the communities that exists today. I am sure the minister is aware of the lack of funding in some departments, in some communities.

One of my communities is suffering because of the lack of funding for programs. One of my communities is not being represented by your department. Why isn't my community being represented more. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, all I can say is we brought in the new amount. In every instance where I've had the opportunity to meet with the Mayors and Councils, they have been quite pleased. And again Mr. Speaker following on the recommendations from all the Mayors, including the member's mayor when we were in the meetings in Rankin Inlet, is that they want an increase.

Based on the budget numbers, and every member in the House knows how much money is available, we looked at a population based formula. Some committees in some communities are doing a lot more with the committee of council and others need more training and we are prepared to do that.

In the member's case all the committees in the member's communities of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay and Arctic Bay are receiving the money. It ranges from 5 thousand in the two smaller communities to 6 thousand in the larger.

Mr. Speaker, again I am willing to retake advice from the committees and from the House to see if there is an opportunity to increase the base on something other than population if there is a better formula there. But we did indicate to the House last year and to the Committees that we would review it and try to increase it, as the members know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department provided increased funding through the hamlets. Have the hamlets been asked whether the funding is enough and were the communities consulted as to the possibility of the funding that they use being increased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at each regional level, Mr. Speaker, as you know we have regional offices. There has been consultation with the communities. When we had the orientation packages in all communities, in all 26 communities, one of the concerns that came forward was the amount of funding provided by Health and Social Services was not enough.

The larger communities felt that receiving the same amount of money as the smaller communities, because of the number of social and health issues and so on, that we needed to review the formula. It was the same recommendation made by the Standing Committee and the members in the House. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we did a review based on the information that we received from the mayors, from Hamlets, from members, as well as from the Association of Municipalities, last year when I attended their session, that we increase it and that's what we have done.

So there has been consultation. I can't say if there has been consultation with every community on their specific amounts, but the formula itself was based on population. But I am prepared again, to review it and see if we can look at other funding avenues. But that was based on the amount of money that was available to me in the budget approved by this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary question. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Mr. Speaker, I would like to know for the communities that don't have a social worker, if this money can be used, because it says in the Minister's Statement regarding Health and Social Services issues and some of the communities don't have a social worker.

Are they using this money for this in the communities.

Speaker: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the members know when we introduced this policy, we didn't introduce it to pay salaries, we used it for the administration of the committee. So it wouldn't be used to hire a social worker, for example, Mr. Speaker.

But in communities where we don't have a social worker, we do have coverage from other professionals in other communities. Just recently, Mr. Speaker, we just had a competition out and we are in the process right now Mr. Speaker, of making job offers to four social workers. So hopefully, some of the communities that don't have social workers will have them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary question. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 322 - 1(5): Update on Baker Lake Group Home Closure

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. The issue today has been a long simmering issue in my community regarding the Baker Lake group home that was closed a year ago.

We have a multi-million facility sitting there empty. I gave the minister responsible, or I asked him a written question and he assured me that the facility would be opening in July. Now we are almost in December with nothing happening in that facility. We all know we have tremendous social issues and pressures on his department.

Can the minister update me on that facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. McLean. Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member is correct. The Baker Lake Treatment Facility, the final inspection was conducted in October, last month. Mr. Speaker, the plan is now to look at, should the facility be run as a government building with government employees, or should I do an RFP on the facility and have it run as a private contractor operated like we have in other communities.

So, Mr. Speaker, that's the discussion that is ongoing right now. We hope to be in the position in the next two weeks, to be able to make a decision on either an RFP or go forward with the development of this facility as a group home through the government or as private employees. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish the minister would assure me that, I know the staff is under capacity and they are all energetic and things like that. By the time you sit down and decide whether it is going to go to RFP or it is going to be run by the government, or whatever.

My question to the minister is where are we putting these children that have to be in homes like this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member has brought up something that has been in discussion with the facility in Chesterfield, and that is if we went forward and were not able to operate the facility in Chesterfield, then more than likely we would have to send these children outside of Nunavut.

So the idea, Mr. Speaker, is to keep those children within Nunavut and to hopefully repatriate some of the patients that are now being held in the south. Mr. Speaker, that's one of the exciting things about the Chesterfield project. I can tell the member Mr. Speaker, that the Executive Director for the Keewatin region will be in Baker Lake in, I believe the next week and a half.

He will be meeting with the mayor and council as well as the health committee to discuss the options with the Baker Lake council on the next directions for the group home in Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is Nunavut and according to the Bathurst Mandate, building healthier, stronger communities, the issue of the Baker Lake Group Home is an issue in itself.

A multi-million dollar facility that is sitting empty when we have no treatment centres in Nunavut, and other centres in Nunavut and we are sending children south for treatment. Is this going to be the focus of the Department of Health and Social Services, to move our issues into southern Canada and not try to deal with them in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a huge categorical no, for that answer. The whole idea here with the Baker Lake facility as the member knows, what we are doing in Chesterfield Inlet right now, Mr. Speaker, is to hopefully and bring back, I said repatriate, bring back our patients that are right now in the south.

To do that we need the proper facilities and that will happen with the completion of this facility in Baker. That's why the Executive Director is going into the Keewatin, going into Baker Lake, within two weeks, to discuss with the hamlet some of the options. If I am going to put the facility back into Baker Lake, Mr. Speaker, and make sure that it is run appropriately and make sure that the training is there, I want to be able to be able to train people from Baker Lake to be able to work in that facility.

Because maybe we are going to look at, and Mr. Speaker, I don't want to jump ahead before the Executive Director goes and talks to the mayor and council, but maybe the opportunity here Mr. Speaker, is to bring back some of the severely mentally and physically handicapped people. Right now we don't have the opportunity to take care of them in Nunavut.

If I am going to do that in Baker Lake, I need a plan in place, like we are doing in Chesterfield. Mr. Speaker, that's what we are trying to do. I want to emphasize again, we are not trying to pawn off our patients to the south. Mr. Speaker, we need to develop that capacity here, but we need to do it right. So I am not going to rush projects, unless I am sure that when the facility is up, I have the trained staff and so on in place to be able to take the best care of our people from Nunavut, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am glad the minister is starting to recognize that we have to train people in Nunavut to take care of people in Nunavut. I think that's following what the territory was created for. But the fact of the matter is, that facility has been empty for a year and there was no training program put in place while that facility was empty.

If the Honourable Minister had some vision, he would have sent some kind of training program in there so that group home wouldn't have been closed for this long. Will the minister responsible, in fact, assure my community that he will set up a training program to train the people that have been out of work for a year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not going to get into a large debate on the dates and so on. My information, and if it's wrong, then I will apologize to the member. My understanding is the renovations to the facility were not completed until last month in October. Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that the last child was taken out of that facility in August 2001, three months ago.

So, Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that next month in two weeks the Executive Director for the Keewatin will go into Baker Lake. We will meet with the mayor and council. The member is correct. I will confirm with him that I would want to put a training program on the ground to make sure the people in Baker Lake are able to work in that facility. Based on what the people of Baker Lake believe as well as the Department of Health and Social Services believe the facility can be best used for.

And the member is correct. It shouldn't be sitting there idle when we have needs. We also want to make sure Mr. Speaker, that we are not going to fill the facility for the sake of filling it. We want to make sure that the facility matches the constituents, the clients, the patients that are best suited for that type of facility with the training and so on.

By the way Mr. Speaker, we have trained people in Baker Lake already because they have worked at the facility before. So I think that is something that we can accomplish. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 323 - 1(5): RFP for Chesterfield Inlet Facility

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, we recognize that we need a group home in Baker Lake. During one of my statements I talked about the Chesterfield Inlet facility. There are patients that need to be in Nunavut that are outside of Nunavut.

With that I'd like to ask the minister about the proposed 20 bed facility. Is the size that is planned adequate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't want to talk about the specifics of the RFP. What I can say Mr. Speaker, is the proposal that has been presented is an excellent proposal. But it has gone a little bit further ahead on what we have asked for in the RFP. And that is the evaluation that is going on right now.

We had looked at 8-10 patients, which are currently housed in Chesterfield. The RFP went a bit further on that. And that is Mr. Speaker, that is the discussion that is occurring with the private sector and with the Development Corporation in Chesterfield. I don't want to get into the details of the RFP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate that he doesn't want a discussion on the details of the RFP. But, recognizing Mr. McLean's concern in Baker Lake, recognizing that there are already 8-10 patients in Chesterfield Inlet, and recognizing that there are over 20 in southern institutions, isn't the minister recognizing that the facility

has to be foresighted to repatriate those patients from the south and both in Baker and Chesterfield Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in some cases we are not able to bring back patients because of a severe mental and physical handicap. We don't have the facilities in place. So, with the patients that we have outside some of them may, because of the opportunities that other health facilities might have in place, receive better care.

Where we have the ability and the facilities and there's staffing available we want to bring back patients that are currently housed in the south.

And to get to the point, Mr. Speaker, when we get the other facilities up and running and so on then we will be able to repatriate them. So that's the direction that the department is moving in. It's based on the abilities of the department to be able to take of that patient group. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 324 - 1(5): Financing Request Rent to Own

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is to the Minister Responsible for Housing on her announcement yesterday and her statement about the rent to own project. People living in public housing will be able to purchase their unit. Mr. Speaker, I had some phone calls about that program from happy constituents wishing to get involved in this program.

Mr. Speaker, my question is and the statement yesterday was a good statement but it was vague. If somebody living in a public housing unit wishes to purchase it who do they contact, the Housing Corporation, the Department of Finance or their private banking institution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Responsible for Housing. Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manito Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I haven't gotten into that much detail yet in terms of financing for buying the units. But I can say that my staff is always available to assist an individual in terms of buying a house or if they're having problems with the banks or need to get oriented into getting a mortgage for buying a home. We haven't really worked out the details yet Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said, Mr. Speaker, I have constituents who are very interested in this program and I know she announced it yesterday and people

watch this show nightly. When they hear things they get excited about programs that are announced by the government.

I'm sure we're going to get a lot of feedback on the Health Minister's announcement on the funding for community health committees. So can I direct the people that call me about the rent to own program to contact the Housing Corporation in Arviat to talk to people about how to finance these units they wish to purchase or the banks. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said my staff is always available to answer any questions from the anyone's constituents. And they can be directed to ask my staff and if my staff does not have the finalized policy on any of these programs we're working on they won't have the answer but they can certainly get some comments and get the feedback from the people on how to make the program better before it's finally developed.

We will try to finish this program as soon as possible because we have had quite a few interested people already and we've had a lot of positive comments from the public about this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister has been very co-operative in working with my constituents in the past and I'm sure she'll be very cooperative in the future. Could she be more explicit on a date that this program will be available so I can instruct my constituents that the full program will be available on a certain date.

Can the minister advise me on what dates that I can start telling my constituents to deal with this because if they call the regional office in Arviat they may not be fully up to speed on the program and all the details. Could the minister be more detailed on when this program will be available. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We should have the program ready in April. That's as soon as we can get it. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 325 - 1(5): Polar Bear Management Agreement with HTOs

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister Responsible for Sustainable Development. In the three communities that I represent, there is a large population of polar bears.

They are concerned about the management MOU that hasn't been implemented yet. So I would like to ask the minister when this MOU might be expected. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Responsible for Sustainable Development. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning colleagues. (interpretation) To respond to the member's question, on her concern regarding the population of polar bears in her constituency. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and my department are working together and we could look into what we can do for those communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Yes, Mr. Speaker, my question was that there was a polar bear management agreement between Department of Sustainable Development and the Hunters' and Trappers' Organizations. This agreement is about five or six years old and the communities are waiting for the renewal of this agreement.

As the minister knows, my communities have a large polar bear issue in their communities. Can the minister tell me when he will be starting this process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Yes, that is a good question. Thank you for the question. Yes, I will deal with this carefully and I would like to start the process. I apologize that sometimes it takes a long time to draw up polar bear management agreements, and I will discuss this matter with my officials to find out when the renewal process can start. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It would mean the department visiting all the communities, just to work out the agreement with HTOs. How much will this cost, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Williams. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could not estimate how much it would cost, but once the communities are done with their MOUs we will know how much was expended at the local level. So therefore I can't tell you how much it will cost to visit the communities.

Once this process is completed, we will know how much it cost. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My supplementary question is, let's say there was 300 thousand dollars to do this visiting of the communities and coming up with agreements between Department of Sustainable Development and the HTOs, would the minister commit to doing this and putting funding in to make sure all the communities are visited. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will work with the communities that are impacted. Thank you.

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

Question 326 - 1(5): Polar Bear Management Authority

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think we need to amend our rules. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Sustainable Development. Regarding the polar bear management agreement with the communities, the residents were opposed to the MOUs, but the biologists really wanted to see the MOUs go ahead.

They were urging the Inuit, even though they didn't want to sign the MOUs, they had to sign them. Because I took part in that process before, so that's why I am saying that. My question is whether it is the NWMB or Government of Nunavut's Department of Sustainable Development that has more authority and responsibility in regards to polar bear management. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government has more authority because we are the government. Also, we are the elected officials. The MOUs for polar bear management vary from community to community. In the High Arctic they have a Lancaster Sound Polar Bear Management Agreement. So we have various polar bear management agreements, and we have to review all of those various MOUs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand his response. My supplementary question is, since you are reviewing the MOUs, how many years will this take. Because if they don't want to change the MOUs, if they are not going to be amended, it won't change. We do have HTOs in all the communities, why don't you consult them instead of just relying on biologists.

We should get some input at the local level because they know the local issues. If you try to just review these, no concrete truth will come out. So please use the HTOs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During my campaign to become minister I committed that we will use the HTOs when doing the wildlife surveys.

I also said that I would like to look into this further. I will do so. Since we became the new Nunavut Government, I know that it will take some time to amend some of the Acts, legislation and MOUs. So therefore we would like to request more assistance from the communities. As the Minister of the Department of Sustainable Development, I would like to use the local entities more. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We want to ensure they are proper plans so that we can properly manage our wildlife. But the same words are being used over and over. When are we actually going to start planning to have a better future. We are not sure when we are going to be doing this. Perhaps you can put a time frame on this and expedite this process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your question. It is evident that we need to put a time frame on that so that we can properly represent the communities. Perhaps using Gjoa Haven as an example, they are starting to use Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, and we could use Gjoa Haven as an example for polar bear management.

We are now starting to use our plans at this time and they are being implemented. But we would like to see more done in the communities in the future so that we could use the communities during the wildlife surveys. We have to start using the communities that have completed these, and we need co-operation when we are doing the wildlife surveys. We have already started this process.

We are looking for ways to use the local entities more and improve the relationship after the results have come out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand his response. But I would also like to rebut, although I don't want to just debate in the House, according to my knowledge I would like to respond to his answer. According to my understanding,

back in the 1970's we started the process of polar bear management MOUs, just the same as what is happening with Gjoa Haven.

Because that community is the last community to have MOUs and we were the first ones to sign these MOUs and we have serious polar bear problems in the community and sometimes we have to stay up all night because we have to watch out for polar bears. It means just when you are trying to resolve the MOU in Gjoa Haven, once you run into a stumbling block the rest of the communities are going to follow and it will set a precedent.

We are looking for Inuit economic opportunities, so by using that other communities outside of Gjoa Haven, you should look into the other communities other than Gjoa Haven to see what has happened in the past. So I was wondering if you could commit to me to start the process right there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I have been working on that for some time. Perhaps you did not understand my response or my response was not clear enough. As I said before I would like to review the polar bear management agreements and do this carefully.

I wanted to be clear in my response as I stated before that yes we will utilize the Inuit people and the entities and this process has already started. And I know that it's going to take some time to amend the polar bear management memoranda of understanding. But we have to work together so some time in the future we can have a closer working relationship. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 327 - 1(5): Study on Bowhead Whales

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Sustainable Development. There was a study done on bowhead whales in and around my community. I would like to ask the minister what the results of the study have produced. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Responsible for Sustainable Development. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board did the study and I don't know what the results are because I have not seen them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because you have not yet seen the results of the study, after you see them would you be able to say that there would be bowhead whaling around the Pelly Bay area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have to find out from the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board what they want to do. Whether they will allow whaling at Pelly Bay. Perhaps I will find out from the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and I will respond to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 328 - 1(5): Polar Bear Quota Increase - Coral Harbour

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Sustainable Development. It's in regards to part of Mr. Iqaqrialu's question. I went to Coral Harbour fifteen years ago and I have lived in Coral Harbour for thirteen years.

We were able to go caribou hunting, two per household. But later on we noticed that there were more caribou around Coral Harbour. After the people were allowed to go caribou hunting on Coates Islands before the caribou started starving because of the lack of food.

When I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly of the NWT, we wanted to harvest six thousand caribou for commercial purposes. Mr. Iqaqrialu stated that if we're going to listen to the biologists only and not the communities we're going to be too late. For instance it happened in Coral Harbour at that time because it was overpopulated with caribou. Even though we started hunting them, we couldn't keep up with the population because there were too many of them.

My question, Mr. Speaker is, recently 21 polar bears were spotted right in Coral Harbour, will we be getting an increase in the polar bear quota so that we will not have the same thing happening like the overpopulation of caribou in that area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They are lucky that they can get 32 polar bears in the Coral Harbour area. The polar bear hunting quotas are very important, I know that the boundaries will not make everyone happy.

We will find out what boundaries we have in the study that is going to be done, we will do that first and then we will find out what the quota should be for each community. For instance, in the Lancaster area, the polar bear population, the Americans have recently been allowed to hunt in that area. Whenever the Americans can go hunting within the polar bear boundaries, then it is good money for the people.

I think there is another boundary in Foxe Basin that is used for the Coral Harbour and Hall Beach area. After we find out the results from the study of those areas, because we usually do a fifteen to twenty year review before we can change the boundaries. After the study is done then we will find out whether Coral Harbour can get a higher quota. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Just before you ask your supplementary Mr. Arvaluk, I want to caution members on the length of the preamble and ministers on the length of their answers. We had three minutes for the question to be asked and we had three minutes and ten seconds for the answer. That takes question time away from other members and it also takes answer time away from the other ministers. I am sure they want all the time they can get. Supplementary Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The boundary that you are talking about Mr. Minister, extends to Quebec and they don't want to follow the quota. I am not sure, I thought they knew the polar bear population. This area is probably the most unstudied area by DFO. Will you be working with DFO to find out what problems there are for the people of Nunavut as well as Nunavik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry for the long response, because sometimes you tend to speak Inuktitut for a long time. The polar bear population is very important and we have spoken to the people of Nunavik about the polar bear population.

We have agreed with each other that better study is required with them to make an estimate on the population and the harvesting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What the minister is talking about when will the minister commit to doing that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The boundary study and how it extends to the provinces will be for another two years, which is the count of the polar bear population within the provinces and the Nunavut Territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand that. I feel that this is an urgent matter. Every summer or every year we harvest polar bears in Coral

Harbour. Whenever there is a danger to the public then we shoot them. Perhaps I can urge the minister to do this more urgently before the population of the polar bears increases even more. Mr. Speaker, can the minister expedite this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I know that this is an urgent matter. But our polar bear biologists are doing other studies at this time. I will be able to speak to the polar bear biologists to do this as soon as they can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 329 - 1(5): Culture, Language, Elders & Youth Staff Numbers

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): This question is to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. How many staff do you have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have the information with me off hand so I cannot respond to him right now. So I will take the question as notice and I will get back to him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The minister has taken the question as Notice. There are no further questions. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 330 - 1(5): Regional Chamber of Commerce

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will make my preamble quick and the questions quick also. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted and happy about the recent announcement about the caribou products in the Kivalliq being sold in Europe. This is a good news story and I am glad the government is recognizing the traditional economy. Finally. I have been bringing it up over the last two and half years about the traditional economy and the Premier is heading off to Dallas, Texas and Los Angeles on a Team Canada Trade Mission that I have been suggesting they do for a number of years.

And it is nice to see the private sector is finally being recognized and the traditional economy. My question today is to the Minister of Sustainable Development about funding for regional chambers of commerce.

I wonder if the Premier could answer this question for me. Would the Premier direct his minister to start looking at the regional chambers of commerce and maybe look at giving them base funding for staff. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. McLean. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What we are doing, as you may have heard, is that we are looking at an overall strategy for the economy and looking at doing the best job in promoting our products and we will look at any suggestions from anyone. So Minister Akesuk will be leading those discussions in the coming year. I look forward to their productive comments from all chambers and the private sector in terms of what they would like to see our government do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Keewatin Chamber of Commerce has been renamed the Kivalliq Chamber of Commerce recently and has a membership of over 80 members and 65% of the members are Inuit and small business. Either the carvers, the print makers, the sewing ladies or various members like that.

The Kivalliq Chamber years ago recognized that high membership fees wouldn't attract members and they have a phased membership fee for people in the traditional economy of 25 dollars per year. But the problem with that Mr. Speaker, is to operate an office, hire a part time person to answer the phone, and just to generally lobby the government and tell them what is going on, is very difficult.

So could he look at trying to direct his minister responsible for trying to set up some kind of base funding from some department in his government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I would suggest is that we are looking at every possibility but we also have to weigh the options and what we can afford. We were asked to spend money on tourism, more money there. So we have to weigh our budget and there will be, we will look forward to any proposal coming from the Chamber, because they want us to spend money on certain areas and we will look at that.

But we have to weigh the benefits for the private sector as well as for the overall economy of Nunavut. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Members will note that question period is now over. Moving on to item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 049 - 1(5): Statement of Regular Members' - Leadership Review

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Honourable members I have the honour of tabling today the statement of the regular members on the mid-term leadership review. This statement is a summary of the issues raised in the House during the leadership review and the hopes of the members for the leadership in the second half of this government's term. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister Thompson.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 15: Technical Standards and Safety Act - Notice

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on November 26, 2001, I will move that Bill 15, Technical Standards and Safety Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Ms. Williams.

Item 16: Motions

Motion 013 - 1(5): Tabled Document 41 - 1(5) Report of the Liquor Licensing Board to Committee of the Whole

Ms. Williams: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Uqqummiut, that Tabled Document 41 - 1(5) entitled, Nunavut Liquor Act Report, be moved into committee of the whole for discussion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. The tabled document is referred to the committee of the whole. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Hon. Kelvin Ng.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 14: An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act - First Reading

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West that Bill 14 - 1(5), An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

Speaker: The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. The bill has had first reading. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 12, Appropriation Act No. 1, 2002-03. Bill 13, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 2, 2001-02. Minister's Statement 96 - 1(5), Ulaajuk School - The First of Many to Come. Also the Tabled Document, Liquor Act Report.

The Committee of the Whole will take place with Mr. Iqaqrialu in the Chair. Prior to that we will take a 45 minute break for lunch with members joining up in the members' lounge, sorry in the Tuktu Room. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 12.02 p.m. and resumed at 12.49 p.m.*

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

Chairperson (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Thank you. We will be going back to where we left off yesterday which was with the Department of Community Government and Transportation. I would now like to ask the minister responsible, Mr. Anawak to please take the witness stand. Thank you. Mr. Anawak, please introduce your officials. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): To my left is Mike Ferris and on my right is Doug Sitland.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. What is the wish of the committee. Pardon me. Before we proceed with questions I will ask members to keep in mind you have 10 minutes for your questions. What is the wish of the committee at this time. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee would like to deal with the 2002-2003 capital estimates for Community Governments & Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. If the members have any comments. You are allowed 10 minutes for your comments. If you don't have any comments we can deal with this page by page. Mr. Arvaluk.

Bill 12 – Appropriation Act No. 1, 2002/2003 - Consideration in Committee

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a short comment before we proceed. I have a concern. The Department of Sustainable Development and the Department of Community Government & Transportation have to work together to respond to what Inuit want, in particular for the communities that will not have decentralization.

In Coral Harbour there has to be an access road available for outpost camps. We do try to deal with these projects by working with the Hamlet Council. The trail would be used by hunters who harvest the 6 thousand caribou I talked about earlier.

Except for January, February and part of March the ground is not frozen enough. The community purchased a community freezer. I think the road now reaches Salmon Pond and if we could extend this trail it would be beneficial to Coral Harbour hunters and Coral Harbour residents.

As well, with respect to Chesterfield Inlet, I have been dealing with this issue for quite a long time now. There's no gravel in Chesterfield Inlet and I'm very happy and thankful to the minister for the response that he gave me with respect to the gravel issue. Because there's no gravel in Chesterfield Inlet they do not have many trails or roads. When people do not have boats to travel with they usually want to travel by all terrain vehicles but this is difficult. The trail is not good enough.

It's very difficult to travel on the tundra if you have no trail and if you have no gravel roads. Because of these reasons the residents have been asking for a trail to be established. They wanted to get more gravel roads. The minister is aware of this concern. Some of the pieces of stone are very large and we feel it's a hazard for the community.

The community of Chesterfield has been having problems with the loading dock and they have identified a place by the Hudson's Bay store that could be used for docks. They've designed a dock that could be constructed in their community. The minister said when this might be done but the money that will be needed for this hasn't been put in yet. And this is money from the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. McLean asked about when Baker Lake might receive a dock or where and the minister said if it's going to benefit the community financially they could set this up as a priority. If they were to put in a dock it would benefit the community financially through hunting. They have a quota for fishing and we feel that this would really benefit the community of Chesterfield Inlet and they could bring in fish to Whale Cove, if they had a proper dock facility.

So those are the areas I would like the minister to look at and we hope that they could be put into the five year plan for the benefit of Chesterfield Inlet and Coral Harbour. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. If you have any questions. The floor is open. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question for the minister is about the Capital estimates for 2003-2007. The capital plans don't include the Coral Harbour trail or a dock facility in Chesterfield Inlet. When would I expect to see these in the Capital plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to Government of Nunavut capital funding, there is always a shortage of funding.

It is pretty difficult to plan at this time for large facilities such as what the member is asking for when there is lack of capital funding. I was talking about 500 thousand dollars, which is not a large amount, but it will help towards getting a response with respect to the member's concern. I also talked about 4.3 million dollars that could be used towards access roads and travel roads.

We want to work closely with the communities when we are establishing these access roads. We will start discussion on this, this year. With respect to the access roads. The three million dollars has to be used towards infrastructure programs. We will be putting two million dollars towards transportation issues.

But the capital issues are very expensive. They want more docking facilities in communities. I know that this two million dollars will not go far but we will be putting part of the money towards access roads in communities.

With respect to the funding that we are going to be getting, it is going to be 4.3 million dollars. This will be used over a four year period and will be made available through the Government of Nunavut. This will be done over a four year period and we are going to plan every year through the Government of Nunavut.

We will be allowing 1 million dollars per year for up to four years. We are going to be receiving this amount of money. It is already agreed upon. Then we will be using this towards establishing or expanding access roads.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the Bathurst Mandate, education and housing are priorities of the Nunavut Government. It also mentions sustainable development whereby people will establish their own businesses.

I will use my community as an example. They have tried to have up to six thousand caribou and in Chesterfield Inlet there is another business that they are concentrating on. There are some hunters that also go to Chesterfield Inlet to go caribou hunting. Can the minister work towards the Bathurst Mandate and not concentrate on establishing access roads so much but work with the Department of Sustainable Development as you work on issues of getting more funding for access road programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are working very closely with the Department of Sustainable Development as we work on access roads. If

it will be used for recreational purposes, then it is under their department. So we do involve them and if they can get more funding, we will work with them.

But just on our own, Community Government & Transportation will be receiving one million dollars every year that will be put towards activities that will be built, such as access roads. As I said in my comments yesterday we are not sure at this time how we will be allocating this funding or to where. But I want to say again, that we do work very closely with the Department of Sustainable Development.

We are hoping to maybe get more than the one million dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question. This has been raised by the regular members before. It is about Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and the Bathurst Mandate. We decided to have community wellness in our communities, and we use a lot of funding. The budget goes towards a lot of beneficial issues, but as far as community wellness is concerned, this has not been used towards programs that might be more beneficial for community wellness and healthy communities.

If a person can go to an outpost camp through these access roads and if people can get money for fishing and hunting, these things can be helpful to establish community wellness and healthy communities. So it is more of a comment Mr. Chairman. I want the minister and his department to think about this topic.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is something that we've been working on. We feel that if we provide docks and facilities like that and roads to campsites, that it will benefit the community through contributing to a healthy lifestyle.

We have already told the mayors they should think of how they could best spend this money and they have to think of what their community needs. The community should generate ideas about how this money should be spent in their community.

We want to put equipment in the community that they need, as long it is safe for the community and there are no barriers as to regulations and so on. As long it is safe for the community. The community is able to give us their ideas as to what the community needs and how this money should be spent. Each community will not receive access roads or dock facilities right away, it will take time. We are trying to work more closely with the communities to get their ideas as to what kind of capital equipment they need.

As I said a number of times, the communities know what they need. We are doing this so we could put them in the 5 year plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a short comment to make the minister aware and his staff. Last year, funds that were to be utilized for a project were not enough.

When this is the case, the project continues for another year or is deferred to another year. Once the projects go in that manner, we kind of wonder if projects will ever be completed and the funds that are to be used for those projects need to be increased. If they're given in proper amounts then projects could be completed. With the project that's going on in Kugluktuk, I made this statement so that you're aware. There are other communities that don't need to go through the same process.

A very brief note in terms of the airstrips. Yes, some seem to be in good shape in the communities, some communities are not so good as others. I've noticed because I've heard from pilots at First Air and Canadian and other carriers at times, that airstrips need to be improved.

For me, for example, in Kugluktuk the airstrip is in fairly good shape, some of the pilots are not aware as to the condition of the airstrip. This information needs to flow to the carriers. For instance, if they are to bring in bigger airplanes into the community in the future there needs to be better communication flowing back and forth.

In Kugluktuk regarding the gravel situation, they at times have difficulties to haul gravel because it's a fair distance away for housing pads and the roads. This is very expensive and you're aware of this and it's the only thing that we can do.

We are aware that you've gone to meetings in Ottawa with your federal counterparts. Yes that's a good thing and please continue. You support Nunavut very well as to their goals and aspirations. The other day I mentioned it, I will mention it again. If your meeting schedules are written down and forwarded to the hamlets and myself, we can refer to those documents so we can support you. I don't have any other comments, but I have a question. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. If you have a question the floor is open. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A very short question. Just to clarify something here. When funding is projected for a certain project at times there are shortfalls. Why is that the case, are they not reviewed year after year as to the costs.

Does a project become more expensive, is there a worry that a project is not going to be completed after a certain period of time. Why are there shortfalls. Is it not new, is it too old. Are the projects becoming too expensive. That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize. On April 1, 1999, when the government was created, not everything was perfectly put into place. But we are trying to perfect it and I have been involved in municipal politics as a mayor and a council member.

In the past, we would estimate how much a project would cost or how much we would have to spend on a certain project. We weren't always right but while we are working on this five year plan, if a community would look at what they need within the three years, we would be able to work with the community, and try to estimate how much a certain project would cost.

Even though we do this, if we were to do one in a community and we don't have a written amount, quite often we don't have the exact amount that is needed for the project. Quite often something else comes up that we need to add to the project, equipment may be needed, but we just follow what is the amount that is in front of us.

As members will remember, we dealt with the capital budget, it was done in April. We were going to be too late to the order stuff in for the communities. So, we weren't able to identify exactly what amount of money was going to be spent for certain projects. We are better prepared because now we identify what communities need in November so we are better prepared for the amount of money that is needed.

(interpretation ends) Sometimes there are unforeseen circumstances where we might have spent capital dollars elsewhere as a result of some emergency. Now that we are going to be doing our appropriations for the next fiscal year in November this should take care of a lot of the concerns that have been expressed. But again what we are trying to set up is a much better 5 year capital plan so that we don't have to make changes right through the year or at the end as a result of some unforeseen need to spend capital dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As all of us know the 5 year plan does change from year to year by way of prioritizing the items that are in it. You mentioned the department reviews it annually. When you are doing that I guess you maintain contact with each community to make sure that they have their input or update their priorities to their 5 year forecast.

The reason why I am asking is because it was mentioned by the department and again I want to make sure each community has submitted their 5 year forecast prioritizing their needs for that year. Because as you know it changes from year to year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak: That is precisely why we are trying to get a 5 year capital plan that is more realistic and is arrived at in the community in joint consultation with Community Govt. & Transportation. We want to make sure if we have a 5 year capital plan we have the capability to deliver it.

If there are going to be any changes we want to streamline the planning process so it would only occur as a result of having discussions with the communities involved. We don't foresee any at this time. Once we streamline the process we expect to see a much better outcome from the planning process because it is going to be much more realistic, rather than as has happened in the past, sort of having a wish list in the past.

It is not just a wish list, I know it is important, but sometimes the Government of the Northwest Territories at the time was negligent in saying that some of the items that a community might want may be far down in the future, rather than putting it into the five year capital plan. We want to get a truly realistic five year capital planning process in place so that the communities can expect to get their fire hall in the year three, rather than us coming back and saying well we have to move it back a year because we didn't identify the dollars in time.

We want to eliminate that whole thing of having to change the five year capital plan unless, unless it was absolutely necessary and it would only happen in discussions with the communities involved. Qujannamiik.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a short comment and I will have two questions later. In the minister's opening comments, they are clear and they are almost the same as last year's. I just wonder if the money is going to be coming for the access roads.

According to the minister's statement he says that they received some money from the Federal Government, and I really appreciate that his staff is working very hard to try and acquire that funding. There are a lot of communities that don't have community halls and they use the school gyms for community events and the schools use community halls quite often as a gym.

Arctic Bay needs a community hall and there are a lot of communities in the high arctic that need community halls. If a community has a good community hall it is a good place for the kids to go to for activities such as volleyball and basketball and it keeps them away from committing crimes.

The minister said that there is 300 thousand dollars and 3.4 million dollars over four years set aside for access roads. My first question is, Mr. Chairman, if I may be permitted to ask a question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. You can go ahead and ask your questions Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is about access roads. They will be building access roads in the communities starting April 1, 2002. Do the communities have to request the department to provide an access road in their community.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): The 4.3 million dollars, we can get the 300 thousand dollars presently out of the 4.3 million. The 2 million that I talked about and the 4.3 million dollars has to do with infrastructure, it's infrastructure money. The 4.3 million is for transportation, but the two million dollars is not enough and we have asked the Premier to increase that funding. I'm sure that the premier will sign an agreement as soon he goes down to Ottawa.

The 4.3 million dollars is for transportation but we expect that as soon as the Premier signs the agreement we will be able to acquire one million dollars in April. But we feel that the best way is to have the communities keep requesting funding for access roads. If we can increase the one million dollars we figure we'd be able to divide up the money for the communities' access roads.

Perhaps divide it up amongst the twenty six communities. If we can get a little bit more than a million dollars, the communities don't have to apply to get that funding. We were just thinking about dividing it up amongst the twenty six communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And the 7.7 million, at the bottom it states that the money will be going towards access roads. I would like to say thank you to the minister because I'm sure the communities will appreciate getting some funding for access roads.

My last question is, I mentioned yesterday about airport terminals, and I just wondered, because there's no money in here in the capital estimates for Arctic Bay. He doesn't have to answer right now but I just wondered if there would be any way to move the funding for Arctic Bay's airport closer to this year.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): We were surprised when the mines announced their closure as they had stated that they would close the mine next year in September. But one thing that I could say to you is that the airports and access roads, as the Nunavut

Government, we would be responsible for that and we will make the decision whether Arctic Bay will require an airstrip.

The Federal Government will be responsible for the clean up of the Nanisivik mine after it closes. But we expect perhaps maybe for two years the cleanup will take place and prior to that, we will start making decisions as to how we can deal with the closure of Nanisivik mine.

But the reason we haven't made any decisions on that is because the announcement of the closure of the mine had surprised us. We will consider it carefully in the upcoming year so that we will start planning towards it. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. I won't stop any members from asking question through their general comments. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will make my comments very brief. I will be using my dialect. Some of the communities don't have gravel facilities or places to make granular materials. There is hardly any gravel in some communities. I was wondering how you could give more support to those communities.

In Repulse Bay there is no gravel close to the community and because the Municipality is lacking gravel and the community terrain is deteriorating or eroding. I know that since we don't have much gravel the terrain in the community is deteriorating. There is an old campsite, because we are not allowed to remove or touch the artifacts from that heritage site, the rocks are there but we will have to start focusing on the needs of the communities.

How can we give more support to those communities. Because we only have one gravel truck and we can't keep up to the community's needs and the demand. How can you give more support to have more heavy equipment so there would be more gravel transported to the communities. I know we have to reach the gravel pit in our area and the granular machine can't keep up with the demand in the community. How can you give more support to those kinds of communities.

That's my general comment. I do have a question with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For those workers who are trying to reach the gravel pit, how can you give them more financial assistance because there is hardly any gravel close to the community of Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We give support to community initiatives. I am a very frequent visitor to Repulse Bay. I do have many friends in that community and say hello to Gabriel if he is listening.

Yes, that individual usually takes me through the access road and they built that on their own when they weren't busy with daily operations, they used the equipment to construct this access road. But the terrain is kind of hilly and it is kind of rough so it is hard to access the gravel pit.

Last summer we had a bit of a surplus and the mayor of that community came and we were able to assist him financially to work on the access road to the gravel pit. As the member knows, the access road we are trying to build is not just for the gravel pit, it is also for the recreational areas, so that people can go fishing in the spring or the summertime. It's a very scenic place, and they are working very hard to complete this.

So, therefore we expect that the gravel pit, we could help with the construction of the access road to the pit next year. Even though the resources and funding we get from the Federal Government is limited, we are trying to give them more assistance and we believe that we will be able to do so.

Therefore I apologize, we were unable to complete that, and that's why Chesterfield Inlet and Repulse Bay can't access their gravel pit. But it is evident that once we are able to divide up the funding amongst the communities I am sure it is going to help them build their access roads or to extend their present roads.

We know their predicament in Repulse Bay and they need to access their gravel pit in the upcoming years. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday during the formal sitting of the House I asked you a question. The reason I didn't ask the question is because we didn't have a chance to review the capital estimates and we have to approve them today. Looking at the estimates, Pond Inlet is not included in the capital estimates. There is nothing for Pond Inlet and some communities get more than one project.

I am sure they are necessary for those communities, but the projects that have to be done, in some cases there are more than one for some. Once these are completed will you start looking at the needs. For example, in Pond Inlet we really want to see the completion of our arena. As you said before, we will try and work in all the communities. One community is going to receive three projects according to the estimates as they are written. Once they are completed will you start moving to the Pond Inlet arena.

Does that mean we will wait for another ten years. We thought it would be completed when we saw the officials come into Pond Inlet to meet with the Hamlet Council. Once

as the required projects are completed in Nunavut it seems like the government just focuses on some of these areas and I don't know why they don't pay attention to some of the priorities that we have. It seems you are too overly concerned about some of the other communities under your direction.

We also have to consider other communities in Nunavut and their needs are the same as the other communities. Getting back to the arena, as you have said it will be dealt with, and there is a plan for 2007 that they will start reviewing it, so that they can distribute the funding more equally across Nunavut communities. You'll be looking into it.

After the year 2007 we will be getting the project that we want. Are you willing to review some of these issues that I am raising. I am not too pleased about it because some of the capital projects are not distributed evenly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): If you look at the 2007 capital plan for the Pond Inlet recreation hall it will be in the design phase in 2004 and built in 2006-2007. It is budgeted there. They are dealing with it in the next fiscal year.

Looking at this we expect we'll start working on it in 2005-2006. We know that Pond Inlet requires it. The way the process is at this time we can't give capital funding right away, instantly. But we have to assess the community first. We will keep in contact with the community on the development of this but we have set aside funding for it in the 5 year plan. Seventy seven thousand, 2004-2005, 850 thousand 2005-2006 and 2006-2007, 1 million 620 thousand. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. I am sure I overlooked it in the capital estimates. I forgot to look at the end of the page. The only thing that I saw was a sewage lagoon. I apologize for that. I just overlooked that. But I still have a question.

We spoke about heavy equipment to build access roads or roads. There is a plan in Pond Inlet through Parks Canada and under the direction of the Minister of Transportation. They are trying to build access roads to the recreational facilities and fishing areas in Pond Inlet.

I still don't see it perhaps I am overlooking at it. Is it somewhere else. I was wondering if you will be providing capital dollars for that this upcoming summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I talk about the 4.2 million dollars it is not in this document. We will be getting it from the federal government in the near future.

If we were to give Pond Inlet part of this funding from the 1 million, it would be up to Pond Inlet as to where they would use this funding. This 1 million dollars that we will be getting every year will be allocated towards communities on an equal basis.

But with respect to the funding that we'll be getting from Parks Canada this would be placed into one pot and then we would want to see it used towards access road activities and it would be up to the communities as to which area it would go.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not have too many questions but just a comment with respect to the Hamlet of Pond Inlet. They are not too happy when they try to ask questions of the minister's department and they do not receive responses.

If he can make available what is not in this capital estimate document it would be very much appreciated. Even if we were just to use it for our own information I would like a copy of this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our staff have spoken with the hamlet and the hamlet should be aware of our plans. They also have a copy of this document that I have before me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I think I am getting out of context here but I think he had mentioned that Pond Inlet is aware of these issues and this document. So in the next sitting period with respect to this concern of mine, I would like to find out tomorrow when this document that the minister is referring to was forwarded.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps Doug could answer that question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Doug Sitland.

Mr. Sitland: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With specific reference to the arena and the hall during our community consultations in March, April and May it was certainly raised as an issue. We've addressed that issue in the 5 year capital plan. As well we undertook a

study to evaluate the condition of these buildings and our study says in fact that the buildings were beyond economic retrofit. Meaning that it would cost as much to retrofit them as it would to build brand new facilities.

The community was presented with that report and we've addressed it in the capital estimates. So that is where we are now and as the minister indicated, the community does have a copy of the capital estimate document. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I have no more questions. Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any more questions. Any more comments. Mr. Puqiqnak. Before Mr. Puqiqnak asks his question Mr. Arvaluk would like to raise a comment.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that we keep going with our session until we conclude the Department of Community Govt. & Transportation.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk would like to continue beyond the allotted time. Are you in agreement.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I raise my question, I have a short comment to make on this department on behalf of my constituents. For the year 2002/03 I understand we will be getting responses to my concerns, but the capital funding that will be used will be over budget in the next capital period.

Under the capital projects in the communities that lack recreational facilities I raised this question before in regards to community wellness as well. As we are getting closer to the Christmas season, we do desire more wellness in the community. I have a question, under the allocation title if there is an emergency situation...

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, at this time we are on general comments, so when it is time to ask you question you will be allowed. We are just looking for general comments at this time.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This concern is about First Air. The community of Taloyoak wanted to find out about the First Air schedule for their community. Are they going to upgrade the airport so that the First Air flight will be able to land in Taloyoak.

From what we have heard from the Kitikmeot, we were informed in Cambridge Bay by First Air that they would purchase two planes and these two planes would be doing a

scheduled flight to all the communities, but they would have to expand the airstrips in some of the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you for informing me of this, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. General comments. If there are no more general comments, we're under 7-6 at this time. 7-6. Mr. Puqiqnak, please proceed.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was trying to ask this question earlier. For Buildings and Works, 7 million 892 thousand. I do not see a five year capital plan on this page. I'm concerned about lack of facilities in some communities, the lack of recreational facilities.

I do not see a plan for these facilities. Under the allocations can we use the emergency funding for recreational facilities, for community halls or recreational facilities. Can we do that. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. He has a question under 13 million 850 thousand. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): I'm sorry I didn't quite understand your question. I was talking to my colleague.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is under the five year capital plan. It does not say anything about recreational facilities. I don't see anything under Community Government and Transportation where they would build a recreational facility. Could we get some assistance by way of contributions. Can we borrow some money so that we may be able to build recreational facilities in some of our communities. How can we use this contribution. Can we put it towards building a recreational facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): The funding for 13 million is already put towards the other capital programs. But with respect to communities, their recreational facilities are quite small in your region, in the Kitikmeot Region.

We have made health and social issues a priority and they were given priority to use the capital funding.

Part of the reason that we can not put any more contributions towards recreational facilities at this time, I have spoken to the community that if they get a surplus and if we

can get more funding through other sources, we have talked about addressing recreational issues. But the communities also want more access roads. So we must try and find more funding outside of our department and I cannot say as to where we might be able to get this extra funding and I cannot say as to what year we might be able to use this extra capital funding.

But with the closer consultation with the communities we will plan with the communities as to where the capital expenditures may be best utilized. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Just a comment. I'll be expecting in the Kitikmeot that our Community Government & Transportation staff will speak to the Hamlets and to work closely with the Hamlets and give them this information. I feel it is important that they are well informed and perhaps your Deputy Minister could put something together for our communities so that they are better informed of what is being done. I feel it is really important that there is good communication. That is just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. We are on 7-6. Total capital. Community Govt. & Transportation. Branch Summary. Community Govt. & Transportation. Total capital expenditures, 13 million 850 thousand. I haven't asked you yet. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turn to page 7-7. Community Govt. & Transportation. Branch Summary. Community Government. Buildings and works. Page 9-5. Total Qikiqtaaluk region, 3 million 305 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. 7-8. Turn to page 7-9. Community Govt. & Transportation. Branch summary. Community Government. Total Kivalliq region, 2 million 315 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. 7-10. Total Community Government & Transportation. Total Kitikmeot, 2 million 272 thousand. Agreed. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a substantiation sheet under granular material. Will that be used for Chesterfield and Repulse Bay.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize, Mr. Chairman. This program would be used for communities that need granular material. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Anawak. When you're going to speak to each other up at the witness stand just press the mute button. Total Kitikmeot Region, 2 million 272 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. I apologize. Under 7-10. Total Buildings and Works, 7 million 892 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. 7-11. Community Government and Transportation. Branch Summary. Community Government. Equipment Acquisition. Total Qikiqtaaluk region, 72 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): I apologize, I didn't ask if there were any questions. Opposed. Do you have a question. Carried. Total Kivalliq Region, 622 thousand. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Chesterfield Inlet and Coral Harbour I have a question regarding the dump trucks. We have a company in Chesterfield Inlet and Coral Harbour that has equipment. Would the hamlet be able to use that money for other equipment such as a sewage truck. Is that already provided in the community. Thank you.

Chairperson: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We discussed with these communities as to what they needed and it would be fine for them to use this money for that but the problem would be if the other equipment they wanted is more expensive than what is identified here.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate his response. Election time is coming up for municipalities and I know some candidates will be campaigning and trying to support the businesses in the community.

So some concerns might come up regarding not having proper sewage trucks or other equipment. In Chesterfield Inlet they put in 125 thousand dollars for a dump truck. I

know the dump truck doesn't work well but we have companies that can provide that service.

So if the community decided they needed another piece of equipment I think he agreed that money could be used that way if that was the community's decision.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes. That was my response. If the community decided that they wanted to purchase another piece of equipment they would have to make that decision before the deadline. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We are on Total Kivalliq region, 622 thousand dollars. Any comments. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total Kitikmeot region, 480 thousand. Agreed. Comments.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total equipment acquisition, 1 million 174 thousand. Any comments. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. I apologize. Community Govt. & Transportation. Branch summary. Community Government. Contributions. Total Headquarters region, 400 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total Qikiqtaaluk region, 3 million 223 thousand dollars. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For my information, under various regional bulk funding, what areas is this money used for. Thank you.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll get Mr. Sitland to respond.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Sitland.

Mr. Sitland: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Each region is given a regional bulk fund. It is divided into all non-tax based communities. The funding is intended to be used for open play spaces, road, land and site development. But it is unconditional funding and communities can use that as they see fit.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question regarding Headquarters. It is on the same page.

Chairperson (interpretation): You are free to ask the question. We are still on the same page. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): My question is regarding recreation facility projects in headquarters. I would like to get some clarification as to what they mean by recreation facility projects.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we met last spring we discussed this in great detail. This 300 hundred thousand was for hockey arenas and other facilities to assist communities if they needed to make some repairs in their recreational facilities like a swimming pool or an arena. This is to assist communities in doing some repairs or it could also be used for a zamboni or other equipment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Anawak. We are on Total Qikiqtaaluk region, 3 million 223 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turn the page to 7-13. Total Kivalliq region, 913 thousand dollars. Any comments. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Three hundred and 40 thousand for a bulldozer. When we were reviewing the capital estimates we discussed this and I'd like to raise a question as to what this will be used for. I apologize. It is something else. My question has to do with the airstrip. I'll bring it up when we get to that area.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak for clarifying that. Total Kivalliq region, 913 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total Kitikmeot region, 248 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total contribution, 4 million 784 thousand dollars. Any comments. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): The total capital expenditures, 13 million 850 thousand. In the estimates what would this be used for. What is the 13 million going towards. Is it Kitikmeot. I don't see it in a substantiation sheet.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The total contribution is 4 million 784 thousand. The total capital expenditures, block funding is 13 million 850 thousand for all of Nunavut.

When we were discussing the department, in 7.6 under capital expenditures there's building and works, 7 million 892 thousand, equipment acquisition, 1 million 174 thousand, contributions, 4 million 784 thousand and the total is 13 million 850 thousand.

Chairperson: (interpretation): We'll get back to 7-13 Total capital expenditures, 13 million 850 thousand. Comments. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. 7-14, Community Government and Transportation. Branch summary. Transportation. Total capital expenditures, 3 million 200 thousand. Comments. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. 7-15. Community Government & Transportation. Branch summary. Transportation. Buildings and works. Total Qikiqtaaluk region, 1 million 620 thousand. Comments. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is about Nanisivik, seeing that they are going to be closing down Nanisivik, there are highway upgrades, I just wondered if that 200 thousand dollars could be used for something else instead of doing the highway upgrades. I'm not sure how we can use it but perhaps maybe we can use it for Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Williams. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the member for those three communities can think of ways to use it some other way instead of having it used for highway upgrades, they can give us suggestions. The road going up to Nanisivik

from Arctic Bay we expected it was going to be at least two more years before the mine closed and we would still have to use it. So if the hamlet has alternatives it is up to them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ms. Williams. We're on total Qikiqtaaluk region, 1 million 620 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total Kivalliq region, 1 million 95 thousand. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have an airport garage upgrade in the amount of 400 thousand dollars in 2001-2002. It's one of the oldest garages in Nunavut and it's a wooden structure and it was built in the time of MOT.

I have been there quite a few times and they used two by sixes and two by fours on that garage and sometimes they use it for welding and whatever and if there was to be a fire, it's very dangerous because its all a wooden structure and it is probably pretty dry. How come the department of transportation doesn't have a plan to build a garage that is up to the Canadian code. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Perhaps if I can get them to explain. Yes, we realize that it has to be replaced. Perhaps Doug could explain.

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

Mr. Sitland: Yes we did do some work on the garage in the summer of 2001. It was the original intention to retrofit or rehabilitate this building, but our study work has concluded that again, this is beyond economic feasibility so we want to look at actually replacing this garage. Now the replacement cost is far greater than what is shown in there, so we need to look carefully at that. We have some decisions to make as to whether we can afford to do that in 02/03. We have some funding there and we will begin work on design for sure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Sitland. Mr. Arvaluk. Total Kivalliq Region, 1 million 95 thousand. Any questions, comments. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. 7-16. Total Kitikmeot Region, 125 thousand. Mr. Haviyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Let me get an explanation here. On the runway extension I know they already have jets going in there and maybe you can explain what that extension is for. Are they trying to get longer or bigger planes, is that why they are extending the airstrip in Cambridge Bay.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Kelvin wanted the Concorde or something...

>> *Laughter*

Perhaps I could get Mike to respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Ferris: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the present time both 727 and 737 jets go in with load restrictions because of the length of the current strip. So it is good that we are looking at the possibility of a small extension so they can go in with a full load.

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

Mr. Havioyak: You are saying that...the reason that I am laughing is because when you go down the 5 year forecast, let's see, next 5 years there is going to be another million dollars spent on this. Right now you are saying that because of the loads you need to use 100 thousand dollars to improve it so that they can have a legal landing. Is that what you meant. Can you explain again because when you go further down there is another million dollars 2-3 years down the road.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): What it would be right now, as Mike pointed out a 727 or a 737 cannot go in with a full load, so what we are looking at is ensuring that any plane like the 727 or 737 can go in with a full load.

So that's why we are looking at studying the possibility of extending the runway to ensure that those two jets can go in with a full load. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How long have you had that restriction or this present condition and what made you decide that you no longer want load restrictions for those aircrafts. Thank you.

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

Mr. Ferris: We inherited that from the GNWT. We're looking at the enhancement of transportation within Nunavut so that the three regional hubs, or the three main hubs would be Cambridge, Rankin, and Iqaluit with improved feeders off of those into each and every community in Nunavut. So it's part of that and it would only be after we've looked at the ramifications of this study and design.

We have allocated 1 million to increase that capacity but those jets have gone in under limit, under load limits since day one, that's why sometimes they over fly Cambridge because their too heavy to land.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like a clear answer. For the people of Nunavut to be able to have a safe airstrip in Iqaluit anywhere, I understand that is very important. But the planes land in Pangnirtung, Kimmirut, Pond Inlet and these airstrips are very close to the houses. How come the dangerous airstrips are deferred and than the ones that don't need it right away are given priority. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the members know that the airstrips in Pangnirtung and Kimmirut are close to the houses. I know that they have to be replaced or moved. We can extend this airstrip at the cost of 1 million dollars. This is very different from new airstrips, in terms of costs.

When the plane arrives with a full load we know that the goods or the material that will be sold will be less expensive. That's why we have started this but our department will be looking for additional funding on top of that from the federal government's transportation department. We will be lobbying ACAP for more funding so that we can work on the more expensive airstrips. Thank you

Chairperson: (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Anawak. Going back. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hear you, it's the central regional communities that serve these other communities in the area, but also maybe you already know most of the communities in that region also get direct flights from the City of Yellowknife.

You mentioned that from that community the freight goes out to the other communities in that region but again keep in mind that they do get those flights from the City of Yellowknife. I guess this is just a comment, I just want to point that out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. That was just a comment we're on that same page. Total Kitikmeot region, 125 thousand. Any comments. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): I have been concerned about this issue but my colleague has let it out because this is very close to our hunt and it's very close to me and I do think along that line and I'm very happy to hear someone else thinking along that line. I know that we have to support all Nunavut residents and to make all the communities healthy.

At times we tend to put funding into some of the programs that don't really need it more than the others sometimes. When that happens you have to extend the airstrip in the year 2002-2003 and also to 2003-2007. It's in the capital plans.

What about the airstrips in the smaller communities and airport terminals in the smaller communities, they are full to capacity and there is no funding for that and we'd like to see some funding geared towards small community terminals.

Sometimes the passengers have to wait outside when the two planes arrive at the same time, the terminal is filled to capacity, there's no room to sit down, it's just standing room at times only. So can you start looking at the terminals for the airports rather than extending the airstrips. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, Cambridge Bay does receive a direct flight, Canadian North carries the cargo and Ken Borek will distribute to the other communities. I don't think Ken Borek has a direct flight from Yellowknife to Cambridge Bay. I just wanted to point that out and also we have been looking for some funds so that we can expand the terminals through ACAP.

I think it was last year we were supposed to get more funding from ACAP. Right before the ACAP was being dealt with there was a federal election and ACAP discussions were incomplete. Therefore we could not get any funding but we will still try to acquire some funding.

I know the Chairman's constituency now has a new terminal so we are starting to focus on all the communities. But I want the member to be aware that especially in the larger communities we will use their priorities, but we will look for additional funding from ACAP. If we can find some funding from the Nunavut Government we will try to do so. On top of that we will still be looking for additional funding from ACAP through the Federal Government Transportation Department. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Anawak. We are on total Kitikmeot, 125 thousand. Is this sufficient for you. I could take it to my constituency. So we are on 125 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total Buildings and Works, 2 million 840 thousand. Comments. Agreed

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Turning the page. 7-17. Community Government & Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Equipment acquisition. Qikiqtaaluk Region, 320 thousand. Any comments. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all I would like to ask a question about the airstrips and terminals in Yellowknife, Whitehorse and Iqaluit. Is the federal government responsible for them through MOT, that is my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (Interpretation): No they are our responsibilities. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you have any further questions. Mr. Arvaluk do you want to ask another question. Mr. Arvaluk

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was his reply yes, or did he say no. If they are the Government of Nunavut 's airports I have no more questions, but if it is under the jurisdiction of federal government I was wondering why they were going to use our funding.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Since you didn't get that clarified, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (Interpretation): The airports of Nunavut are under the jurisdiction of the Nunavut Government.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I was going to ask the same question so he tried to ask the question before me. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. We are on page 7-17. Equipment acquisitions. Total Baffin Region, 320 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Total Kivalliq Region, 40 thousand.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Opposed. Carried. Total Capital Expenditures, 3 million 200 thousand. Any comments. I hope I said the figure right. Total Equipment Acquisition 360 thousand, did I mention that.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total Capital Expenditures, 3 million 200 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: (interpretation): Going to page 7-5. Community Government and Transportation. Program Summary. Detail of expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures, 17 million 50 thousand. Mr. Arvaluk

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This 12 million 950 thousand for 2001-2002 and in the same year we had to agree to double that amount of funding through supplementary appropriations. And also 2002-2002 by over 12 million to 23 million to 730 so this was 17 million 50 thousand that we just approved. Do we expect to see additional funding through an appropriation act to come later. Thank you.

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

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Its okay if they give us 17 million more but we don't expect to see additional costs in the upcoming year, but we can consider it through the assistance of MLA's but that's the only funding we have and we feel that it's adequate. Thank you.

Chairperson: (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Anawak. Any other comments or questions. Going back to Capital Expenditures, 17 million 50 thousand. Comments. Agreed.

Some Member: Agreed.

Chairperson: (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Community and Government and Transportation is complete. So what's the wish of the committee. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I move that we report progress.

Chairperson: (interpretation): Thank you I would like to thank you Mr. Minister and your officials. You can do closing remarks if you want. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. I don't think I'll be talking again before Monday so therefore I would like to thank Mike Ferris and Doug Sitland and the officials sitting in the gallery. And to my sons Halley and Tommy I would like to thank them for being pages here. And thank you very much.

Chairperson: (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Anawak. There's a motion to report progress and it's not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed.

Even though it's not debateable, we have to vote on it. The motion is carried. I would like to thank everyone for completing the department. We can ask the Speaker to return. Thank you.

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 12 and would like to report that Bill 12 is still under consideration and Mr. Speaker I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with.

Speaker: There's a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder. Ms. Thompson. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. Motion is carried. Mr. Havioyak do you have a point of order or a question.

Mr. Havioyak: I just want to go back to Item 5. Thank you.

Speaker: The member is seeking to go back to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in Gallery. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Havioyak.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't often recognise visitors while they are here so I would like to recognise my brother Collin Havioyak, who has been here with his family since September and his wife Margery. Also my nephew Freddy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to recognise Manitok Thompson's family members visiting us. Louis Bruce and his wife Pasha and Leonie Duffy of Coral Harbour.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 22. Third reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Orders of the day for Monday, November 26, 2001.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
 - Bill 15
18. Second Reading of Bills
 - Bill 14
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 12
 - Bill 13
 - Ministerial Statement 96-1(5)
 - Tabled document 41-1(5)
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Before we adjourn I like to acknowledge and thank the pages that has been here all week. They are from Inukshuk School here in Iqaluit and the names are Sam Biwinkler, Halley Anawak, Tom Lyta, and Annie Patik. Thank you very much pages, for all your work.

The house stands adjourned until November 26, 2001 at 1:30. Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 5:48 p.m.*

