



## 2014 Youth Parliament

### *Speaker*

**Hon. Joshua Haulli**

(Amittuq)

**Nolan Kiguktak**

(Quttiktuq)

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk**

(Pangnirtung)

*Minister of Environment*

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark**  
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)  
*Minister of Economic Development  
and Transportation; Minister  
responsible for the Nunavut Housing  
Corporation*

**Hon. Jenny Klengenberg**

(Kugluktuk)

*Premier*

**Hon. Adam Nattar**  
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield  
Inlet)

*Minister of Community and  
Government Services*

**Hon. Nicole Amagoalik**

(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

*Minister of Health*

**Anita Kopak**

(Aivilik)

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana**

(Netsilik)

*Minister of Family Services*

**Tedd Nattaq**

(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

**Joyce Arreak**  
(Tununiq)  
*Deputy Speaker and Chair of the  
Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik**

(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

*Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister  
of Justice*

**Willie Onalik**

(South Baffin)

**Deanne Barrieau**

(Gjoa Haven)

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta**

(Aggu)

*Minister of Education; Minister  
responsible for Nunavut Arctic College*

**Ashley Cummings**

(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

**Hon. Genevieve Lafrance**

(Cambridge Bay)

*Minister of Finance*

**Tyson Palluq**

(Uqqummiut)

*Premier; and Intergovernmental  
Affairs; Minister responsible for  
Aboriginal Affairs; Minister  
responsible for the Utility Rates  
Review Council*

**Vincent Inukpak**

(Baker Lake)

**Alissa Matoo**

(Arviat South)

**Dora Kavik**

(Hudson Bay)

**Michelle-Tristen Sammurtok**

(Rankin Inlet South)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Thursday, November 27, 2014**

**Members Present:**

Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark, Hon. Nicole Amagoalik, Ms. Joyce Arreak, Ms. Deanne Barrieau, Ms. Ashley Cummings, Hon. Joshua Haulli, Mr. Vincent Inukpak, Ms. Dora Kavik, Mr. Nolan Kiguktak, Hon. Jenny Klengenberg, Ms. Anita Kopak, Hon. Tundra Kuliktana, Hon. Apphia Kullualik, Hon. Genevieve Lafrance, Ms. Alissa Matoo, Hon. Colleen Nakashuk, Hon. Adam Nattar, Mr. Tedd Nattaq, Mr. Willie Onalik, Hon. Michel Oolateeta, Mr. Tyson Palluq, and Ms. Michelle-Tristen Sammurtok.

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Joshua Haulli): Item 1. Prayer. I ask that Ms. Matoo lead us in prayer.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Matoo. Item 2. Speaker's Statement.

**Item 2: Speaker's Statement**

Good afternoon, Premier, members, and visitors in the Gallery. Before we proceed with the business of the day, I would like to say a few words.

Welcome, everyone, to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. I hope you had a great week. As you know, for some of us, it is our first time in this Chamber.

I am very happy that the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut has a Nunavut Youth Parliament program to allow us to experience how it feels to work as Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

I would like to talk about the housing in Amittuq because a lot of my constituents are living in one building and that leads to family issues and poverty.

Another urgent issue that must be addressed in Amittuq is the abuse of drugs and alcohol. It is my understanding that there is a very unhealthy and vicious cycle in my constituency. People with addictions buy the things they're addicted to instead of buying food for their family. Herein lies the cycle of poverty. For me, I believe that we can do something together, something that will make them think less about the addictions they have in their lives.

I know that we can do something together to stop it, and I know that we will have a very good proceeding today. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Item 3. Introduction of Members. Before we proceed, I ask all members to introduce themselves to the visitors in the Gallery and our TV audience.

### **Item 3: Introduction of Members**

**Speaker:** I am Joshua Haulli from the community of Igloolik, representing George Qulaut, MLA for Amittuq and Speaker of the Legislative [Assembly].

We will proceed around the Chamber starting on my left. Please rise when you are introducing yourself.

**Ms. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Joyce Arreak and I'm from the community of Pond Inlet. I am representing Joe Enook, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Tununiq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Inukpak.

**Mr. Inukpak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Vincent Inukpak. I am from the community of Baker Lake. I am representing Simeon Mikkungwak, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Barrieau.

**Ms. Barrieau:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Deanne Barrieau. I am from the community of Kimmirut. I am representing Tony Akoak, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Kopak.

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Anita Kopak. I am from the community of Repulse Bay. I am representing Steve Mapsalak, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Aivilik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Matoo.

**Ms. Matoo** (interpretation): I am Alissa Matoo. I am originally from the community of Coral Harbour, but I am presently living in Arviat. I am representing Joe Savikataaq, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Arviat South. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Kavik.



**Ms. Kavik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Dora Kavik. I am from the community of Sanikiluaq. I am representing Allan Rumbolt, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Hudson Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Nattaq.

**Mr. Nattaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Tedd Nattaq. I am from the community of Pond Inlet, but I was raised in Iqaluit for the last 17 years. I am representing George Hickes, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Iqaluit-Tasiluk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Cummings.

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Ashley Cummings. I am from the community of Iqaluit. I am representing Pat Angnakak, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Kiguktak.

**Mr. Kiguktak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Nolan Kiguktak. I am from the community of Grise Fiord. I am representing Isaac Shooyook, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Quttiktuq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Onalik.

**Mr. Onalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Willie Onalik. I am from the community of Kimmirut. I am representing David Joanasie, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for South Baffin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Sammurtok.

**Ms. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Tristen Sammurtok. I am from the community of Rankin Inlet. I am representing Alexander Sammurtok, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Rankin Inlet South. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Palluq.

**Mr. Palluq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am from the community of Clyde River and I am representing the constituency of Uqqummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Amagoalik.

**Hon. Nicole Amagoalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Nicole Amagoalik. I am from the community of Iqaluit. I am representing Monica Ell, who is the Member of Iqaluit-Manirajak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am Elizabeth Aglukark from the community of Arviat. I am representing George Kuksuk, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Arviat North-Whale Cove. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Kullualik.

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Apphia Kullualik. I am from the community of Iqaluit. I am representing Paul Okalik, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Iqaluit-Sinaa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Nattar.

**Hon. Adam Nattar:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Adam Nattar. I am from the community of Chesterfield Inlet. I am representing Tom Sammurtok, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Klengenberg.

**Hon. Jenny Klengenberg:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Jenny Klengenberg and I am from the community of Kugluktuk. I am representing Peter Taptuna, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Kuliktana.

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Tundra Kuliktana. I am from the community of Kugluktuk. I am representing Jeannie Ugyuk, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Netsilik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Michel Oolateeta. I am from the community of Igoolik. I am representing Paul Quassa, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Aggu. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Nakashuk.

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Colleen Nakashuk. I am from the community of Pangnirtung. I am representing Johnny Mike, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Pangnirtung. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Lafrance.

**Hon. Genevieve Lafrance:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My name is Genevieve Lafrance. I am from the community of Cambridge Bay. I am representing Keith Peterson, who is the MLA for Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Item 4. Opening Address. Madam Clerk, will you please determine if Speaker Qulaut is prepared to enter the Chamber to address the House.

#### **Item 4: Opening Address**

**Commissioner George Qulaut** (interpretation): Good afternoon. You may now be seated. Thank you.

I would like to welcome you to the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. As the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, I have the great pleasure of delivering the Opening Address for the 2014 Youth Parliament.

I would like to congratulate each and every one of you for having been selected to participate in the Fifth Nunavut Youth Parliament. As Members of the Legislative Assembly, you have the unique opportunity to voice concerns, consider legislation, and serve your communities.

Everyone in attendance today and those viewing the proceedings on television will have the opportunity to see your hard work in action.

During today's proceedings, you will have the opportunity to make statements, move motions, announce new government initiatives, and ask questions of the Premier and ministers.

I encourage you to speak with confidence during today's proceedings. I can assure you that the members whose seats you are filling were as nervous on their first day as you may feel right now. Please know that you are among your peers and the concerns you raise today come from the heart.

It is often said that youth are the leaders of tomorrow. However, I believe that you are also the leaders of today and, as with all leaders, you have a number of challenges to overcome and responsibilities to fulfill.

Making a commitment to lifelong learning is the key to a bright future. Dedicate your time and energy to your studies and look ahead to the choices that you will make after you graduate. Your future opportunities are limited only by your imagination, determination, and commitment.

Nunavut Arctic College and the Nunavut Trades Training Centre offer a variety of programs, providing students with the option to pursue careers in health care, education, environmental science, and business.

These institutions also have excellent programs that can prepare students who may be interested in pursuing a career in trades or language services, including careers as interpreters or translators.

Today, you all take a step forward in fulfilling your responsibilities as citizens by committing time and effort to improve your communities, territory, and nation. There are options that allow you to build careers around civic duty, such as the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or the public service. After this week's experience, some of you may even end up here in the future as elected MLAs.

Many of you have travelled from your home communities to participate in today's event. In doing so, you have demonstrated courage and commitment in achieving your goals.

There can be as much to learn at home as there is abroad, so I encourage you to explore the variety of programs available to each of you, whether here in Nunavut or beyond our borders.

If you are seeking a thrilling educational experience in the arctic waters, you may be interested in the Students on Ice Program. You might also consider representing Nunavut in the Forum for Young Canadians, a national program at the Parliament of Canada that involves youth from every province and territory. If you would like to develop work and volunteer experience, you should consider applying to the Northern Youth Abroad program.

Those of you who will be graduating soon may wish to challenge yourself and enroll in Nunavut Sivuniksavut, an institution of excellence that prepares Inuit youth for education, training, and career opportunities.

Remember to take advantage of today's innovations and use your experience with technology to explore the institutions, programs, and courses that are relevant to your interests and ambitions. Take advantage of the support provided by your family, teachers, and even the friends you have made this past week.

If you choose to pursue any of these programs, college or university studies, there are also a number of programs available to you to help support you financially.

Remember that you are mentors to younger students and ambassadors for your communities. It is important to remain focused on your studies and invest time and energy into volunteering and community work.

Consider spending an hour a week helping out at an elders' facility, participating in a youth council, or tutoring students in younger grades. Enroll in challenging activities, such as the Junior Rangers, Cadets, or sports teams.

Your future and the future of this territory is what you make of it.

It is important to remember that Nunavut's consensus style of government relies on respectful deliberation, debate, and discussion and I encourage you to participate in today's proceedings with the confidence that you have a voice and what you say can make a difference.

In Nunavut, we respect diversity, and I encourage you to use your language skills today.

I believe in each of you and I look forward to a productive sitting today. (interpretation)  
Thank you very much.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Please sit. Item 5. Ministers' Statements. Premier of Nunavut, please proceed.

### **Item 5: Ministers' Statements**

#### **Minister's Statement 001 – 5(1): Coming Together as One**

**Hon. Jenny Klengenber:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about an agreement that I recently made on behalf of the Government of Nunavut with the Government of Canada. The Prime Minister and I agreed on initiating a public awareness campaign that will open the minds of Canadians everywhere.

There has been a lot of misinformation in the rest of Canada concerning Inuit and their benefits. I myself have encountered many people who did not know that the Inuit pay taxes just like most Canadians.

Inuit have played a significant role in the history of Canada. For example, there have been Inuit who have fought for our freedom in the wars. Inuit have also been responsible for some geographical discoveries that are now known country-wide.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that you and our colleagues can all agree that Inuit have made a significant impact on the world of art, music, and cinema with both traditional and contemporary paintings, tapestry, carvings, traditional music, dances, and movies.

Our hope for this public awareness campaign is to help Canadians get a better understanding of Inuit, who we are, and what we are about. If we could get everyone educated on Inuit and if everyone had a better understanding, I feel that we could better come together as a nation.

The Canadian government has agreed to pay 50 percent of the publicity funding, Inuit Tapariit Kanatami has also agreed to pay 20 percent, and that leaves the Government of Nunavut with 30 percent.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to move forward with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Premier of Nunavut. Minister of Finance, please proceed.

**Minister's Statement 002 – 5(1): Addressing the High Cost of Living in Nunavut**

**Hon. Genevieve Lafrance:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about adjusting the high cost of living in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, my fellow members would agree that Nunavut has one of the highest costs of living compared to all of the other provinces and territories in Canada. This has impacted many families in a negative way. For example, the cost of food has been a real issue for people all over Nunavut, as it is extremely expensive. The cost of housing has also been an issue for most Nunavummiut, leaving some in poverty.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce a significant change that will help families across the territory. The Government of Nunavut has been working for the last year with the Member of Parliament to increase the Northern Residents Deduction in the income tax system to reflect today's high cost of living in Nunavut.

With the increase of this deduction for families across Nunavut, families can benefit from it in many ways. Mr. Speaker, it can leave families with more resources to put food on the table, more clothes for their children, more school supplies, and less poverty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in applauding this great change. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Finance. Minister of Environment, please proceed.

**Minister's Statement 003 – 5(1): Pollution and Hazards Cause by Dumps;  
Incinerators Save the Day**

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about the dumps all over Nunavut. Garbage is burned in all communities and, as my hon. colleagues will agree, it affects the environment and the people in the community.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that dumps create pollution and can cause many hazardous health problems to community members.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to proudly announce a joint territorial-federal government initiative to provide funding to put incinerators in each community within the next five years.

Mr. Speaker, among many benefits, this will clearly reduce greenhouse gasses and improve air quality. Also, the heat from the incinerators can be used to generate electric power in the communities.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, incinerators will create a better future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Environment. Minister of Education, please proceed.

### **Minister's Statement 004 – 5(1): Improving Inuktitut in the School System**

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address Inuktitut in our educational system of Nunavut. We are all aware that Nunavut needs more Inuktitut curriculum for high schools and high school teachers.

Mr. Speaker, the use of Inuktitut is in decline. Inuktitut is central to Inuit culture. If we lose our language, we will lose our culture that was passed down to us.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that as the Minister of Education and the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, we have initiated a partnership between Nunavut Arctic College and McGill University to establish and increase Inuktitut in our territory.

In order to achieve this reality, we have secured an annual grant from the federal government that will be expected over a five-year period to train Inuktitut teachers and create a robust curriculum. Mr. Speaker, by the year 2019, it is expected that a class of 31 will have graduated. As well, a curriculum will be developed for grades 9 through 12, which will include Inuktitut and traditional tools content, including how to make *Qamutiik*, drums, *Kamiik*, and learn how to hunt.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, evidently, this will improve Inuktitut language training in our school system, ultimately creating a stronger Nunavut. Eventually, we will get a Nunavut that is Inuktitut-speaking and culturally rooted.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome all members to join me in applauding this groundbreaking initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Education. Minister of Family Services, please proceed.

**Minister's Statement 005 – 5(1): Addressing the Issues of Troubled Youth**

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about the troubled youth and troubled families.

In every community in Nunavut, we have issues with troubled youth, many youth who have issues with food security, alcohol, drugs, and lack of motivation towards education. Having troubled youth puts a negative impact on communities.

The Department of Family Services requires a fair process of service delivery for families to access and benefit from. Nunavummiut look to our services for warmth and food security and positive social development. However, it is my understanding that the income support that families receive can be abused by parents who use it to spend the money on drugs, alcohol, or gambling rather than spending the money on important things.

When parents abuse alcohol and drugs, their children see their actions and they are likely to turn to drugs and alcohol, then youth won't be motivated enough to go to school and get their education. This affects all of Nunavut and must change.

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to announce that the Department of Family Services is introducing *Ilakka*, a territory-wide initiative that places families first. The word "Ilakka" means family in Inuinnaqtun. This initiative works to train a new cohort of counsellors. *Ilakka* will train and produce 25 new counsellors, one for every community in Nunavut. Training has already begun and Nunavut communities will have new counsellors by the year of 2018 and this, in turn, will help families that need to be supported with quality counselling.

Counsellors will work with both parents and youth to help strengthen healthier families. Quality of life in Nunavut will increase having both youth and parents become motivated into completing school and securing meaningful employment. Incorporating education and awareness into *Ilakka* will encourage the dependants of families, Families can feed themselves, teach their children right from wrong, and be able to engage in demonstrating remorse when negative actions have been committed.

Mr. Speaker, I can't promise that *Ilakka* will address all issues that troubled youth face in Nunavut. However, I will be working with the departments of Health, Justice, Finance, Education, and the Nunavut Housing Corporation to achieve *Ilakka*. We will work as one and it is a step in the right direction to help strengthen families, communities, and Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Family Services. Minister of Community and Government Services, please proceed.



**Minister's Statement 006 – 5(1): Improvements in Sports and Recreation in Nunavut**

**Hon. Adam Nattar:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the need to improve sports and recreation across Nunavut.

It is my understanding that sports are important to Nunavummiut due to the health benefits of being active. As well, participating in sports builds confidence and communication among athletes on teams. Participating in teams across our territory allows athletes to represent their community while traveling as a team and competing in tournaments.

Mr. Speaker, with 25 communities in Nunavut, every community requires adequate sports equipment and infrastructure. Communities' needs with regards to sports and recreational activities are unique.

For example, Chesterfield Inlet may require better infrastructure specific to the ability to participate in basketball. On the other hand, Arviat may require improved soccer nets and floor hockey nets.

Mr. Speaker, I've seen this with my own eyes.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Community and Government Services places the needs of Nunavut communities as a priority. My department will work with hamlets and municipalities to address issues of inadequate sports equipment and infrastructure.

I'm announcing a ten percent increase in funding to ensure that our communities are equipped according to their unique needs, allowing Nunavummiut to reap the many positive benefits of sports and recreation. I am pleased to announce the increase will come into affect on April 1, 2016.

I ask all members to join me in applauding this very important initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Community and Government Services. Minister of Culture and Heritage, please proceed.

**Minister's Statement 007 – 5(1): Promoting Inuit Culture all Around the World**

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to students from Inuksuk high school who showcased the Inuit culture in Europe. The students who participated in this trip went to many places such as Germany, France, Amsterdam, and Vimy Ridge.

I would also like to inform you, Mr. Speaker, that the students spent remembrance day at Vimy Ridge. Three students from Inuksuk High School; Jackson Hanson, Amu Enookie, and Julia MacDonald laid a wreath in remembrance of the Canadian soldiers who died on European soil protecting our country.

Also, Mr. Speaker, Alexia Gallow-Alainga and Theresa Qiqasuktut sang on the Eiffel Tower in Paris during the history of the world war trip. It swells my heart knowing that no matter where you are in the world, our culture still burns strong within the hearts of our fellow Inuit.

The students on this trip fundraised for many months without any financial assistance from the Government of Nunavut. As the Minister of Culture and Heritage, I believe that the government should be more involved when it comes to showcasing our culture, especially in different parts of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to inform you that there will be a trip to Spain, Portugal, and the French Riviera in March 2015 with more Inuksuk High School students, where our Inuit culture will be showcased again. My department will be happy to provide financial support to help with the cost of the trip as well as encouraging the showcasing of Inuit culture. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Culture and Heritage. Minister of Economic Development, please proceed.

### **Minister's Statement 008 – 5(1): Economic Opportunities Through the Production of Oil and Gas**

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the potential of Nunavut's oil and gas production and the economic support it would provide our communities.

As a young territory, we must face the reality of Nunavut's limited economic growth opportunities and the fact that, because of our unique circumstances, Nunavut does not have the capacity to become economically sustaining to the manufacturing of consumer goods and/or industry, such as oil and gas production.

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, I believe that we must take advantage of the current international demand for oil and gas and realize Nunavut's unexploited oil and gas deposits to further develop our economy.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that by seizing this opportunity, it will significantly benefit the communities of Nunavut, as this will provide many employment opportunities and improve the overall quality of life for Nunavummiut. However, Mr. Speaker, we must

also be aware of the risks and dangers that the extraction of oil and gas imposes and how these risks will impact the people and culture of Nunavut.

For example, as we all know, there have been countless numbers of oil spills globally. The risk of hurting a major cultural and economic trade such as the seal industry for the sake of the oil and gas industry is not rational. Therefore, I propose that Nunavut's oil and gas industry suspends all activity for a period of three years while it collects information and consults the communities of Nunavut. I commit that each community in Nunavut will have their own input on the issue and each view will be strongly considered.

Following this three-year period and with the approval of the Legislative Assembly, I believe that we must take this opportunity to further expand and improve Nunavut's economy through the safe extraction of oil and gas, keeping in mind the effect this will have on our culture and environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Economic Development. Minister of Health, please proceed.

#### **Minister's Statement 009 – 5(1): Anti-Drug Campaign**

**Hon. Nicole Amagoalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to update the House on the anti-drug campaign that the Department of Health initiated last year. Statistics show that a significant amount of youth in Nunavut have been known to do drugs, and we felt we had to deal with this problem by starting this campaign.

Last year, as members will recall, the Department of Health started an anti-drug campaign for the youth in each community. With the anti-drug campaign, youth were able to specifically talk to professional counsellors in their community about their serious drug addictions and problems.

Mr. Speaker, this year, the Department of Health asked for a review on the anti-drug campaign to see if it was effective. The review showed that there was an increase in healthy and active youth. I have been notified by all the communities in Nunavut that the number of drug users is now lower and the rate of school attendance is higher.

The Department of Health would proudly like to say that we are going to continue with this campaign because of the great results. We found it very effective for the youth, and we're going to keep this ongoing until the next review in two years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister of Health. Item 6. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Ms. Arreak, please proceed.

### **Item 6: Members' Statements**

#### **Member's Statement 001 – 5(1): Nunavut's Education System**

**Ms. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about my concerns about the education system in schools.

My main concern is the high dropout rate. As you know, a High School Diploma is needed to get a job or go to university. I want all members in my community to encourage youth to stay in school. This includes the MLA, the mayor, DEA, teachers, parents, and even friends. We can all encourage youth to stay in school by talking to them and saying how important education is. There are many ways to help the youth with education. For example, we can help them when they need help with their homework.

I can tell you that this all relates to people being sent to residential school in the past. Inuit were strict with their children until they were sent to residential school and parents lost their parenting skills.

Mr. Speaker, as a final thought, I hope that all leaders help to encourage students across Nunavut to stay in school. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

*>>Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Arreak. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Inukpak, please proceed.

#### **Member's Statement 002 – 5(1): Encouraging the Community of Baker Lake to Come Together**

**Mr. Inukpak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today [to raise] an important issue in Baker Lake, a concern that there are not enough family events happening in Baker Lake.

If there were more family events happening, it's possible that it will promote a healthy lifestyle. It might reduce alcohol use and bring families closer than before. Therefore, I would like to encourage the people of Baker Lake to think of ideas to get the community together.

I would like to acknowledge some great examples like square dances, family games, and community feasts. I would like to encourage the people of Baker Lake to participate in these events.

I believe that it is important to hold events like these in Baker Lake more often because they can bring families together and reduce the use of alcohol and make the community safer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Inukpak. Member for Gjoa Haven, Ms. Barrieau, please proceed.

**Member's Statement 003 – 5(1): Recreational Facilities**

**Ms. Barrieau:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about the importance of recreation in our communities.

In today's world, teenagers have become tech savvy and with this, they have become addicted to the Internet, social networking sites, video games, and television. Although these things are necessary to some extent, many teenagers consider these things as their hobbies.

It is important to introduce activities which are fun and, at the same time, educational to the teenagers. We need some information on fun activities or things to do. As nowadays, most parents go to work, kids and teenagers have no one to mind them once they come home from school. It has been observed that teenagers tend to misuse this time and get involved in antisocial activities like drugs or criminal activities. The best way of avoiding this is to organize some activities at school for them after school hours. For teenagers who are interested in sports, arranging a sports club or coaching club for various sports will be a good idea.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude by encouraging teachers, parents, and other individuals to help organize extracurricular activities, such as sports and music, to help improve the lives of youth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Barrieau. Member for Aivilik, Ms. Kopak, please proceed.

**Member's Statement 004 – 5(1): Education in Nunavut**

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my concerns about the standards of education in Nunavut high schools.

I find that education in Nunavut is not yet up to the same standards as high schools down south. When Nunavut graduates apply for college, they often have to take an extra year or two getting caught up on the subjects taught in the southern areas.

Some students want to get into college or university straight away, but because they have to complete these extra years, they start having second thoughts about attending the college they were originally planning on going to.

I believe that students think that not enough people care about their education, so they are not taking it as seriously as they should. Students may think that no one is doing anything about their education standards and may start to think about dropping out. Students often rely on their teachers and counsellors to help them get ready for this big step in their lives, but students need more support.

I think the Government of Nunavut can also help by creating more programs to promote education in small communities that do not meet the standards for education needed to get into college. I hope to see these extra programs that promote education that meets the standards needed to apply for college or university. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Kopak. Member for Arviat South, Ms. Matoo, please proceed.

**Member's Statement 005 – 5(1): Acknowledging a Great Teacher**

**Ms. Matoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge the efforts of Curtis Metcalf. He is a teacher at John Arnalukjuak High School in Arviat.

Mr. Metcalf is a music teacher. He teaches students and adults how to play the guitar, trombone, piano, and trumpet. He is also an English teacher. He teaches grades 9, 10 and 11 English. He has helped students cope with struggles in school. We need more music teachers like Mr. Metcalf.

Some communities do not have the opportunity to have music teachers in their schools. I believe that other students in other communities should gain momentum in learning how to play instruments with the help of other music teachers.

Music helps open the eyes of many. In conclusion, teachers should follow Mr. Metcalf's steps in becoming a good mentor to their students. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Matoo. Member for Hudson Bay, Ms. Kavik, please proceed.

**Member's Statement 006 – 5(1): Bigger Community Hall for Sanikiluaq**

**Ms. Kavik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address a concern about our community hall in Sanikiluaq. The community hall that we have is a bit too small when there are gatherings or special events, it becomes very hot inside because our road is not paved, and people bring dust inside. The dust causes a number of problems. When sports teams are playing they cover their mouths while running.

During the Christmas events, the elders don't come to the community hall because it is so dusty or it is too hot. They stay at home, and even though they play games on the radio, they don't get to take part in the events with the rest of their family as they wish to.

When it is so crowded and people are coughing, they can spread the flu easily. I hope the government will build a big community hall in Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Kavik. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Nattaq, please proceed.

### **Member's Statement 007 – 5(1): Alcoholism**

**Mr. Nattaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the issue of alcoholism. Alcohol today has a lot of views by individuals. From my point of view, those individuals may suffer from low esteem, and may engage in violence with other individuals if they consume too much.

As individuals continue to purchase alcohol, there is a risk of consuming too much that it may lead to a fight with a friend, family member, or another individual.

I'm asking today for the Government of Nunavut to make alcohol illegal in Nunavut. The impact it has on Nunavut is significantly high. Nunavummiut do not need that type of issue.

Three examples of why we don't need alcohol are, number one, elders. When under the influence of alcohol cannot pass knowledge they have and individuals may not approach them because they have been consuming too much.

Number two, adults. Under the influence of alcohol, supposed to be role models of children and may lead to inadequate hunting skills.

Number three, teenagers are the future of Nunavut and may get lost from consuming alcohol. Then there will be no future for those individuals.

I hope the Government of Nunavut will consider making alcohol illegal in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Nattaq. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Cummings, please proceed.

**Member's Statement 008 – 5(1): Nunavut's High Suicide Rates**

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my deep concerns for Nunavut's high suicide rate. This has been an ongoing issue that cannot continue to be an avoided topic.

Mental illnesses are often stigmatized, causing the affected person to suffer in silence. I believe that there should be more easily accessible resources for anyone to glance at or read, educating themselves in order to encourage them to realize that they are not alone, giving them the courage to voice their struggles and reach out for help.

In 2013, at least 45 people died by suicide and that is the highest number recorded since Nunavut became a territory in 1999.

We can begin to reduce the suicide rate in many ways. I would like to encourage two possibilities.

The first is for the government to make resources available in youth centres, stores, and schools to inspire those who suffer in silence to reach out for help.

As for the second, I encourage all Nunavummiut to take down the stigma to mental illness and offer your support to those whom you are concerned for and show that their mental illness does not define them.

At the appropriate, I have questions for the minister on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Cummings. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Kiguktak, please proceed.

**Member's Statement 009 – 5(1): Access to Food Banks**

**Mr. Kiguktak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to ask the government to support funding for food banks around Nunavut because too many people are going hungry and they cannot afford food from our stores. I believe that everyone in Nunavut can help make this situation better.

One of the ways we can help families is through volunteering. For example, high schools can have programs that fundraise for food banks. In my high school, Umimmak School, students fundraise to travel for sports all the time. I hope that my fellow students and the youth here today use their skills and energy to help others and make sure that all Nunavummiut can have access to healthy food every day.



I encourage all Inuit to take time out of their lives and help improve our territory as a whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Kiguktak. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Onalik, please proceed.

### **Member's Statement 010 – 5(1): The Need for Cultural Activities**

**Mr. Onalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my concerns over the lack of cultural activities for Inuit youth of Nunavut.

All Inuit youth need security, identity, purpose, attention, and curiosity. If Inuit youth are encouraged, praised, and respected, they will feel a sense of belonging to their culture. They need to relate to their culture.

Youth have stages of development and want their achievements to be recognized. Youth believe that learning occurs in stages and all youth grow and learn at their own pace.

All Inuit youth need to see more cultural activities that will help them learn more about Inuit culture. They must not be underestimated or treated as underachievers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Onalik. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Ms. Sammurtok, please proceed.

### **Member's Statement 011 – 5(1): Suicide and Suicide Prevention**

**Ms. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express concern on the dangers and outcomes of suicide and how we, as a territory, need to work harder to prevent it.

Suicide is too common in Nunavut. I believe that we can reverse the rising problem together. Our territory is doing a great job in pushing suicide prevention, but I know that we could do better. We want suicide to stop and if we aren't getting the results we want, then we need to do something more.

Suicide rates in Nunavut can drop drastically if we all work together. I believe that we can achieve that by going beyond the adults and onto the teenagers, above the schools, and into the community for ideas and motives for changes.

When it comes to issues like this, we need to aim higher than the sky. We must aim for success. There is no person in Nunavut that cannot say that have not been affected by

suicide. It is a feeling that we need to eliminate from our territory in all sectors of Nunavut.

I encourage all regular MLAs and ministers alike to express this concern in their own communities to start the end of a new social problem. Suicide is hard on us. Let us work together to disappear it from our territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Sammurtok. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Palluq, please proceed.

### **Member's Statement 012 – 5(1): Emergency Care at the Health Centre**

**Mr. Palluq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to raise a concern about the ability of the community's health centre to deal with an emergency. I'm here today to raise my concern about the emergency response that the health centre has. I believe we should improve its' equipment and its' staff members.

I once had a hunting incident where I fell through thin ice. I was immediately rushed to the health centre and I saw the nurses and doctors didn't know what to do with me. One of the main issues was the old equipment they used to warm up my body.

I would like to call upon the Minister of Health to ensure that all health centres have adequate equipment and medical supplies. An elder named Pania was there to help me, to help the doctors on what to do with me. I would like to acknowledge and thank Pania's role on saving my life.

I would also like to encourage all people to go hunting with a buddy or in a group and have equipment and source of connection to town. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Palluq. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Kullualik.

### **Item 7: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery**

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I would like to recognize my mother, Jeannie Arreak-Kullualik. She is my inspiration and she is the reason why I am here today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Arreak.

**Ms. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to recognize Joshua Arreak in the Gallery. This person is my dad and I am happy they are here to support all of us during this Youth Parliament.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Amagoalik.

**Hon. Nicole Amagoalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with pleasure and honour that I stand to recognize my mother, Angie Amagoalik, my brother Robert Doig, and my little sister, Heather Doig, and the Hon. Monica Ell, Member of Iqaluit Manirajak whose seat I sit in today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Mr. Nattaq.

**Mr. Nattaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm very happy to recognize Annie Nattaq, Simon Nattaq, and George Hickes. Annie and Simon Nattaq are my grandparents and I am a substitute of George Hickes. I am happy they are here to support all of us during this Youth Parliament.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Mr. Onalik.

**Mr. Onalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to recognize David Joanasie. This person is from my constituency and I thank you for the support of the 2014 Nunavut Youth Parliament. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Take 16 ends here**

**Take 17 starts here.**

... this person is from my constituency and I thank them for their support of the 2014 Nunavut Youth Parliament. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Matoo.

**Ms. Matoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to recognize Vinnie Karetak in the Gallery. He is originally from the community of Arviat. I want to thank him for being here to support the 2014 Youth Parliament. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Mr. Inukpak.

**Mr. Inukpak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to recognize Cindy Rennie. This person is from the Legislative Assembly. I acknowledge and thank her for being here all week to support the 2014 Youth Parliament.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Ms. Barrieau.

**Ms. Barrieau:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure that I stand up to recognize Thomas Ellsworth in the Gallery. He is one of the legal drafters who worked with us on the bill that we will be reviewing today.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Kopak.

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure that I stand up to recognize Philip Grassie in the Gallery. He is one of the legal drafters who worked with us on the bill that we will be reviewing today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Klengenberg.

**Hon. Jenny Klengenberg:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure that I stand up to recognize the Hon. Peter Taptuna, Premier and MLA for Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Lafrance.

**Hon. Genevieve Lafrance:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure that I stand up to recognize the Hon. MLA of Cambridge Bay, Keith Peterson.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Cummings.

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to recognize Pat Angnakak. This person is from my constituency and I acknowledge and thank her for being here and supporting the 2014 Youth Parliament.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Nakashuk.

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to recognize the Hon. Johnny Mike in the Gallery. This person is my MLA and I am happy they are here to support all of us during this Youth Parliament.

Also, it is with great pleasure that I stand up to recognize my good friend, Ed. Picco, in the Gallery.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Kuliktana.

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure and honour that I stand up to recognize my aunt, Edna Elias, Kathy Okpik, and the Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Ms. Sammurtok.

**Ms. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to recognize Susan Sammurtok in the Gallery. This person is my grandmother and I am happy they are here to support all of us during the Youth Parliament.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize Kathy Okpik, Deputy Minister of Education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** I would also like to recognize John Quirke, who is the Clerk of this Legislative Assembly.

>>Applause

Oral Questions. Please raise your hand if you have questions for the ministers.

>>Laughter

Ms. Arreak.

### Item 8: Oral Questions

#### Question 001 – 5(1): Attendance in Nunavut Schools

**Ms. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education.

The *Education Act* states under section 30, parents have to ensure that their children are registered in school if they are between the ages of 6 to 18 and have to promote regular and punctual attendance.

For example, in my social studies class, there are 32 students registered, but only 7 to 10 students attend on average.

I would like to ask the Minister of Education if his department is following the law making sure that all students are attending school. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Education, Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you, Member Arreak. That is a very good question. I acknowledge that there are indeed issues with schools and students attendance.

Mr. Speaker, we are trying to find alternative ways to make students attend school. We are doing everything we can to resolve the problem. The department is following the rules, Mr. Speaker, however it is up to the parents to make sure that the kids go out and go to class every day.

Mr. Speaker, we have a new initiative program whereby if students attend 50 percent of their classes they have a chance to win prizes such as iPad. This is a partnership with Apple Canada to support our schools.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Tununiq will agree with this initiative program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Member for Tununiq, your first supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Ms. Arreak:** How does the department work with the district education authority to make sure that students are attending school? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Education, Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We make sure that students are going to school by making meetings with the DEA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Member for Tununiq, your final supplementary question, please proceed.

**Ms. Arreak:** Can the minister tell me how his department is keeping track of the percentage of attendance? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Education, Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We make sure that there are attendance records every month. That's how we keep the attendance records. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Please raise your hand if you have questions for the ministers. Mr. Palluq.

#### **Question 002 – 5(1): High Cost of Food**

**Mr. Palluq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Family Services.

My concern is about the high cost of living the High Arctic has. I would like to know what the government can do about it. I feel that the prices are at an all-time high in today's economy.

I would like to ask the minister what her department is doing about the high cost of foods and beverages in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Family Services, Ms...

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the MLA for Uqqummiut. As the Minister of Family Services, I am working collaboratively with my colleagues and NTI. Together, we have created the Nunavut Food Security Strategy Action Plan for the years of 2014 to 2016.

The finance minister and I are looking at ways to increase some income support. Lastly, some other solutions that we have that will help families in Nunavut are a food bank, a community freezer for fresh meat, food hampers, especially for Christmas. I hope the member agrees that these are positive solutions to the high cost of food and beverages in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary question, please proceed.

**Mr. Palluq:** Not everyone in Nunavut has a full-time job and can afford to buy foods to nourish their children and family. Will your department work with the stores in Nunavut to make their prices lower? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Family Services, Ms. Kuliktana.

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I clearly never heard the question, so can you please ask him to say it again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Palluq, repeat your question.

**Mr. Palluq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not everyone in Nunavut has a full-time job and can afford to buy foods to nourish their children and family. Will your department work with the stores in Nunavut to make their prices lower? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Family Services, Ms. Kuliktana.

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was a good question. We will be working with the finance department to help the families who need money so that they could have food and other things that they need, but we will get back to you when I have more information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

*>>Applause*

**Speaker:** Mr. Palluq, your final supplementary question, please proceed.

**Mr. Palluq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Most of the communities in Nunavut are dependent on the stores for food and groceries. Does the government plan on studying how much people are spending on foods? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Family Services, Ms. Kuliktana.

**Hon. Tundra Kuliktana:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Family Services is working on trying to improve the family services and trying to figure out solutions of how more families in each community could have money for themselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

*>>Applause*

**Speaker:** Item 8. Oral Questions. Ms. Sammurtok.

### **Question 003 – 5(1): Overcrowding Crisis in Nunavut**

**Ms. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.



Overcrowding is a well-known issue in Nunavut. What does the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation plan to do regarding this territorial problem? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and MLA Sammurtok, for the question. Mr. Speaker, I understand MLA Sammurtok's concerns regarding the housing issue in Nunavut and would like to inform her that there have been many actions put in place to battle this problem. For example, in Arviat, several government houses and apartments have been constructed over the summer to reduce the number of overcrowded houses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Sammurtok, your first supplementary question, please proceed.

**Ms. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does the minister plan on only taking action in the regional centres or is she planning on going into the smaller communities too? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Housing has been constructed in all communities over the summer and there are plans for many of the communities. Housing isn't just a problem regionally and I believe that communities should have proper housing developed in their communities. They could be made in all the communities. Old buildings are being demolished. I hope this answers your question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Ms. Sammurtok, your final supplementary question, please proceed.

**Ms. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How long does the minister determine it will take before this problem has been resolved? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that this project will take some time. We hope to have it completed within ten years. In most communities, projects have already begun. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. Onalik.

**Question 004 – 5(1): Community Justice**

**Mr. Onalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice.

As we all know, our jails are overcrowded and crime rates are high. I believe community justice is an alternative and culturally important option to help with over crowding and help people from re-offending.

I would like to ask what the minister is doing to fully use the community justice programs for all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Justice, Ms. Kullualik.

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for South Baffin for that question.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Justice is working hard to resolve the issue of overcrowding in our jails and correctional facilities. The member must keep in mind that a new correctional centre cannot be built overnight.

Mr. Speaker, for this issue to be resolved it will take time. My department is already working on a blue print for a new correctional centre that will accommodate more offenders.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the community justice program is for minor offences. Instead of being sent to jail, the offender would do community service or be put in an on-the-land program to get them out of the environment that influences them to commit crimes in the first place.

This program, Mr. Speaker, not only shows them that there's more to life than crime but to also strengthen our culture.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the member is asking if the department is taking full advantage of the community justice program. I cannot answer that question at this time because I am currently waiting for the annual report. I will be happy to table this report at the appropriate time.

Mr. Speaker, I'm happy to tell the member that there is a new program in the community justice system that reports on the previous offenders progress every four months to ensure that they are not re-offending. This program ensures that they are living a healthy lifestyle by going to work, school, or hunting.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, my department considers this issue as a high priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Onalik, your first supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Mr. Onalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister commit to using community justice programs whenever possible? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Justice, Ms. Kullualik.

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The answer is that we are using the community justice program whenever it is considered a minor offence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Onalik, your second and final supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Mr. Onalik:** I don't have a second supplementary question.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. Kiguktak.

#### **Question 005 – 5(1): Nunavut Arctic College Programs**

**Mr. Kiguktak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College.

The majority of Inuit cannot speak Inuktitut anymore, especially youth. As the minister is aware, the Nunavut Arctic College has an interpreter or translator program. Can the minister of this department tell me how he is making sure that Inuit youth know about this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you, Member for Quttiktuq, for that question. That is a great question. There are Inuktitut-speaking programs at the college. We will make sure that all Nunavummiut will know about them. We will provide more information for the Inuit of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, in order to inform Inuit we are producing brochures, posters, and other materials. These materials will be distributed to the schools all over Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Kiguktak, your first supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Mr. Kiguktak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell me how his department helps students to apply for the Nunavut Arctic College program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Member for Quttiktuq that is a great question. We post applications all over the public places to the people of Nunavut can see and start to apply for them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Kiguktak, your second and final supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Mr. Kiguktak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How many people applied to Nunavut Arctic College in the previous year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Oolateeta.

**Hon. Michel Oolateeta:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. About 22 students applied for culture and heritage in Clyde River last year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Ms. Cummings.

### **Question 006 – 5(1): Nunavut’s High Suicide Rates**

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Premier. My question is in regards to my member’s statement on high suicide rates here in Nunavut. We lose too many Nunavummiut per year to suicide. It is spread across our land. Does the Premier have a plan in progress for a territory-wide program to lower the number of suicides per year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier, Ms. Klengenber.

**Hon. Jenny Klengenber:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and MLA Cummings for the question.

I have instructed my government to take charge of this issue. With four departments working at this daily, I should have a date for a territorial wide suicide prevention program that will have a widely spread positive affect on Nunavummiut within the next week.

The Departments of Family Services, Finance, Education, and Health are doing the best that they can to give you a positive state of mind of what is yet to come. Together as the

government, Mr. Speaker, we are doing the best that we can but we will also need the help of all constituents to move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask my colleagues to move forward with me. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Ms. Cummings, your first supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Premier commit that this program be more than words on paper? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier, Ms. Klengenberg.

**Hon. Jenny Klengenberg:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. I can commit 100 percent that this will be more than just words on paper because we have all of our departments working at this and we are ready to make a change. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Ms. Cummings, your second and final supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Premier tell me what the government's concrete actions may be? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier, Ms. Klengenberg.

**Hon. Jenny Klengenberg:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can you ask MLA Cummings to clarify the question, please.

**Speaker:** Ms. Cummings, repeat the question.

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. By that question, I meant what does your various ministers have planned or have thought about coming into action for the suicide program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Klengenberg.

**Hon. Jenny Klengenberg:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you. I just meant that I didn't hear the question. I understood it, but thank you.

The four departments are working really hard to get this program running. I can't tell you now because we still have a few things that are very unclear, but we will have it all figured out by the end of this week and I will be happy to let you know when I have it figured out. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. Nattaq.

**Question 007 – 5(1): Seismic Testing**

**Mr. Nattaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Nunavummiut know that there's going to be seismic testing near Clyde River. Can the minister explain whether the seismic testing will open up gasoline possibilities in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. Mr. Speaker, as you heard in my Minister's Statement, all activity regarding natural gas and oil will be suspended for a three-year period where communities will be consulted and information will be collected. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Nattaq, your first supplementary question, please proceed.

**Mr. Nattaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware if the seismic testing is going to severely damage the marine life around the location where the seismic testing is going to be happening? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that seismic testing may be dangerous. If it is dangerous and will affect the economy or the environment, then seismic testing will not be conducted in these areas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Nattaq, your final supplementary question, please proceed.

**Mr. Nattaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What is your department going to do to make sure that the seismic testing is not going to harm the lifestyles of Clyde River residents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that if the communities do not believe it is safe or culturally responsible, seismic testing will not be conducted in any of these communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Ms. Kavik.

**Question 008 – 5(1): Community Hall**

**Ms. Kavik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

In my statement, I talked about the need for a bigger community hall in Sanikiluaq. Will the minister consider building a bigger community hall in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Nattar.

**Hon. Adam Nattar:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and MLA Kavik, for the question. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Community and Government Services has a formal application process for community infrastructure requests. This process includes writing a letter, applying for funding, and waiting for an approval. I encourage the community of Sanikiluaq to follow this process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Ms. Matoo.

**Question 009 – 5(1): Nunavut Child Benefits**

**Ms. Matoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance.

Many families in Nunavut depend on the Nunavut Child Benefit to feed their families and get them warm clothes. How do you ensure that these funds are helping children and families? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Finance, Ms. Lafrance.

**Hon. Genevieve Lafrance:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and the Member for Arviat South, for the question. Earlier today in my Minister's Statement, I announced a new change to help decrease poverty and help families afford to put food on their tables.

Also, I stated that the Government of Nunavut has been working with our Member of Parliament to increase the Northern Residents Deduction in the income tax system. This will help families all across Nunavut with their finances because then the government is

taking less money out of their pockets, which will help families provide more food and warm clothing for their children.

Mr. Speaker, I am also aware of the many families who depend on the Nunavut Child Benefit and will continue to fight for this issue on behalf of Nunavummiut with the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Ms. Matoo, your first supplementary question, please proceed.

**Ms. Matoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How does your department work with the federal government to ensure that all families who are eligible for the Nunavut Child Benefit receive it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Finance, Ms. Lafrance.

**Hon. Genevieve Lafrance:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not hear the question. Can you please ask the member to repeat it.

**Speaker:** Ms. Matoo, repeat your question.

**Ms. Matoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How does your department work with the federal government to ensure that all families who are eligible for the Nunavut Child Benefit receive it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Finance, Ms. Lafrance.

**Hon. Genevieve Lafrance:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have an answer for you right now.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Ms. Kopak.

### **Question 010 – 5(1): Culture and Heritage**

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Culture and Heritage.

Our culture is a big part of our identity and it has been for a really long time. It defines who we are and where we come from.

Nunavummiut are slowly losing their language and seem to be forgetting where they came from.

Can the minister tell me what her department is doing to make sure that Inuit culture is being promoted to the youth in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



**Speaker:** Minister of Culture and Heritage, Ms. Kullualik.

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Aivilik for that question. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Culture and Heritage is working hard with the Department of Education to bring Inuit culture into the school system with Inuktitut classes and through Inuktitut books. Also, Mr. Speaker, the department is promoting Inuit culture to youth through media, such as movies, posters, music, and games.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned in my Minister's Statement, the Department of Culture and Heritage will provide funding to Inuit students who are going to different countries to promote Inuit culture, but to keep our culture strong, it starts at home. I highly encourage parents and elders to speak mostly Inuktitut to their children, grandchildren, and especially the youth to learn in the best way possible.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I agree with the member that our culture defines who we are. We are the future. It is the fire that burns in the heart of the Inuit that should make them want to learn more about our culture and expand our knowledge instead of letting it fade away. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Ms. Kopak, your first supplementary question. Please proceed.

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell me what kinds of programs are being created to make sure that the Inuit culture is being taught to the youth of communities in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Culture and Heritage, Ms. Kullualik.

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not understand that question. Can you ask the member to repeat the question, please? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Kopak, repeat your question.

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell me what kinds of more programs are being created to make sure the Inuit culture is being taught to the youth in communities of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Culture and Heritage, Ms. Kullualik.

**Hon. Apphia Kullualik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. There are already many programs that are being used to promote Inuit culture and my department is working on more but they haven't let me know yet. I will get back to you on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Ms. Barrieau.

**Question 011 – 5(1): Waste Management and Recycling**

**Ms. Barrieau:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Environment about information on recycling in Nunavut.

Recycling is important in Nunavut because we need to protect the environment. Does the minister's department have a Nunavut-wide recycling program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Environment, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and MLA Barrieau for the question.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge that there are not many recycling programs in Nunavut but that will change with the bill I will be presenting at the appropriate time later today.

Mr. Speaker, I do agree that recycling is very important and the very best plan that we have to preserve the environment. We will start a recycling campaign program for youth that are going to school in Nunavut and will have to complete a certain number of hours to gain an academic credit.

I hope that my colleague, the Hon. Member for Gjoa Haven, will support the bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. Inukpak.

**Question 012 – 5(1): Disposal of Hazardous Waste**

**Mr. Inukpak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health. It is important to properly dispose of hazardous waste because people and animals can catch diseases from used needles. That's why it's important to properly dispose of them.

Can the minister tell me what does the health centre do with this hazardous waste? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Ms. Amagoalik.

**Hon. Nicole Amagoalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and MLA Inukpak for the question. I'm glad to answer that the Department of Health does take hazardous waste seriously. In the Department of Health, there are rules and strict policies to look after properly

disposing hazardous waste. I'm aware that many can become in poor health if humans are exposed to waste.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health carefully disposes of all hazardous waste in a safe, careful way. The department does this by having each health centre dispose the waste, such as needles, into boxes specifically for hazardous waste and shipped down south to then handle there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Inukpak, your first supplementary question, please proceed.

**Mr. Inukpak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How often does the health centre replace its hazardous waste containers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Ms. Amagoalik.

**Hon. Nicole Amagoalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can you ask Member Inukpak to repeat the question again? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Inukpak, repeat your question.

**Mr. Inukpak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How often does the health centre replace its hazardous waste containers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Ms. Amagoalik.

**Hon. Nicole Amagoalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and MLA Inukpak, for the question. It depends on how many boxes of needles we have in the health centres. The maximum is 50 boxes of needles and that's when we ship them out to south to then handle there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Item 9. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister Nakashuk, please proceed.

### **Item 9: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 01 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials – Notice**

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that I will move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, that Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Item 10. First Reading of Bills. Minister Nakashuk, please proceed.

### **Item 10: First Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 01 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials – First Reading**

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. All those opposed. I declare the motion carried and Bill 1 has had first reading.

>>*Applause*

Item 11. Second Reading of Bills. Minister Nakashuk, please proceed.

### **Item 11: Second Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 01 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials – Second Reading**

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, that Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill establishes an environmental awareness program for young Nunavummiut.

This bill also rewards sustainable development by providing a rebate for the development and funding of a recycling program and penalties for the misuse of traditional materials.

The bill establishes a youth environmental advisory council. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. All those opposed. I declare the motion carried. Bill 1 has had second reading and, therefore, Bill 1 is placed into Committee of the Whole for today.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills. The Committee of the Whole will be considering Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*.

Before we proceed with the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 15-minute break.

>>*Applause*

Sergeant-at-Arms, please lower the mace.

>>*Laughter*

>>*House recessed at 15:25 and Committee resumed at 15:45*

## **Item 12: Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters**

### **Bill 01 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman:** I would like to call the Committee of the Whole meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*, to deal with. It is on members' desks and printed on yellow-coloured paper.

I ask the Minister of Environment, Ms. Nakashuk, to go to the witness table.

Minister Nakashuk, do you have witnesses?

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker.

**Chairman:** Do members agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Sergeant-at-Arms, please let the witnesses in.

Minister Nakashuk, please introduce your witnesses.

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Maatali Okalik and to my left is Thomas Ellsworth. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** I would ask Minister Nakashuk to make her opening comments on Bill 1.

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the Committee of the Whole today regarding Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce Bill 1 because the Government of Nunavut recognizes that climate change is one of the most serious issues of the 21st century. We all know that climate change has a significant impact on our ways of life in the Arctic.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that youth should share responsibility for stewardship of the environment. The Government of Nunavut is determined to facilitate and promote youth participation in all our environmental policies.

Mr. Chairman, some issues this bill addresses are dump fires, which we all have seen causes many issues that include pollution in the air.

Who hasn't seen cigarette butts littering the ground? They could be eaten by animals and might poison themselves.

These are all very serious issues, Mr. Chairman. As we all know, our animals are very precious to us. They feed us and clothe us. They keep us warm. For that, we should be thankful and respectful to the environment.

In most dumps, car batteries are piled up, which are often located near our ocean. Car batteries are known to leak acid and seep into the ground or water and will also impact the soil, plants, and animals. Again, it's another very serious issue because it affects the land in a way that it will never make it the same again.

Each community has a metal dump. Metal pileups, such as cars, snowmobiles, and motor parts, don't disintegrate and will never break down. Even their gas and oil seep into the ecosystem.

Mr. Chairman, last but not least, trash makes the land look unattractive, which is bad for many things, including our tourism industry. We do not want tourists to think that our land is covered in garbage and unattractive because it is breathtaking.

My hometown, Pangnirtung, has the world-famous Auyuittuq National Park, which attracts people from all over the world.

Mr. Chairman, there are many other communities that are tourist attractions. This bill will help beautify our land and communities and attract tourists.

Mr. Chairman, under Bill 1 there will be a program which will include a recycling campaign and it will teach Inuit culture, our history and practices, and the responsible use of traditional materials to name just a few of its' elements.

Mr. Chairman, included in the Bill is a recycling program because all of our excess material things in Nunavut end up in our landfills.

Mr. Chairman, companies will not be left out of this bill. They will have more responsibility to monitor their actions because of their wider impact on the environment compared to those of individuals.

Mr. Chairman, my favourite part of the Bill is with regards to the involvement with youth in the Bill. For example, Mr. Chairman, youth who are in school will get academic credit for finishing the program. However, there will be consequences for those who did not complete the program. It demonstrates how important this is, Mr. Chairman, by teaching our youth they will pass it on to future generations.

Mr. Chairman, I want to point out how valuable it is for youth to participate in initiatives like this. Youth are the future leaders of Nunavut and it is very essential for them to speak up and take leadership which is why we have created a youth environmental advisory council.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I am full of pride today to present the House with this Bill. I believe this is a strong Bill which will help us fight for better environmental conditions. This will help free us from issues such as greenhouse gasses and will improve life in general.

Mr. Chairman, I urge the members of this Legislative Assembly to support this bill and what it could achieve for today and for future generations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Nakashuk. Does the Chair of the Regular Members' Caucus have comments? Please proceed, Ms. Arreak.

**Ms. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to have been chosen to present opening comments on behalf of the regular members' caucus on Bill 1, *an act to promote environmental awareness, recycling, and the responsible use of traditional materials*. The regular members' caucus discussed Bill 1 and supported the Bill in principle.

However, the members felt that the Bill could be improved in a number of ways. Members will be proposing six amendments which we feel will strengthen the Bill. It is important to have laws to protect the environment because it is important and it is the foundation of our lives. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Do members have any general comments on Bill 1? I have no more names for general comments. We will now proceed to clause by clause review of Bill 1. It is the yellow-coloured bill on your desk. Go to page 2 of the bill. Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*. Clause 1. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 2. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 3. Ms. Matoo.

**Committee Motion 001 – 5(1): Amendment to Subclause 3(3)(b) of Bill 1 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials**

**Ms. Matoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the following be added after paragraph 3(3)(b):

(b.1) Aluminum beverage containers.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am moving this motion because aluminum beverage containers are the number one product imported into our communities. Millions of aluminum beverage containers arrive on sealift and by plane every year. We must deal with this waste.

In the past, aluminum beverage container recycling programs have been successful in many communities. We must encourage these efforts to continue.

I urge my fellow members to support this motion to include aluminum beverage containers in the list of materials that will be supported under the government legislative recycling program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** To the motion. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Raise your hand if you agree to the motion. The motion is carried.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** Clause 4. Ms. Arreak.

**Committee Motion 002 – 5(1): Amendment to Subclause 4(1) of Bill 1 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials**

**Ms. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that clause 4 be renumbered subclause 4(1) and that the following be added after subclause 4(1):

The minister shall table an annual report in the Legislative Assembly or rebates provided under subsection 1 within six months of the end of each year.



Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** To the motion. Ms. Arreak.

**Ms. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am moving this motion because I think the Department of Environment would need to keep track of how much money they are giving out to each community. The Department of Environment would need to report how much money they give out to each community every year for the recycling rebate programs. It is important that the department is transparent in how it is spending government funding.

I think it is an important amendment and I hope you all agree to support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Raise your hand if you agree to the motion. The motion is carried.

>>Applause

**Chairman:** Clause 5. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 6. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 7. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 8. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 9. Ms. Cummings.

**Committee Motion 003 – 5(1): Amendment to Subclause 9(1) of Bill 1 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials**

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that subclause 9(1) be amended by striking out “five members” and substituting “one member from each municipality in Nunavut.” Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** To the motion. Ms. Cummings.

**Ms. Cummings:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am in support of this motion because it will allow each municipality to be properly represented for their various recycling needs. There are individual and unique recycling requirements across the territory that should be met. Having a representative from each community will ensure that that will happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Raise your hand if you agree to the motion. Ms. Aglukark.

**Hon. Elizabeth Aglukark:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although the cabinet has agreed with the previous motions, we cannot agree with this one.

We have thoroughly considered this motion and found that economically, it would not be logical, as adding an additional 20 members would increase travel and administrative costs by a several hundred percent.

With 25 council members, more time and money would be spent to come to consensus, money which can be better spent on improving environmental awareness and the recycling programs as proposed by the Minister of Environment.

Moreover, Mr. Chairman, there is the issue of finding a reasonable time where all members could attend the meetings.

For these reasons, Mr. Chairman, we ask with all due respect that our colleagues reconsider their position and join us in voting against this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** To the motion. Raise your hand if you agree to the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried.

>>*Applause*

Mr. Palluq.

**Committee Motion 004 – 5(1): Amendment to Subclause 9(2)(b) of Bill 1 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials**

**Mr. Palluq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that paragraph 9(2)(b) be amended by inserting “with an average grade of at least 75 percent” after “Nunavut.” Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** To the motion. Mr. Palluq.

**Mr. Palluq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am in support of the motion so that the council members are focused and still in school.

The Youth Environmental Advisory Council will be very important because it allows youth to have a voice in the protection of Nunavut's environment.

It's important for a member to have an average grade of 75 percent in school because the member will have commitment and focus.

I urge all of my fellow members to join me in supporting this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Raise your hand if you agree to the motion. The motion is carried.

>> *Applause*

Clause 10. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 11. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 12. Ms. Sammurtok.

**Committee Motion 005 – 5(1): Amendment to Clause 12 of Bill 1 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials**

**Ms. Sammurtok:** I move that clause 12 be amended by striking out “the council may” and substituting “the minister shall” and by striking out “its” and substituting “the council.” Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** To the motion. Ms. Sammurtok.

**Ms. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am moving this motion because I believe that members of the council may be too young and/or irresponsible to make executive decisions. I believe that the minister involved should be the one to determine the procedures and rules for the conduct of the council's activities and meetings.

I am fully aware that all youth involved in the council will be between the ages of 13 and 21. Giving the council the authority of such is a huge task which must be handled by a trustworthy and responsible adult, most likely the minister involved.

I ask my colleagues to support this motion, which will make the minister responsible for the procedures and rules for the council's activities and meetings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Raise your hand if you agree to the motion. The motion is carried.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** Clause 13. Ms. Kopak.

**Committee Motion 006 – 5(1): Amendment to Clause 13 of Bill 1 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials**

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that clause 13 be struck out and the following substituted:

Coming into force 13, this Act comes into force on January 1, 2017.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** To the motion. Ms. Kopak.

**Ms. Kopak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am supporting this motion because we want a certainty on what day the Act will come into force. We don't want any delays to start helping and improving the environment. We want a clear and fixed date that we can all look forward to.

Helping the environment is important and this motion to amend this clause will help improve the Act and create a clear start date to establish environmental awareness programs for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Raise your hand if you agree to the motion. The motion is carried.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** Do members agree to Bill 1 as amended?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members [agree] that Bill 1 can be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** I would like to thank Minister Nakashuk and her staff. Do you have closing comments?

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to thank everyone, all of my colleagues, for supporting this bill. I would like to thank Maatali and Thomas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses from the witness table.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

**Speaker:** Item 13. Third Reading of Bills. Minister Nakashuk, please proceed.

### **Item 13: Third Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 01 – An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials – Third Reading**

**Hon. Colleen Nakashuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. The motion is in order. All those favour, raise your hand. All those opposed. I declare the motion carried. Bill 1 has had third reading.

>>*Applause*

Item 14. Assent to Bills. Madam Clerk, could you please determine if Speaker Qulaut is prepared to enter the Chamber to give assent to bills.

### **Item 14: Commissioner's Assent to Bills**

**Commissioner George Qulaut** (interpretation): Members, please be seated.

(interpretation ends) I am honoured to give assent to the following bill:

- Bill 1, *An Act to Promote Environmental Awareness, Recycling and the Responsible Use of Traditional Materials*

(interpretation) It was wonderful watching all of you at work today. You did an excellent job, and all of Nunavut is very proud of you.

(interpretation ends) You have demonstrated that have the potential to be the leaders of tomorrow and I encourage all of you to continue to work hard and represent your communities with pride.

I wish you all a safe trip home. (interpretation) Thank you.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Please sit. The Fifth Youth Parliament is now concluded. The next Youth Parliament will take place on a date to be announced.

I ask all members to stay in the Chamber for our group photo.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:15*

# **Appendix – November 27, 2014**

