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Official Report

**DAY 20**

**Thursday, October 25, 2018**

**Pages 1278 – 1330**

**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable Joe Enook, M.L.A.**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

**Hon. Joe Enook**  
(Tununiq)

**Hon. David Akeegok**  
(Quttiktuq)  
*Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic  
Development and Transportation*

**Joelie Kaernerik**  
(Amittuq)

**Emiliano Qirngnuq**  
(Netsilik)

**Mila Kamingoak**  
(Kugluktuk)

**Paul Quassa**  
(Aggu)

**Tony Akoak**  
(Gjoa Haven)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Pauloosie Keyootak**  
(Uqqummiut)

**Allan Rumbolt**  
(Hudson Bay)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Pat Angnakak**  
(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**  
(Rankin Inlet South)  
*Minister of Community and  
Government Services; Minister  
responsible for the Nunavut  
Housing Corporation*

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**  
(Arviat South)  
*Premier; Minister of Executive and  
Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister  
responsible for Aboriginal Affairs;  
Minister responsible for Seniors; Minister  
responsible for the Utility Rates Review  
Council*

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak**  
(Cambridge Bay)  
*Minister of Energy; Minister of Environment;  
Minister of Justice; Minister responsible for  
Labour; Minister responsible for the Qulliq  
Energy Corporation*

**Adam Lightstone**  
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

**Hon. George Hickey**  
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)  
*Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial  
Management Board; Minister of Health;  
Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention;  
Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety  
and Compensation Commission*

**John Main**  
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**  
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)  
*Government House Leader; Minister of  
Family Services; Minister responsible for  
Homelessness; Minister responsible for  
Immigration; Minister responsible for the  
Status of Women*

**Hon. David Joanasic**  
(South Baffin)  
*Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister of  
Education; Minister of Languages; Minister  
responsible for Nunavut Arctic College*

**Margaret Nakashuk**  
(Pangnirtung)

**Cathy Towtongie**  
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

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(Aivilik)

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Hansard Production  
Innirvik Support Services

**Box 1200**

**Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0**

**Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266**

**Website: [www.assembly.nu.ca](http://www.assembly.nu.ca)**

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut****Thursday, October 25, 2018****Members Present:**

Hon. David Akeegok, Mr. Tony Akoak,  
 Hon. Jeannie Ehloak, Hon. Joe Enook,  
 Hon. George Hickes, Hon. David  
 Joanasi, Mr. Joeline Kaerner, Ms. Mila  
 Kamingoak, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak,  
 Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Adam  
 Lightstone, Mr. John Main, Ms.  
 Margaret Nakashuk, Mr. Patterk Netser,  
 Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Mr. Paul  
 Quassa, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Hon. Joe  
 Savikataaq, Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik,  
 Ms. Cathy Towtongie.

>>*House commenced at 13:30*

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Joe Enook)

(interpretation): Mr. Qirngnuq, can you say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. (interpretation ends) Premier (interpretation) and members, good afternoon. Nunavummiut who are listening to the radio broadcast and watching the televised proceedings, welcome to your Legislative Assembly. I would also like to welcome the visitors in the gallery. Please feel welcome.

Before we go to our orders of the day, I have an announcement to make. It is our colleague Mr. Rumbolt's birthday.

>>*Applause*

>>*Laughter*

He said that he is now 44 years old, but I would like to tell Mr. Rumbolt that he

can't remain 44 forever.

>>*Laughter*

Have a good day.

Let's now proceed to the orders of the day. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health, Minister Hickes.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements****Minister's Statement 076 – 5(2):  
Children's Oral Health Project**

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The demand for dental treatment and prevention services in Nunavut remains high, especially for young Nunavummiut. The Department of Health continues to deliver and expand oral health promotion, prevention and treatment services to all communities. The program aims to influence youth and their guardians to improve their oral health.

The Children's Oral Health Project began over five years ago and provides oral health promotion, prevention, and basic treatment services specifically for children ages zero to ten years. Mr. Speaker, this year the project has expanded and services are extended to youth up to the age of 12, or grade 7. Fluoride varnish treatments continue to be provided for children and youths ages 13 through 17.

Community oral health coordinators, or COHCs, the majority of whom are Nunavut Inuit, are vital to the success of the program. COHCs have been hired in their home communities to provide basic preventive services and activities as part of the program.

While there is still a waiting list for dental treatment under general anaesthetic, every year more and more children are participating in the program, becoming comfortable with and trusting the dental teams. Mr. Speaker, this project has a positive impact on children, who learn from dentists, hygienists, dental therapists, and the COHCs, which we expect will translate over time into improvements in their oral health. Health views this as a positive step, knowing that young Nunavummiut are being encouraged to take responsibility for their oral health.

Mr. Speaker, in the last school year since the start of October 2017, there have been 41 completed oral health project trips for children zero to ten years from 21 communities. A total of 3,016 children were seen from 26 screening and 15 treatment trips until school closure in 2018, with more happening this fall. Mr. Speaker, because of the success based on an external evaluation done of the oral health project, funding for this project provided by Indigenous Services Canada's Territorial Health Investment Fund (THIF) has been extended until March 31, 2021.

We encourage Nunavummiut to visit [www.nunavutsmiles.ca](http://www.nunavutsmiles.ca) to find schedules as well as information on oral health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Akeegok.

### **Minister's Statement 077 – 5(2): Northern Aviation Scholarship**

**Hon. David Akeegok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Quttiktuq, especially to the residents of Arctic Bay. Today, for the people who have lost their loved ones, you are in our thoughts.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to report to the House on this year's recipients of the Northern Aviation Scholarship. The Northern Aviation Scholarship provides up to \$7,500 for training related to aviation - pilots, aircraft maintenance engineers, or management positions.

This scholarship has grown in importance over the past few years with the increasing shortage of qualified pilot and aircraft maintenance engineers. Throughout Canada, the industry reports that there will be a shortage of 3,000 pilots in Canada by 2025 and 55,000 other skilled workers in other positions within the industry.

I am proud to say that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation has increased the level of support for Nunavummiut who wish to pursue these careers, careers that will allow them to work and develop in Nunavut while benefitting Nunavummiut.

This year the department has awarded five scholarships to the following individuals:

- Hilary Angidlik of Rankin Inlet who is continuing her training to become a pilot.



- Jamila Gordon, also of Rankin Inlet, who is continuing her training to become a pilot
- Doris Ipeelee of Iqaluit who is enrolled in pilot training
- Joseph Akulujuk of Pangnirtung who is training to become a pilot
- Christopher Harding of Iqaluit who is training to become an aircraft maintenance engineer.

I would like to extend congratulations to all of these recipients and say “thank you” to each of them for answering the call to enter such a noble profession. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers’ Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Ehaloak.

**Minister’s Statement 078 – 5(2):  
Nunavut Polar Bear Deterrence  
Activities**

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The Department of Environment is committed to the reduction and mitigation of wildlife conflict in Nunavut. One of the key ways this is achieved is through prevention and education.

Over the past few years we have been increasing the usage of the Wildlife Damage Prevention Program. This program is aimed to provide Nunavummiut with the resources to reduce damage caused by wildlife and to protect their personal property. This

includes providing avenues to purchase things such as electric fencing, non-lethal bear deterrents, bear-resistant meat storage units, and cabin reinforcements. Over the past few years we have aimed to increase the usage of this program and have gone from using only \$9,000 of the \$60,000 program budget in 2015 to \$42,000 of the program budget being used this past year.

In addition to providing deterrence and prevention equipment and materials, the department is also aiming to manage wildlife conflict by ensuring that each community has a community bear plan in place to manage wildlife conflict in our communities. These community plans are developed in conjunction with our co-management partners, such as the hunters and trappers organizations, community enforcement officers, and the RCMP. The plans outline how wildlife conflict is managed and prevented in each community.

Mr. Speaker, finally, the department is in the process of developing a polar bear safety and deterrence training course to be implemented across the territory. On November 12 to 15, 2017 the community of Whale Cove received the first Department of Environment-led training workshop, with the goal of training community members to be familiar with non-lethal deterrence equipment and how to use the equipment to successfully deter wildlife, with the goal of reducing conflict. Although this program is aimed to increase community safety, we also provide Nunavummiut with applicable training to be hired as polar bear guards in the public and private industries as well, potentially increasing job opportunities across the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Premier of Nunavut, Premier Savikataaq.

**Minister's Statement 079 – 5(2): 2018  
Council of the Federation Literacy  
Award Winner**

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Arviat.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, it is my honour to rise today and speak about the work of the 2018 Council of the Federation Literacy Award recipient, Elizabeth Tunnuq of Baker Lake. Her enthusiasm and commitment to literacy development is an inspiration to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, in her capacity as the Inuktitut language specialist at Rachel Arnngammaktiq Elementary School in Baker Lake, improving student literacy levels has been Elizabeth's goal for over a decade. As a strong promoter of Inuktitut, Elizabeth achieves measurable results by working with elders, teachers, and learning coaches to promote literacy growth. She leads by example, speaking Inuktitut and encouraging others to learn and speak it as well.

Elizabeth is dedicated to supporting all aspects of student curriculum with a focus on *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*. She also encourages literacy growth in children and youth outside of classroom time by teaching traditional Inuit cultural activities, such as throat singing, drum dancing, and chanting.

Mr. Speaker, each year since 2004, the

Council of the Federation celebrates achievement, innovative practice and excellence in literacy. The annual award is presented to educators, volunteers, learners, community organizations, non-governmental organizations, and businesses in each province and territory, celebrating the valuable contributions made by Canadians in the field of literacy. Each award recipient receives a certificate signed by the premier of their province or territory as well as a Council of the Federation Literacy Award medallion.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues of the Legislative Assembly, please join me in congratulating this year's recipient. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasie.

**Minister's Statement 080 – 5(2):  
Iqaluit DEA Funding 2017-18**

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to the people of Nunavut and my colleagues. I think most of my colleagues are here now, so I welcome them. Mr. Mikkungwak is the only member who is absent.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, recently the Iqaluit District Education Authority raised concerns about the funding formula used by the Department of Education. This funding formula is tied directly to the student-to-educator ratio of each school. This student-to-educator ratio formula is entrenched in legislation and is currently one of the

most generous ratios in the country. Nunavut's educator positions and funding are allocated based on those formulas.

In May 2018 I met with the Iqaluit District Education Authority and committed to having an audit conducted on the September 30, 2017 enrollment numbers. In June, this past summer, department officials met with principals to discuss the audit and answer questions.

Mr. Speaker, the final results of the audit found that the Department of Education was in error of one kindergarten student, representing a half-day student in the ratio formula. This error did not result in any additional funding or educator positions under the student-to-educator ratio formula.

It is important to note that my department has no interest in reducing the number of teachers or funding provided to the DEAs. It is continuously advocating for more resources for schools and the DEAs to ensure students and staff are well-supported to achieve academic success.

Mr. Speaker, my department does recognize the limitations of the current funding formula and is working on the development of a new formula for consideration. Consultations with district education authorities and other stakeholders were completed in August 2018 and the new formula will mitigate many of the concerns of the current student-to-educator ratio formula. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister

responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Ehaloak.

**Minister's Statement 081 – 5(2):  
Qulliq Energy Corporation New  
Board Appointments**

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have the honour of announcing that the Qulliq Energy Corporation is welcoming three new members to its board of directors. Mr. Joannie Pudluk, Ms. Roxanne Ruediger, and Mr. Nastania Mullin join the QEC board at an exciting time, as the energy sector grows and the corporation looks to harness promising technologies for the benefit of all its customers.

Joannie Pudluk is an electrical engineer who brings with him extensive firsthand experience with power generation and distribution in the north. As a former employee of the QEC, he has worked closely with the public, businesses, and government on multimillion-dollar infrastructure projects across the territory. Joannie's professional focus on energy conservation and renewable energy technologies will help steer Nunavut toward a mixed energy supply.

Roxanne Ruediger of Rankin Inlet is also a former employee of the corporation. Ms. Ruediger chaired the Inuit Employment Plan Committee and advised senior management on the implementation of Article 23 in the corporation's hiring policies. She is a professional accountant with nearly 10 years of experience and currently holds a senior position at Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

Last but not least, the third appointee is

Nastania Mullin. He is a project manager with the Government of Nunavut and a student enrolled in the Nunavut Law Program. His problem-solving skills and results-driven work ethic will further contribute to the board's leadership and governance strengths. Mr. Mullin brings board experience as the president of the Nunavut Law Student Society in Iqaluit and as a board member on the Judicial Review Board and Nunavut Business [Credit] Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the new appointees: Joannie, Roxanne, and Nastania. I look forward to their invaluable input and guidance as the Qulliq Energy Corporation continues to provide a safe and reliable power supply to Nunavummiut and plans for Nunavut's energy future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Members' Statements. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

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

#### **Member's Statement 131 – 5(2): 2018 Kivalliq Mayors' Meeting**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm thankful to be here. We had a hard time getting here and I came from a far distance.

(interpretation ends) First of all, I would like to wish my colleague a happy 44th birthday, Mr. Rumbolt.

>> *Laughter*

I don't know how he can remain 44. I think he's 26 with 18 years of experience.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform the House about the very successful meeting of Kivalliq mayors that recently took place in my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Naujaat was proud to host this year's gathering of the region's elected leadership and I was very pleased to be able to take part in the event.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Premier, who brought a number of his cabinet colleagues and took the time to attend the important meeting.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been a firm believer in the importance of keeping in touch with the communities and not being trapped in what I call the "capital bubble."

It's very quiet in here.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, the meeting provided an opportunity for representatives from the business community and our regional Inuit organization to exchange views concerning a number of issues and initiatives of importance to the Kivalliq region, which includes air travel, the mining sector, and the work of the Hudson Bay Regional Roundtable.

Mr. Speaker I am very pleased to advise you and my colleagues that a number of formal resolutions were passed at the

meeting, and I will be following up on a number of them during this fall sitting.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude by noting that the community was also engaged in a number of events and public activities which included the president of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Aluki, who hosted a community feast. The people of Naujaat really know how to square dance as well. (interpretation) It was fun to watch them, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) A number of public activities were held during the time in which the leaders were in the community, and I am pleased to say that a successful silent auction raised funds for local charities.

I also want to pay special tribute to the organizers of the “Building on Strengths in Naujaat” youth initiative that is being submitted to the Arctic Inspiration Prize for consideration.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Mayor Solomon Malliki and the entire community of Naujaat for their great work in hosting an important and successful event. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

**Member’s Statement 132 – 5(2): 2018  
High School Graduates of Whale  
Cove**

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, my colleagues. I’m glad that you made it in. We were missing members and not too many are

missing now, which makes me happy.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show my gratitude to the residents of Whale Cove. I was in Whale Cove for a visit on September 7 to honour the high school graduates of Inuglak School. It was very pleasing to see five young students graduate from high school. They must feel more mature now, but they must realize they are still young. They were:

- Simeonie Voisey,
- Stanley Jr. Adjuk,
- John Voisey,
- Mike Okalik, and
- Adam Nattar.

They are all male, but for the past two years we’ve had all-female graduations, as hard as it is to comprehend why it was like that.

The students had a wonderful ceremony and it was exciting. We were also fed very well. I want to thank the residents of Whale Cove for being very welcoming. I also thank everyone who works at the school. I extend my thanks also to the parents of the graduates for the constant encouragement to their children. The success of the five graduates is a testimony to their parents.

To the students who are still at Inuglak School, I encourage and support them, and I tell them to keep on going to school because education is the key to a bright future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**An Hon. Member:** Hear, hear!

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Gjoa

Haven, Mr. Akoak.

**Member's Statement 133 – 5(2):  
Recent Deaths in Gjoa Haven and  
Appreciation of Helpers**

**Mr. Akoak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also say “good day” to my colleagues. To my family, the people who are watching and listening to the proceedings, and to my grandchild, I say “good afternoon.”

Also to the people of Gjoa Haven and my uncle, George Sitatak, who is from Kugluktuk but is residing at the continuing care centre in Gjoa Haven, I am thinking of them at this time. He watches us all the time when we are here. He said he waves at me through the TV.

>>*Laughter*

I am waving at you and I hug you. If my spouse is watching, I say “I love you.”

I rise today to send my condolences to the people of Gjoa Haven. From January to the end of September we have lost so many relatives, and even though I put my hands like this, there are so many people who aren't alive now.

I would like to express my pride in the residents of my community for helping those who have lost a loved one. They bring food to help those who have lost loved ones and they console their fellow residents. I would like to thank them for their help, as they have big hearts. We know that all people across Nunavut are like that. I want to thank them for all of their help. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Ms. Kamingoak.

**Member's Statement 134 – 5(2):  
Appreciation for Moosehide  
Tanning Workshop**

**Ms. Kamingoak:** *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation and gratitude to Kugluktuk's late, well-respected resident and elder, Bessie Sitatak, for coordinating the most recent moosehide tanning workshop in the community.

Mr. Speaker, the late Bessie's efforts have really encouraged our local seamstresses to get more involved in this traditional activity. Naturally tanned moosehide is well used for wonderfully designed and decorated moccasins and *kamiks*.

Mr. Speaker, after this workshop, Kugluktuk has gained a number of individuals who are trained in the techniques for naturally tanning and smoking the hides. I would like to express my thanks to Margaret Douville who came from the Yukon territory to help teach these traditional skills.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize all the participants in this initiative: the late Bessie Sitatak, Millie Kuliktana, Quentin Norberg, Joanne Taptuna, Doreen Evyagotailak, Rosemarie Meyok, Calla Pedersen, Larry Adjun, and the people who came to assist when they needed extra help. *Koana*, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Ms. Ehaloak.

**Member's Statement 135 – 5(2):  
Constituents Receiving Long-term  
Service Awards**

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As we will be celebrating an event for our long-term service employees, I would like to personally congratulate my constituents for their dedication and service to the community and the departments they serve. These individuals with 30 years' service are:

- Patty Greenley
- Eva Ohokak
- Donna Olsen-Hakongak

With 25 years' service:

- Terry McCallum
- Amaya Emingak
- Nancy Maghagak
- Amy Aknavigak

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 136 – 5(2):  
Appreciation to Family and  
Constituents**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank you for

understanding why I wasn't able to participate for the first couple of days of our proceedings.

I thank the relatives that I met in Naujaat and all Nunavummiut who are always receptive. I would like to inform my constituents that our office in Rankin Inlet is now open. Now that I'm back here, you can call me anytime.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank you for proceeding with the meeting while we weren't able to make it in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Let's proceed. Returns to Oral Questions. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

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

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would first like to say that I haven't seen this individual I grew up with, Leo Eecherk, so I would like to recognize him. Also, I once worked with Pauktuutit President Becky Kudloo. Thank you. Parniga Akeeagok, thank you. Rosemary Cooper, I want to thank you very much for hanging out with my older sister, Manitok Thompson. That's it, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. To all the visitors in the gallery, welcome to your Legislative Assembly. Recognition

of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to recognize and thank the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation's board of directors that just met here; Philip Otukol, Angela McPherson, (interpretation) and one of the staff members, Damian Lachance. Also, my dear daughter-in-law, Parniga Akeeagok, is here. Leo Eecherk, I'm very pleased to see you once again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Kugluktuk, Ms. Kamingoak.

**Ms. Kamingoak:** *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize my wonderful sister-in-law, Parniga Akeeagok. Welcome.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you and good afternoon. I say "good day" to the people of Pangnirtung.

I would like to recognize individuals from Pangnirtung who are here, Mina Battye and Eva Eeseemailee. Welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to my fellow community members. I would like to recognize individuals who used to be residents of my community. Although she was already recognized, Rebecca, welcome to the gallery. Again, I knew this individual when he was just a child, so I would like to again recognize Damian. I recall him driving a two-wheeler quite well. Welcome, Damian and Rebecca. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although this individual was already recognized, I grew up with him and we were inseparable. We are both from Coral Harbour and his grandmother was my father's sister, so we grew up very closely together. I would like to warmly welcome Leo Eecherk. We are getting older. We have grandchildren and we're starting to get great-grandchildren. I would very much like to welcome my childhood friend to the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr.



Speaker. I'm happy, as the House Leader, that we now have a full House. (interpretation ends) I don't have to keep counting to 12.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) Today, as the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, I stand in awe as many women are here with us. I'll start with our Mayor, Madeline Redfern. Beside her is the manager of Qullit Status of Women. Most importantly, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada are also here. I want to inform you of their important work for Canadian women.

I'm happy to inform you of that we will be meeting together tomorrow. Thank you to Rebecca Kadloo, (interpretation ends) President; (interpretation) Parniga Akeagok was already recognized, who is representing Iqaluit; and Rosemary Cooper, who certainly isn't new to this place as she has lived in Iqaluit and has worked for the government. She is now with Pauktuutit as their (interpretation ends) political advisor. (interpretation) Please feel welcomed. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Galley. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It appears we have quite a large number of distinguished guests in the House today, but I would like to take the opportunity to recognize Her Worship, Mayor Ms. Madeline Redfern. Her list of accomplishments are too long to name, but if it wasn't for her and the city's

efforts in getting the funding available for our... . Sorry. If it wasn't for Madeleine's hard work in getting the federal funding for our deep sea port, I'm sure it probably would have never have happened. Thank you very much. That deep sea port is going to affect our community in a large way and the surrounding communities as well. Thank you very much.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list.

Before we proceed, I would like to welcome those of you who are visiting the gallery. Please feel welcome to your House any time. As a reminder to Nunavummiut and Iqalummiut, please feel most welcome to come and watch the proceedings anytime during our sitting days.

>> *Applause*

Let's proceed. Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

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

#### **Question 181 – 5(2): Proposed Merger of First Air and Canadian North**

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, as you and my colleagues know, my flight to Iqaluit went mechanical, which is why I was unable to be here at the beginning of the sitting. However, that's not why I'm asking

questions to the Minister of Transportation today.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, on July 6, 2018 the Makivik Corporation and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation announced plans for a merger between First Air and Canadian North. In their announcement, the two corporations stated that “A report commissioned by the Government of Nunavut supports the need for more efficiency in Nunavut air transportation services; a merger of First Air and Canadian North is the only viable way to both meet and exceed these essential needs...”

My first question for the minister is very clear: does the Government of Nunavut support the proposed merger between First Air and Canadian North, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok:** *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. For the merger to happen, it was business decision. That was not a decision made by government. Whether we support it or not is not what we can say as a government. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to read a quote off of the Request for Input 2018-38. On the first page, second paragraph, just the one line says that the government “recognizes the critically important services offered by

the airline industry in Nunavut. The levels of service and the cost of the services have a direct impact on the quality of life for all Nunavummiut.” That’s just the quote.

My second question, the Government of Nunavut recently issued a request for input concerning the development of its Nunavut Airline Procurement Strategy. This document, which is in the public domain, provides some information concerning the report that had previously been submitted to the government by Lufthansa Consulting, which had been awarded a contract valued up to \$698,000 to perform this work.

My next question for the minister is also very clear: will he commit to tabling the Lufthansa report in this House before the end of our current fall sitting, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Akeeagok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This report that was commissioned was commissioned with a number of departments and the Department of Community and Government Services has taken that lead. As the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, we are part of that working group working very closely with the departments. When that report is done and how it gets done, I would ask the House to please give our government an opportunity to take a look and review that report before we decide whether we’re going to table it or not. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Your final supplementary, Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of the significant economic impact that this proposed airline merger would have on Nunavut and the north, I anticipate that the federal Competition Bureau will be conducting a review of the proposal.

Mr. Speaker, my last question for the minister is also very clear: will he commit to tabling a copy of the Government of Nunavut's submission to the federal Competition Bureau, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Akeegok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't commit to that until the Competition Bureau decides whether they're going to review this or not. What we have indicated to the Competition Bureau is that if there is going to be a review, our government is very interested in making any kind of submission. We haven't prepared any kind of submissions and we cannot dictate the Competition Bureau to review this or that, but our government has indicated to the Competition Bureau that if there is such a review, our government is interested in providing some level of input. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Before we proceed, let me remind everyone, sometimes when you're having a debate, if I don't say something right away, we have very able interpreters and sometimes I wait for them to complete their sentence. Sometimes I don't say anything right

away so that all Nunavummiut are able to hear everything.

Let us proceed. Oral Questions. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Qirngnuq.

### **Question 182 – 5(2): Lack of Boarding Spaces for Medical Travel**

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to the people of Kugaaruk and the people of Taloyoak, as well as my colleagues, ministers, and our Premier.

I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, when it comes to medical issues, no one knows better than a mother when to be concerned about their health or the health of their children. However, some of my constituents have told me that the lack of boarding space may be leading to medical checkups and other appointments being delayed. This is worrying.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide an update on how many medical clients have had their follow-up appointments cancelled or delayed due to a lack of boarding space in such communities as Yellowknife or Edmonton?  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Minister Hickes.

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for raising this concern for his constituents. It has been quite public. We have had some challenges with the Yellowknife boarding home with regard to space. A

number of different circumstances in that city lead us to even have further challenges for that boarding home to get hotel space. Tourist season is very busy in Yellowknife and rooms are limited, so it puts a lot of strain on the system from the medical standpoint.

I'm not aware of any delays out of the Edmonton boarding home. There's an abundance of hotel space in that city to provide any overflow. With regard to the Yellowknife facility, we are working very closely within our department and with the NWT to look at some solutions to that. It's a work in progress, Mr. Speaker.

As far as to the exact numbers of how many people have had delayed appointments to care, I don't have that level of detail in front of me, but I can assure you that one is too many. Anytime we're looking at providing appointments for people, sometimes you have to wait a number of months to get an appointment with a specialist. This triggers a very serious dialogue that we are actively engaged in today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for being able to respond. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as the minister will be aware, pregnant women are often required to leave their home community almost a month before their delivery due date. Medical clients travel to the larger centres for follow-up after birth or for other medical issues. There is a shortage of billeting space for all of these medical clients at the Larga

Boarding Home and even at the hotels.

Can the minister provide an update on what steps he is taking to ensure that there is enough billeting space for all medical travel clients? (interpretation) He responded to that, but I would like to get more clarification, so that's why I'm asking the question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. George Hickey:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I really appreciate the member bringing forward this issue. It highlights the fact that although it was a very good announcement from the federal government on allowing escorts for maternal medical travel, it has put a strain on us from a capacity standpoint.

There are a number of different things we're looking at and again, it's a part of the medical travel review itself with regard to capacity. I know we have had initiatives here in Iqaluit advertising for more billet spaces and that is something we could look at in other communities as well.

Going forward, we really have to take a serious look. Boarding homes that we have used in the past have been growing in a lot of our communities. Like in Ottawa and Winnipeg the spaces were too small before, they've gotten larger and they're still running capacity issues. It's something we're working actively on with Health Canada to identify the need.

One of the things that I would like to point out, especially with maternal travel, in the Kitikmeot region we've

had some success with the midwifery program in Cambridge Bay where the midwives are travelling out to the communities to provide prenatal and postnatal care to help expectant and new mothers. I would like to celebrate that step and I look forward to rolling that out across more communities so that mothers are more knowledgeable in the process of what they're going through. I look forward to continued growth in that avenue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister. He seems to know exactly what I'm talking about.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, people are concerned about their welfare and the welfare of their family and friends. When pregnant women are travelling, even though they are now entitled to an escort, they are away from home and the rest of their family for long periods of time.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I will ask another question to the minister. Many of us who have gone to Yellowknife know that there is a general lack of space there for medical travel patients. My question is: has any consideration been given to establishing additional boarding homes for pregnant women and their escorts in the near future or further down the road? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated, it is an acknowledged fact that this allowance of the escort for maternal travel has created an unforeseen burden and it was a very quick announcement from the federal government last year that we had to adjust and adapt to and we're still adjusting and adapting to.

With regard to specific maternal boarding homes, it is something that we're looking at as part of the medical travel review. There are going to be options that are going to be coming forward. Looking at expanding services is always going to be a priority for Nunavummiut when they're travelling. We want to make sure that, especially expectant mothers, they do not have to move from place to place. It's an uncomfortable scenario to start with, going from a boarding home to a hotel and maybe back to the boarding home. We want to look at providing some stability. I think it is a very important component of it.

With regard specifically to whether there is going to be a maternal boarding home system in place, it is something we're going to have to discuss with Health Canada as they are partners with NIHB with regard to boarding homes and the services provided, but I look forward to continuing dialogue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

### **Question 183 – 5(2): 2018 Kivalliq Mayors' Meeting**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you,

Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

I was in Naujaat with the minister this past month at the mayors' meeting. A number of important resolutions were passed at the meeting. One of the resolutions that were carried unanimously at the meeting called on the government to increase the resources that are provided to municipalities for the purpose of enhancing their search and rescue capacity. Can the minister provide an update on that? That's my first question for the minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question. The resolutions that were made at the Kivalliq Mayors' Meeting were directed to a number of government departments. For your question about search and rescue, we received that resolution as well as the request they have made, how they would like things to be corrected, and what their needs are. We are working on that right now to see how we can support them. We have the motion in hand and we have started work on it. We would like to see what they would like to see. We're working towards the same thing, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister. We will be expecting the minister's

response. (interpretation ends) Another one of the resolutions that were carried unanimously at the Kivalliq Mayors' Meeting concerned the activities of the Hudson Bay Regional Roundtable. One of the resolutions called on the forum to focus on three areas: road, fibre, and hydroelectric power. Can the minister indicate how the government is responding to this resolution? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, we have started working on these resolutions and the priorities that came out of the Hudson Bay Regional Roundtable. Those of us from Nunavut were going to make those our priorities at our meetings. However, it is a big roundtable and the other groups who are a part of the meeting have other priorities as well. As for our own priorities such as building actual roads we can drive on and fibre for the Internet, we will definitely work on those and the resolutions that were made there. As a government, we know what our priorities will be and we have to work together in order to proceed well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's already the final question. Another concern that was raised is that Rankin Inlet is the regional hub for Kivalliq hamlets and the regional director position from the Nunavut government has always been vacant. I would like to get an update on the status

of that position. During our meeting, there was no director. Is the Kivalliq director position still vacant? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Up to now we have been working on the job description for that position. If the director position was filled, then my answer would be no. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerck.

#### **Question 184 – 5(2): Dealing with Breaches of Confidentiality**

**Mr. Kaernerck** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to my fellow residents of Amittuq and Nunavummiut.

I would like to direct my question to the Premier. Perhaps I will ask it in English.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, in September of this year the office of one of Nunavut's cabinet ministers provided a confidential document, a legislative proposal to be specific, to an office outside of the Assembly. A clear breach of confidentiality took place.

Can the Premier clearly explain what steps he took to address that breach of confidentiality and what sanctions, if any, he imposed on the minister responsible? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Premier Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is correct that there was a leak of confidential documents back then. The leak happened by one of the minister's staff without the minister having any knowledge of the leak. The minister dealt with it and the situation was resolved. We can't talk about HR and personnel issues here, so all I can say to that is the individual who leaked a document, the issue was dealt with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Kaernerck.

**Mr. Kaernerck**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we understand there was a breach and that they have publicly apologized with this letter.

Mr. Speaker, it seems that there is a difference between cabinet confidentiality and Legislative Assembly confidentiality. As one of the Assembly's newest members, I would appreciate some clarification on the issue. Can the Premier explain why his actions to address recent breaches of confidentiality of his cabinet members differ from minister to minister?

Mr. Speaker, dealing with transparency and confidentiality is an issue currently being addressed by our neighbours, the Government of the Northwest Territories, which also operates under a consensus style of government.

What consideration has the Premier of Nunavut given to improving how the issues of transparency, accountability, confidentiality, and secrecy are

addressed within his government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad I'm given the opportunity to clarify some of the stuff that's going on in the media and what other people are thinking. I'm sure there are questions.

First let me state that my decision to do what I did has nothing to do with gender. I treat all ministers equally. I don't look at a minister as a male minister or a female minister. I treat them all equally.

The main difference between the two breaches of confidential documents... . They are both confidential documents. They both got breached. The first one happened out of the control of Minister Joanasié. It was by his staffer. He did not know about the leak until after it was done. With Minister Angnakak, it was within her control and that is the main difference between these two breaches of confidentiality.

Minister Joanasié owned it. He apologized and he said he will take whatever consequences would be dished out on him. All members, all MLAs, all of us, we all got an apology letter from him. The leak was out of his control. The breach of confidentiality and the breaking of the oath of Minister Angnakak were by her choice. She chose to breach a confidential cabinet document here in the House. That's the main difference between the two.

As for transparency of the government and accountability, we are accountable

to all Nunavummiut. We are accountable to you as MLAs. You question us. We have to answer truthfully and with the best information that we have at the time. If we mislead the House, we as ministers are accountable to that, and you will keep us accountable.

We're here to run a transparent government, but there are certain documents that are cabinet privilege. We have to maintain confidentiality on some stuff until the time is right and we have made a complete decision as to what we're going to do, and then that is made public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Kaernek.

**Mr. Kaernek:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Premier. Like I mentioned, as a newer member, I'll ask this again. It's very important for the government to make improvement on the issues of transparency, accountability, confidentiality, and secrecy addressed within this government. Has the Premier given good consideration on the transparency and accountability within his government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are as transparent as we can be. As I stated earlier, there are certain documents, for whatever reason, that are confidential to cabinet that we use and given advice as to how we're going to make a decision. Once we have made a decision, it is made public, but the goings on of what happens in cabinet is confidential. That's our system. That's



our consensus government system.  
That's a system that we operate under.

As for accountability, unfortunately there is an example of accountability here. If we break our oath, if we breach cabinet confidentiality, there is accountability. Unfortunately we're dealing with it here now. I'm dealing with it. I made the decision that I did with the consensus and the backing of cabinet. We operate as a team as cabinet.

We are accountable to all MLAs, but we are accountable to all you MLAs. Cabinet here works at the pleasure of the Legislative Assembly, the MLAs. We are here as long as you have confidence in us to do our jobs as best as we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

#### **Question 185 – 5(2): Clarification at Education**

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Education.

First, I would like to thank the minister for his minister's statement today regarding the Iqaluit DEA funding for the 2017-18 academic year, as well as sharing the results of the audit that took place. I understand that the audit contained some sensitive information, but I would ask if the minister will commit to tabling a redacted version of the audit in the Assembly before the end of this sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Minister of Education, Minister Joanasie.

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank him for that question. (interpretation ends) As with any documents that are being tabled in the House, if it's a cabinet document, I would have to seek cabinet approval. If it would be the full audit or a redacted version, I'll work with my colleagues and my staff to see if we can do that within this fall sitting, if not, perhaps in the future sittings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do hope that with cabinet permission, the minister will share the detailed results of the audit.

It's my understanding that many of the students in question in the audit are listed as non-attenders and were deleted from the head count in the full-time equivalency. My question to the minister is: what is the definition of a non-attender? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Joanasie:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for his follow-up question. A student has to maintain at least 60 percent attendance for them to be counted as enrolled. They have to maintain at least 60 percent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Your final supplementary, Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Iqaluit District Education Authority has been kind enough to share with me some of their ATIPP'd documents or some documents that they received under an access to information request, including the results of the audit itself.

Under the definitions, a student is a non-attender if he or she has been truant for at least 60 percent of the possible instruction time during the month, meaning they would have to attend class at least 40 percent of the time to be included in the full-time equivalency or student head count.

Now, in the results of the audit, a number of the students were deleted from the student attendance register that actually were listed as having attendance greater than 40 percent, as well as other students that were deleted for instances of suspensions or transfers out to other schools after the September 30 closing date and clear miscounts as well.

I am curious how the minister came up with final results showing an error of only one kindergarten student. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Joanasie:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for his follow-up question. I stand corrected. Sorry. The students have to maintain attendance rates above the 40 percent threshold to be counted. We look at attendance rates for all schools. I have to point out that

the full-time equivalent and head count are two separate things.

Kindergarteners, of course, are only halftime right now. We're looking forward to moving towards a full-time kindergarten, but 40 percent is the attendance rate that needs to be used for our formula. We are working on a new formula that I'll hopefully be bringing to cabinet maybe in the winter sitting. Hopefully we will, as I said in my minister's statement, address the issues that we're currently facing with the Iqaluit District Education Authority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

#### **Question 186 – 5(2): Wildlife Damage Prevention Program**

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to direct my questions to the Minister of Environment.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I was very happy to hear about the polar bear deterrence activities mentioned in the minister's statement today, and I would like to ask her about the Wildlife Damage Prevention Program. I think we would all agree that this is a very important program that the department offers.

My first question is, she mentioned in her statement that \$42,000 of the \$60,000 program budget was used the past year. I wonder if the minister could provide more information regarding the number of applications received and the number of applications approved.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Environment, Minister Ehaloak.

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Main, for your question. The Department of Environment is committed to support active hunters and will continue to deliver and support this program. The Department of Environment received 10 Wildlife Damage Prevention Program applications in 2017-18 and all of them were approved and processed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister. (interpretation ends) That's interesting information, so 10 applications for \$42,000. I was going through the program information and it was quite interesting because I have been on both sides of the application form, filling them out and dealing with them.

Under the program, there are eight different prevention methods and there are eight different application forms. I understand that you can't just walk in the door and get handed a cheque and that application forms are needed. I wonder if the minister could explain why this relatively small program has such a large footprint when it comes to the number of different application forms that people are supposed to fill out. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Minister Ehaloak.

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Main. I don't have that level of detail of information for you, but I can find out for you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister, for committing to look into that. I think it would be beneficial to look into the program as a whole, beyond just the application forms.

There's also something that jumped out at me here. Once applicants fill out the form, assuming that they can find the right form of the eight forms, once they get it into the conservation officer, it says here that "Within 90 days of the...application being received...the applicant will be provided with a letter informing them of the decision..." That seems like quite a long period, 90 days to decide if an application is going to be approved or not.

I wonder if the minister could commit to looking into ways to streamline this program to make it friendlier for Nunavummiut who are involved in harvesting. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Main, for your question. Yes, I can commit to

simplifying the process, and I can commit that my department will look into simplifying the program itself. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 187 – 5(2): Issues with Polar Bear Management**

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, we are all aware that there is a serious concern with polar bears. We all know and hear from our constituents, especially myself, and this past summer there was an interview on CBC and there was a phone-in show on the public's opinion about polar bears.

Mr. Speaker, this is a major concern for our constituents and all the callers on the radio no longer want legislation on polar bears. They want to go back to unlimited harvesting. That's what a majority of the callers said.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate how many people to date have been killed by polar bears and how many people have been seriously injured? Can the minister provide those numbers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Environment, Minister Ehaloak.

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you for your question. Polar

bear deterrence, polar bear conflict is a very serious issue that the Department of Environment is aware of and we take great concern as to when it comes to our community members. To date we have had, in this Assembly, two fatal attacks and two community members that we have lost. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We know this is a serious issue and it was stated that the equipment was damaged. In our community we have been going through this for a very long period, especially in Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River. We live by the ocean and we have very many polar bears.

I was at home recently just for one night and the airstrip was covered with polar bear tracks. That is the situation we are in today. Polar bears are very active now and they're going right into the communities. Does the minister agree or can she indicate if there are too many polar bears or if there still aren't very many polar bears? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**An Hon. Member:** Good question.

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

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The Department of Environment, along with other co-management partners, which are the hunters and trappers organization, the elders, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, we do take into consideration... . We do

scientific research along with community consultations as to whether or not there is an increase in polar bears. The total allowable harvest of polar bears is administered by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

We do community gatherings. They will be holding a meeting here in Iqaluit in November to go over those issues and concerns and at that time they will decide whether or not the total allowable harvest of polar bears will be increased. Once that decision is made, the recommendation will come to me as Minister of Environment. With cabinet support, we will review the document as to whether or not we will change that total allowable harvest.

When it comes to polar bears within the community, our conservation officers become aware of this. With the help of the HTO or the hunters and trappers organizations and with the help of other community members, we try to ensure that our community members are safe. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to hear that this will be dealt with. As the minister stated, she will work with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. We all know that they deal with this issue. As this wildlife issue will be dealt with, especially when it comes to polar bears, will the people with traditional knowledge be involved? We know that there are people with much more knowledge than us, especially elders. They have a lot more knowledge than

those listening and watching. There are many people more knowledgeable on dealing with this issue. Will you be working with those people when you start doing this work? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak, before you respond, I think there is a cellphone somewhere near the microphone because there is a buzzing in your microphone. I just want you to be aware of that. Minister Ehaloak.

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Yes, we do take into consideration those elders and those that are knowledgeable about polar bears. We will work with them to ensure that their concerns and their knowledge and traditional knowledge is taken into consideration when we do the total allowable harvest studies and recommendations to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

#### **Question 188 – 5(2): Senior Fuel Subsidy**

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. This afternoon I will be directing my question to the Minister of Family Services regarding the Income Assistance Division.

I would like to ask about the senior fuel subsidy for elders who are homeowners. There is an annual budget of \$478,000

that is allocated and available for applicants. However, it seems that these funds do not get fully used from year to year.

My first question is: why are all of our elders who are homeowners not receiving the full economic advantage under this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Margaret. I'm glad that you're here now.

For the senior fuel subsidy, there have been 155 applications since September of this year and the number of elders seeking assistance is increasing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for her response, but she didn't answer my question. Obviously as winter comes around, there are going to be more elders making requests. I was part of a review committee that looked at these requests.

I understand that there is a three-tiered system by which elders are considered eligible for the entire subsidy, part of the subsidy, or none of the subsidy depending on their level of income. I would like to ask if it is possible to have a single subsidy system. Some elders

find the system onerous and when some elders have been denied the fuel subsidy, it makes it hard for them. I would like to ask the minister if they could look into this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we can look into the program. Under the three-tier system, they obviously have to be from Nunavut, they have to be over 60 and be a homeowner. I also wanted to mention that in January 2016 there was a change. There has been a change already, but I can commit to having my office review this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for making that commitment to reviewing the program. I realize the minister states that changes will be made this winter and yet it is somewhat uncertain. It would be nice to receive updates on this program and funding. It would be good to have Nunavut elders who are homeowners treated equally. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a very good question. It would be interesting to see how many elders in Nunavut or in Pangnirtung are eligible for this program. I'll ask about it

so that we can take action on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

**Question 189 – 5(2): Transparency and Accountability**

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I just wanted to follow up on my colleague's question, the Member for Amittuq, and this question is to the Premier.

You had explained about transparency and accountability. My first question of course is: do you agree that any breach of confidentiality at the end of the day, it is the minister who is responsible, whether that breach of confidentiality was done by staff or otherwise? Do you believe that at the end of the day it is the minister who is accountable, who is at fault, who is accountable to the issue of a breach of confidentiality, yes or no? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Premier Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Accountability can mean a variety of different reasons. In the end each minister is "the buck stops here"; they are in charge of their department. Accountability can mean different things for things that happened. As I explained earlier, you're still accountable even if you're a minister and it's beyond your control, but there is a difference in accountability if it's beyond your control.

If it's something to do with a breach of

confidentiality, if the minister is in control of it and the minister chooses to do it, whether it was a misunderstanding or just chose to do it, I see that as different than someone who is not in control of the situation. For example, if a document got leaked and the minister had no knowledge of it, at the end we're all responsible for our staff, but there are some instances where we cannot control what happens. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) When you talk about transparency, transparency means everything is the same, as it should be.

My other question is, and you did mention it earlier when questioned by my colleague, the Member from Amittuq, you stated in one case there was an apology. Now, my question is: if there was an apology from the other case of breach of confidentiality, would you have treated that the same and not doing actions that you just did earlier? *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I'll just, I believe, correct my member on transparency. Transparency means that you can see it, that it's visible. To treat everyone the same is consistency. There is a difference. Transparency means you can see through it; you can see what's happening. Consistency means it's the same.

This summer when Minister Joanasié apologized, he apologized to all the members and he owned up to it. You asked me if there was an apology, I assume you mean with Minister Angnakak, would it be treated the same. These are two completely different actions with the same results that there was a breach of confidentiality. One was under the minister's control and by choice, and the other one was out of the minister's control. The minister did not know of the breach of confidentiality until it was done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not just here in the House where concerns have been expressed; it is of a concern to all the people of Nunavut. There is a big discussion on it taking place right now and they're looking at what the difference is between the two breaches. It appears as though our colleagues are not being treated equally. With that, our fellow Nunavummiut are concerned because they would like more information on why there were different actions taken on those two breaches.

I wanted to comment on equal treatment. If the government is not going to treat everyone equally, then our people will have no confidence in the government. We're not only concerned here, but it is of concern to all the people of Nunavut. I'm sure that this will happen again, and I just wanted to point that out, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Quassa. I didn't hear a question, but

I would like to give Premier Savikataaq an opportunity to respond.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for giving me the opportunity. Yes, the people of Nunavut are concerned. They get concerned when they don't get all the information. We will try to keep them informed. If there is non-confidence in the government, then we can't be sitting here on this side. We are still here because the people still believe in us.

With consistency, the ministers are treated fairly. I always make sure that I treat everybody fairly because that's the way I am. We have to be transparent and we respond to your concerns. If you have non-confidence in the government, we know that action will have to be taken. We are the government and cabinet, but it's at your call. I would like to make sure that the people of Nunavut know that the ministers are treated fairly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. My colleagues, please note that the time for question period has expired and therefore we will proceed with the orders of the day. Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Replies to Opening Address. Minister Angnakak.

### **Item 9: Replies to Opening Address**

#### **Reply to Opening Address 001 – 5(2): Ms. Pat Angnakak**

**Hon. Pat Angnakak** (interpretation): Good afternoon. I'll be reading this in English.

(interpretation ends) As minister, I have



done my best to serve Nunavummiut with respect and integrity. I took on this responsibility full of optimism and a genuine desire to bring lasting change for Nunavummiut. Unfortunately yesterday represented the worst day of my political and working career.

To have the Premier publicly declare I made a serious breach of cabinet confidentiality, that I cannot be trusted, and that I put our consensus-based structure in jeopardy is something that really shook me. To be stripped of my portfolios and told that I should immediately resign is a lot to digest, especially when considering some of the preceding events.

I'm going to read slowly. I want everybody to listen to this and understand.

Some of my constituents see this dramatic episode as a mystery and cannot understand the rationale for such a severe and heavy-handed reaction by the Premier. We know the Premier's reasoning because he stated this, "serious breach," is in the response to answers that I provided to a legitimate question posed by one of our colleagues regarding staff housing.

What the Premier did not disclose is that prior to session, I anticipated a question of this nature and in reviewing the material provided, I recognized that the prepared responses were not thorough and would amount to non-answers. Given my concern, I went to see the Premier just moments before our sitting to ask him what level of detail could be shared should one of my colleagues ask. At the time he answered he had no idea. He told me to go check with his staff,

and I did that exactly.

After discussing the matter with the Premier's staff, I proceeded to the legislature with the understanding that I could share this information as discussed. However, since this matter snowballed into borderline hysteria and a few individuals have reacted with venom, given the toxic environment and the reactions created, it appears the Premier's staff no longer recall our discussion and as the Premier told me, he needs to be seen taking action on this now so he can't be criticized by any of our colleagues later on.

As I reflect back to Tuesday afternoon, I note the Premier didn't say anything to me about the incident or express any concern to me directly, and this is where I sit, right beside him, and didn't appear to have any issues until the next morning.

Mr. Speaker, I could say that this is not the first time I have felt as though the Premier has taken directions from others rather than leading himself. Many of you will recall that I was shuffled from the health portfolio back in August. At that time the Premier told me he was going to strip me of my portfolio and suggested I simply resign because he believed a senior official and I were having too many policy disagreements and that I looked tired and exhausted.

Interestingly, at least 10 days before, another senior official within the health department told me that they had become aware of an effort by a select few senior officials to have the health portfolio removed from me. Yes, the Premier's plan to strip me of the health portfolio in August actually seems to

have been determined by a few senior officials and was being discussed as a done deal before the Premier had acknowledged the plan. This was confirmed by the Premier himself, who said to me, “That can’t be because I have not made up my mind yet,” at that time.

Again, a decision to remove a minister was decided by a select few unelected senior officials prior to the elected Premier even being aware of his intension to strip me of the health portfolio, and again not done for any legitimate purpose. I let him know that I did not accept the premise and I would not resign under those circumstances. I then shared some concerns I had regarding those select few senior officials and their extreme opposition to any suggestions for change. I also told him that we were elected to bring change and not to simply sit in the corner and act like rubber stampers.

The next day we met and he thanked me for our conversation, and he offered me another perspective. He told me that he altered his decision and decided he would now shuffle me to the QEC and the Nunavut Housing Corporation rather than stripping me of a portfolio. Mr. Speaker, I was incredibly disheartened with the whole turn of events, frustrated with the circumstances that led to it, the lack of explanation or legitimate rationale for the shuffle.

He also exclaimed, like I said before, that I looked tired and exhausted. In my view, if you’re doing your job, exercising the challenge function, attempting to bring change, and serving in a portfolio as crucial as health, you probably should look tired. However, I doubt, and this is what I have already

said to the Premier, I doubt he would use these same words with one of our male colleagues. In that regard I do believe a double standard is in effect.

Of course I had anxiety and fear that I may have a target on my back, and I realized I would be swimming upstream. I realized I could no longer count on the Premier for his support regarding challenges with senior bureaucrats. However, Tuesday’s events are surreal and the fallout is beyond comprehension.

Let’s be clear: I did not commit a breach of cabinet confidence. I did not breach national security, commit an act of treason, hurt or put anybody in danger. I gave honest answers to my colleague’s questions in the House. I did so after directly raising the matter with the Premier and his staff. I simply shared forward-looking comments about items the government would consider in relation to staff housing.

It is not as though I am a senior official having their subordinate create a position out of thin air to hire their own spouse, or any of the many issues around workplace harassment, employment fairness, quality of life, and the social safety net that require our combined effort to fix.

In my view, present circumstances reveal I am not welcome to serve in the Premier’s cabinet, and of course I’m getting the impression that exercising the challenge function to a department, speaking the truth to power, and being transparent are no longer welcome. For that reason and because I can’t go on in good conscience to collect a paycheque for work that I’m not allowed to do, effective immediately, I am resigning

from the Executive Council.

To all of my constituents, my family, my husband, and friends, many have reached out to me and I really appreciate that. I've had many phone calls, I've had many emails, people on the street reach out and say they believe in what I did. Much like my colleague said yesterday, we all go through the ups and downs. I want to assure you that I will work hard to hold this government accountable as a regular member. I will now have more time to do my door-to-dooring, to keep regular constituency hours, and I too will be free to raise your issues and speak my mind.

I am proud of the vast majority of our public service and I believe they work incredibly hard to serve Nunavummiut with the best of intentions. I sincerely want to thank the many public servants I got to work with and to meet throughout my time as a minister. I also want to let you know that my experience as a minister has provided greater insight into the challenges that you face and that we all face as a territory. I want you to know that I'm there if you need to talk, raise an issue, or share your concerns. I commit that I will bring an unbiased approach to those issues and I will work to the best of my ability to help you.

To all the colleagues of this House, regular members, cabinet, and the Premier, I commit to working to bring the change that we were elected to bring as a regular member. I am also aware that a few misplaced individuals can really wreak havoc on the system. In that regard, I believe we should all work for increased transparency. How appropriate of the ministers, some of their questioning today, I didn't know that

you guys were going to bring it up. I'm going to bring it up too. I believe we should all work for increased transparency in our House and increased transparency for the media because they serve an important role to ensure that politicians and government are held to account.

I believe that our deputy heads serve an important function in government and they too work hard, but I now understand that they exercise the majority of power in this government. Given that power can be addictive and in that regard, I think it's time we start considering holding others in power accountable to the similar standards as ministers, which could include full disclosure on salaries, bonuses, and travel benefits and greater accountability for their decisions.

Finally, I want to thank my staff upstairs, my EA, Matt, and my Executive Secretary, Janice Tagak, who have been both extremely helpful. I hope to see them carry on their duties or promoted to other positions because they have worked very hard for me and provided great service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Going to the orders of the day. Replies to Opening Address. Petitions. Responses to Petitions. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Kusugak.

**Item 13: Tabling of Documents****Tabled Document 060 – 5(2): NHC’s  
New Public Housing Construction  
Allocation Backgrounder**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take the opportunity to table the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s New Public Housing Construction Allocation Backgrounder. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

**Tabled Document 061 – 5(2):  
Resolutions Adopted at the 2018  
Kivalliq Mayors’ Meeting**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am very pleased to table copies of the formal resolutions that were adopted at the 2018 Kivalliq Mayors’ Meeting which took place in Naujaat last month. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all members to review these documents with care. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Moving on. Notices of Motions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

**Item 14: Notices of Motions****Motion 014 – 5(2): Extended Sitting  
Hours and Days – Notice**

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Monday, October 29, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting hours and days as the Speaker deems fit to assist with the business before the House during the fall 2018 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Notices of Motions. Moving on. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Ehaloak.

**Item 15: Notices of Motions for First  
Reading of Bills****Bill 12 – An Act to Amend the Qulliq  
Energy Corporation Act – Notice**

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Friday, October 26, 2018, that Bill 12, *An Act to Amend the Qulliq Energy Corporation Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Moving on. First Reading of Bills. Moving on. Second Reading of Bills. Minister responsible for the Workers’ Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Hickers.

**Item 18: Second Reading of Bills****Bill 08 – An Act to Amend the  
Workers’ Compensation Act –  
Second Reading**

**Hon. George Hickers:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon.

Member for South Baffin, that Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the *Workers' Compensation Act* to clarify the usage of the terms “impairment” and “disability,” add detail respecting who is considered an employer within the scope of the Act, remove the requirement for a primary health care provider, clarify the compensation paid to a dependent child of a deceased worker, add unemployment benefits as a category of remuneration, authorize information-sharing and disclosure for the purpose of improving the administration of the Act, enable an inspector to inspect health care providers' records to verify services received, and correct inconsistencies and errors identified in the Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 8 has been referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

**Bill 10 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.  
2, 2018-2019 – Second Reading**

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, that Bill 10, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2018-2019*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the capital expenditures of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour of the motion. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 10 has been referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

**Bill 11 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Operations &  
Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2017-  
2018 – Second Reading**

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, that Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2017-2018*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the operations and maintenance expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour of the motion. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 11 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

**Bill 13 – Write-off of Assets Act, 2017-2018 – Second Reading**

**Hon. George Hickey:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Finally, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, that Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2017-2018*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the write-off of assets in accordance with sections 24 and 82 of the *Financial Administration Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour of the motion. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 13 is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Moving on. Consideration in the Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 9, 10, and 11 with Mr. Rumbolt in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:39 and Committee resumed at 16:04*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Rumbolt): Good afternoon, members. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bills 9, 10, and 11. What is the wish of the

committee? Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We wish to continue with the review of Bill 9 and the capital main estimates, starting with the Nunavut Housing Corporation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Are we in agreement that we first deal with Bill 9?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 09 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2019-2020 – Nunavut Housing Corporation – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman:** Thank you. I would like ask Minister Kusugak: do you have officials that you would like to bring before the committee? Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the committee agree to let the minister's officials go to the witness table?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses in.

Thank you. For the record, Mr. Kusugak, if you could introduce your witnesses and then proceed on into your opening comments, please. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, colleagues. At the witness table today to my left is Mr. Curtis Allaby, Acting Vice-president and CFO for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, and to my right is Mr. Terry Audla. He is the president and chief executive officer of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Chairman, I appear before you today in the Committee of the Whole to present the Nunavut Housing Corporation's capital plan for the 2019-2020 season. We propose to fund this capital plan using [\$47,138,000] from Government of Nunavut resources and \$29,745,000 from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, comprised of the Social Housing Agreement, the Investment in Affordable Housing Agreement, and the Northern Funding Agreement. Together these funding sources bring the total NHC capital budget for 2019-2020 to \$76,883,000.

The NHC proposes to maintain capital funding at approximately the same level as the 2018-19 year for modernization and improvement of NHC-owned public housing and staff housing units and homeownership programs, including the Heating Oil Tank Replacement Program and the Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Preventative Maintenance Program.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, as a territorial corporation, the NHC is legislated to carry over funds from one year to the next to ensure that all funds appropriated for housing remain committed to that objective. To that end, we currently hold a carry-forward balance of over \$14 million in the public housing modernization and improvement

budget. However, recent mould remediation activities are rapidly bringing down the balance.

Mr. Chairman, the housing corporation proposes to increase funding for the Fire Damage and Replacement Fund in 2019-2020. This includes funding for base funding for repairs and funding to demolish and rebuild units destroyed by fire in 2017-18.

The housing corporation seeks to increase its Mobile Equipment Fund, which will allow the corporation and local housing organizations to purchase the vehicles needed to keep up with the increase in public and staff housing units in our inventory across the territory.

Local housing organization warehouse facilities in Nunavut are on average over 20 years old and some require significant maintenance and repairs. In addition, there has been substantive growth in the number of housing units to be maintained and the size of some warehousing facilities can no longer accommodate current demands. The housing corporation seeks to increase the local housing organization warehousing fund for 2019-2020. This will allow the corporation to continue with its plans to build new facilities as a result of the current assessment of warehouses underway.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, the NHC proposes no change from last year in staff housing construction funding. The NHC anticipates constructing 19 new staff housing units across the territory in the 2019-2020 GN capital funding for staff housing construction, combined with savings and carryovers from previous years. These units are

critical to meeting the GN's recruitment and retention needs.

Mr. Chairman, there is no change from the amount sought last year for public housing construction funding. The NHC plans to build 35 new public housing units across the territory with 2019-2020 GN capital funding for public housing construction, combined with savings and carryovers from previous years. Like all public housing construction, the allocation of these 35 units is based on the NHC's needs-based public housing construction allocation methodology. With this construction as well as new funding that will be coming to the NHC from the federal government through the National Housing Strategy, we are steadily working to address Nunavut's severe housing crisis.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments and we are now able to address the concerns and questions you may have. *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Does the co-chair of the standing committee have opening comments? Please go ahead, Ms. Towtongie.

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to indicate to Nunavummiut who are listening to the proceedings that I am the co-chair of the standing committee. Allan Rumbolt, who is the chair, is chairing our meeting today.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development

on its review of the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's proposed capital budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is \$47,138,000. This represents an increase of approximately 17 percent over its 2018-19 capital budget of \$40,302,000.

Mr. Chairman, the ongoing shortage of public housing in all of Nunavut's communities is an issue of significant concern to all Members of the Legislative Assembly. Although the 2017 federal budget announced \$240.0 million in funding over 11 years towards meeting housing needs in Nunavut, the 2018 federal budget contained no new Nunavut-specific housing funding. (interpretation ends) The standing committee encourages the minister to provide ongoing updates to the Legislative Assembly on the status of the implementation of the new National Housing Strategy.

Mr. Chairman, the NHC's current methodology for determining new public housing construction allocations is formula-driven and based on relative need. The standing committee emphasizes the importance of ensuring that local housing organizations and Nunavut residents have confidence in the transparency of the NHC's approach, and recommends that the minister continue the practice of tabling, on an annual basis and in a timely manner the NHC's updated allocation methodology and community allocations.

(interpretation) The housing corporation's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates include funding for the



purpose of replacing a number of public housing units that have been destroyed by fire. During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members raised significant concerns regarding the lack of clarity about how the Nunavut Housing Corporation manages the fire damage replacement program. For example, although the housing corporation has requested a specific amount of funding to replace a specific number of units that were destroyed by fire in a number of communities in recent years, it is not clear if the housing corporation actually intends to construct the replacements during the upcoming 2019-2020 fiscal year or at a later time. It is also unclear as to what specific types of units the Nunavut Housing Corporation plans to construct to replace the ones that were destroyed.

The housing corporation's proposed capital estimates for 2019-2020 include funding for the construction of new staff housing units. (interpretation ends) Information provided by the NHC indicates that "major determinants for allocating construction dollars include existing vacant units versus vacant positions in a community; planned new positions and staffing competitions in the community; forced sharing cases in the community and availability of leasable units in a community." However, the exact process by which the NHC determines the specific communities in which new staff housing is to be constructed is not entirely transparent.

(interpretation) The standing committee notes that the housing corporation's *Blueprint for Action on Housing* indicates that one of its priorities is to

work with the Department of Finance to "Review and Revise the Current GN Staff Housing Policy." The standing committee also notes that the Nunavut Housing Corporation announced the launch of a renewed staff condominium program in Iqaluit earlier this year. The standing committee encourages the minister to provide ongoing updates to the Legislative Assembly on the status of both initiatives.

(interpretation ends) The standing committee also continues to encourage the NHC to work closely with such entities as the Qulliq Energy Corporation and the Energy Secretariat to identify practicable and affordable ways of enhancing the energy efficiency of new public and staff housing units, including the installation of solar panels.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, the housing corporation administers a significant number of different programs to assist homeowners and potential homeowners in Nunavut. The corporation's 2016-17 annual report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on September 19, 2017. This report provided important information concerning the administration of the Nunavut Housing Corporation's homeownership programs. The standing committee notes significant improvements in the level of detail contained in the housing corporation's most recent annual reports concerning the administration of its homeownership programs. (interpretation ends) This information will help all Members of the Legislative Assembly to better evaluate the extent to which the NHC's homeownership programs are being accessed in small, medium and large communities.

On November 2, 2016 the government announced the reinstatement of a residency requirement for the Nunavut Downpayment Assistance Program. (interpretation) The housing corporation's most recent annual report indicates that approximately \$1,367,000 was expended under this program during the 2016-17 fiscal year. The standing committee is of the view that the Nunavut Housing Corporation's homeownership programs should benefit long-term residents of the territory.

(interpretation ends) The standing committee also emphasizes the importance of ensuring ease of access to information concerning the NHC's homeownership programs, especially in small communities. The standing committee also emphasizes the importance of providing timely decisions on applications submitted under its homeownership programs.

(interpretation) The standing committee continues to encourage the Nunavut Housing Corporation to regularly review its homeownership program income eligibility limits to reflect the high cost of living in Nunavut's isolated communities.

The standing committee also notes that the Nunavut Housing Corporation's current business plan indicates that it has "...awarded a contract for the 2018-2019 review of Homeownership Programs, which will provide a basis to assess the need for a base level maintenance grant." (interpretation ends) The standing committee urges the minister to table the results of this review once completed.

Funding is included in the NHC's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates for the purpose of initiating a new local housing organization workshop, warehouse and administrative office replacement project. On March 30, 2018 the NHC issued a request for proposals to conduct an "LHO Upgrade Assessment" in seven communities. The RFP closed on April 30, 2018. The standing committee urges the minister to table the results of the assessment at the earliest opportunity.

The NHC's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates include funding for the purpose of providing an annual contribution to local housing organizations for the creation of a vehicle reserve fund. (interpretation) The standing committee continues to recommend that the housing corporation's annual reports include a detailed listing of vehicle acquisitions undertaken by local housing organizations.

The housing corporation's 2016-17 annual report indicated that "Access to federal and GN funding has allowed the NHC to complete a mold assessment project to address Nunavut's most affected units. Where mold was found, it will be remediated either by Local Housing Organizations, or where necessary, contracted to companies specializing in mold remediation. (...) Subsequent to year-end, the Corporation committed \$5.0 million to remediate units affected by mold in five communities. The Corporation is in the process of assessing the remediation costs of units affected by mold in other communities."

(interpretation ends) Given the significant threat that mould poses to the health and well-being of our territory's residents, the standing committee continues to urge the minister to regularly update the Legislative Assembly on the status of the NHC's efforts to combat mould infestation across the territory.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. I will now open up the floor for any general comments. If there are none, we will move on. For the Nunavut Housing Corporation, its entire budget is on one page, so any questions you have, you can ask them after I get started here. We are on page L-3 for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Are there any questions? Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister and your officials. Terry Audla, I'm very glad to see you once again.

We see quite a lot of mould in our houses and the minister stated that this \$14 million was for mould remediation. I wonder if we can get an update on the mould remediation, Mr. Chairman.  
Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser.  
Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your patience.

(interpretation) Thank you for that question. I can't give you an exact figure on how much is left of the monies that are being used for mould remediation, but we are working with the Department of Finance. We're trying to keep within budget, but we are dealing with the mould issues as they surface, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding mould in housing units owned by the housing corporation, have you found ways to prevent mould in our housing units?  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser.  
Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you for that question. Yes, the housing corporation is looking at the designs of the houses and what would work best in Nunavut. The housing corporation is looking at why mould is growing and if we know what's causing the mould, whether it is because there is enough air circulation or not. We're looking at the reasons why mould forms in the houses and we're also looking at how we can design the houses differently.

We also try to make sure that tenants have the information for how to deal with mould when it starts to grow and how they can clean it up before it gets too hazardous. We are trying to keep on top of the mould infestation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. It seems pretty clear that mould has affected many communities and houses belonging to the housing corporation. I wonder if the LHO employees have been taught to remediate mould. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. That's a good question as many want to hear and know how communities have been trained. As of April 19 to date, 196 LHO employees across Nunavut have been trained in mould remediation. Each community now has LHO employees who are trained to deal with mould. There is also a specialist to assist with the bigger problems. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm glad to hear that. I would now like to ask about what could possibly be an O&M question. As we are talking about mould, the minister stated that many employees have been trained in the communities. You have budgeted \$14 million, but there are many houses with mould in them and some of them are more infested than others. I will be tabling a document which shows mould in a housing unit in Naujaat. I will probably table it next week.

What happens when the \$14 million is spent? If the budget is spent, will the

LHO employees not be able to deal with mould? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, Mr. Netser. Mould remediation is going to be an ongoing project. We're not just going to stop remediating the houses once those funds have been spent because we would like to see mould-free homes. The work will not just stop, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Netser, did you have another question? Please go ahead.

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one more question for now relating to the fire damage replacement policy. What is the policy for the Nunavut Housing Corporation on that particular file, Mr. Chairman? (interpretation) Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can, through you, Mr. Chairman, maybe have Mr. Audla give more details on that matter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Audla.

**Mr. Audla:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the member for that question. Since our appearance before the standing committee, we have sent a letter to the chairperson who is the current chairperson right now.

It's complex in the sense that whenever we look at replacing and rebuilding those units that have burnt or have been written off due to fire, because it's not in our normal capital process of seeking financial considerations for those types of fire-damaged units, we have to go through the process of trying to first establish whether or not they can be rebuilt or whether we have to completely replace them. When we do have to replace them, it involves a more lengthier process and it doesn't necessarily align with our construction for communities that we are going to be constructing in.

What we try to do is to ensure that we get those funds right away so that we have options as to whether or not we can build in the community that did lose those units to fire. The best way for that to happen is for current construction to be happening within that community. If that's not the case, then we will look at other options as to whether or not there are existing units that we can maybe purchase so that we can replace those units that were lost, so that we can keep up with the need within that community. If that's not an option, then we look at other options as to whether or not we can either lease on a temporary basis.

As time goes by, once we have that money set aside, the best alternative that we would want is to be able to construct new units. For communities that have lost [units] and that we are constructing, we add to the numbers that will be constructed. If those communities are not being constructed in at the moment, then we try to look at other alternatives. If not, those monies are still set aside for that specific community for the specific replacement of those units. Thank you,

Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Audla. Before I go back to Mr. Netser, you stated a few minutes ago that there's a letter written to me concerning this process. When can we expect to get that letter? Mr. Audla.

**Mr. Audla:** Right away. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you very much. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank me for bringing up the issue.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, in the minister's opening remarks regarding the Fire Damage and Replacement Fund, on the second last paragraph of page 1 it says, "Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation proposes to increase funding for the Fire Damage and Replacement Fund in 2019-2020. This includes funding for base funding for repairs and funding to demolish and rebuild units destroyed by fire in 2017-18." Now, we lost a [duplex] last winter in Coral Harbour. Is this part of the program to replace the duplex that we lost unfortunately last year? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, some of these funds would be used towards that loss. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome back to the hot seat, Minister Kusugak, as the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Audla and Mr. Allaby, (interpretation) welcome.

(interpretation ends) Thank you for tabling this document today on the new public housing construction allocation with additional details. That is appreciated. I'm glad to see that Iqaluit, with the amount of individuals we have on our wait-list, is receiving some additional allocated units.

My first question is going to be regarding the proposed construction for the 2018-19 fiscal year, which I believe there were 130 public housing units proposed in the budget. Can we get an update on the status of the construction of those units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Just bear with me for a minute, Mr. Chairman, please.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It appears that the construction season for that time and the planned units, everything seems to be on schedule at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the 2018-19 allocation for public housing units, I believe 20 were

allocated to Iqaluit. What is the current status of those units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those units were deferred and they were deferred to the 2019-2020 year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to seek clarification on the deferral of the 20 units. In the proposed 2019-2020 allocation, Iqaluit is listed as receiving an additional 20 units. Does that deferral mean that Iqaluit will be getting 40 additional units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It appears that way, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Recently the City of Iqaluit held a community consultation on the proposed amendments to the land administration by-law. There were a few key issues that they were addressing. One of them was how they're allocating new lots and the other one was allowing non-municipal organizations to fund and develop land. I was glad to see that the Department of CGS had made a submission to provide input on that by-

law amendment, but I was a little surprised that the Nunavut Housing Corporation had not submitted a written response. Does the NHC have any thoughts on that proposed by-law amendment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is one of those occasions where my right hat works with my left hat. The housing corporation works very closely with the Department of Community and Government Services when it deals with lot allocations and such that the issues that the Nunavut Housing Corporation has or the insight that they might have is also included in the Community and Government Services' submissions onto that issue. I hope that's clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. If the proposed by-law amendment is passed, would the Nunavut Housing Corporation then put bids in to develop land to further construct public housing units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Mr. Chairman, I don't believe that that's the plan of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I think what we would like to do is see what the by-law changes are and go from there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is going to be regarding staff housing units. Earlier this year the Nunavut Housing Corporation had released an RFP for the lease of public and staff housing units in all Nunavut communities. My question will be: how many new staff housing units have been leased as a result of this RFP? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One moment, please, sir.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just trying to reorganize myself through this binder. If I could have at this time Mr. Audla to respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Audla.

**Mr. Audla:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As it stands, for the recent RFP, we're looking at a total of 14 across four communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Audla. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I recently lost my hot water tank in my new house I just bought, which was sort of the risk associated with homeownership, but I did my research and I decided that instead of replacing the hot water tank, I decided to invest in purchasing an on-demand hot water heater, which is a tankless water

heater. Although they are slightly a bit more expensive than traditional hot water tanks, you're quickly able to recoup your costs through the fuel efficiency.

I was wondering if the Nunavut Housing Corporation has looked into the possibility of purchasing similar units and placing them in public housing units to save in O&M costs in the long run. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Lightstone, for that. I hope you solved your hot water heating problems, and then another one will come up, right? Homeownership can get expensive.

Mr. Chairman, in terms of hot water heating and other ways of trying to be more efficient and have more efficient housing units across Nunavut, the Nunavut Housing Corporation is constantly looking at ways to see what new ways we could do to have energy efficiency and least O&M costs on things.

The instant hot water heating system that Mr. Lightstone refers to is one of those items that the department is looking at to see if it's something that may work well within the housing corporation and to see the O&M in terms of how long it could last. As Mr. Lightstone is aware, most of the housing units that are being constructed now are multi-family dwellings. We will see what kind of pressures that puts on a unit such as that.

It's one of the mechanical devices that

the Nunavut Housing Corporation is looking at and looking into the cost, efficiency, maintenance costs, and all that stuff. It is on the radar, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we're on the topic of homeownership, I noticed that the homeownership programs' budget of \$4 million has remained stagnant for quite some time. I was wondering the last time the NHC had increased their budget for homeownership programs and if the Nunavut Housing Corporation intends on increasing it in the foreseeable future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again a very good question, Mr. Lightstone. We do notice that it has been stagnant for a while and maybe too long. It's one of the items under the radar of reviewing the program and seeing if in fact it should be increased and by what. It's something we're looking at and hopefully in the very near future we will have a final report on that and have some suggestions or ideas to bring forward to this House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the most recent annual report, the Nunavut Housing Corporation had identified 277 individuals in public housing units with



salaries in excess of \$100,000. Is the Nunavut Housing Corporation considering designing homeownership programs specifically targeting individuals in public housing units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The homeownership assessment review that I'm talking about includes a review of whole issues such as that to be inclusive, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The income verification threshold for the homeownership programs, I believe, hasn't seen an increase since 2003. It's extremely expensive to be a homeowner in our territory and the costs only increase every year. I was wondering if and when we can expect to see an increase in the threshold for homeownership programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't wait for the review to come out; it will have all the answers you're asking for. That too is in the review, Mr. Chairman. We're in the final stages of that, in fact close to signing it off, and it addresses some of these issues, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm really looking forward to finding out the details in this review. I'm glad to hear that it's almost at the point of signing off on. When can we possibly see this? Would this be weeks or months? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very soon, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll leave it at that and I'll move on to my next question. I was very grateful for the GN's decision to create the GN staff condo program. I was wondering if the minister may be able to give us an update on the status of that program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could, through you, Mr. Chairman, have the president maybe give the details on that question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Audla.

**Mr. Audla:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. As it stands, we did go through our first round of offering up the condos and opening up to the GN staff application, and then we

went to the application process. There were a good number, about 64 that applied. As time went by and as the applicants were prioritized and also were given an opportunity to view some of the units available, that number dwindled down, either because they found other places that they were able to take ownership of or buy something else as other options.

We're at the process now of signing some condo title over to the successful persons where, I believe, the number is at 14. I'll confirm that for later, but at the same time we are looking at opening up another second round for more applicants. We still do have some units that are available, close to 40 so far, but 14 to date, I believe. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Audla. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe this is going to be my last line of questioning and it's going to be on the Home Renovation Program, specifically the portion that's related to energy-efficiency upgrades to homes. I was wondering if you could expand on that portion of the Home Renovation Program, just provide me with a little bit of detail, what sort of success rate you have seen with that program, and what the plans are for that in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that I know that it has been pretty successful. We see a lot of applicants coming to the housing

corporation to have home improvement and renovations in their houses. Maybe through you, Mr. Chairman, if I could have Mr. Audla also respond to where we are on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Audla.

**Mr. Audla:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A lot of the energy efficiency applicants, a lot of it includes upgrades to their doors or their windows and upgrades of those types of materials within the home that increase the airtight aspect of keeping the heat in and the outside, outside.

We are also working with the QEC and others with a fund on what was recently announced by the federal government on the Low Carbon Economy Fund as well. We're hoping that we could either add onto that as well, but so far by default, the efficiency component aspect of energy efficiency applicants have been on the issues of door and window upgrades. So far it has been pretty good. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Audla. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome.

First of all, I know that one of my colleagues alluded to this issue earlier regarding the \$14 million for improvement work and it seems like it's more for mould remediation. Are you aware if any of the public housing units have been condemned due to mould? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm only aware of two units in Igloolik right now that are infested with mould and the roof is not fixed properly, so they have been closed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you. I'm glad that you know about it, but that's why I asked that question, to make sure that you're aware of the units being closed due to mould.

We have tenants who give suggestions to the housing corporation on how to prevent mould infestation in units. We hear in the House that many people make suggestions of how to keep the house free from mould, such as making vents in a house to prevent it. I know they have provided suggestions on this issue for many years.

Have you considered any of their suggestions? I know that you do research on how to remediate mould. Have you looked into the suggestions or recommendations made by people as to how to prevent mould infestation in housing units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Aarulaaq, for speaking to this issue. When public housing tenants make suggestions to staff of their LHOs and the housing corporation, we listen to

them. Some are very knowledgeable and if they suggest that if a building were constructed a certain way, it would be better. We take their suggestions.

On the flipside, the LHOs also advise tenants. If you're going to be boiling water or making soup or something else, I know that the sound of the fan can be bothersome, but you must have the fan on because the steam can create mould. Also, the newer units now have ventilation that is more silent. In English they are called (interpretation ends) air exchange units. (interpretation) Usually they are above the closet. That is your air exchange.

We discuss with both the tenants and the LHOs on how to prevent mould. As you stated, there is a need to have ventilation and those types of things. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I see. Rather than just listening to them, have you made any actual changes to the units based on the suggestions of the tenants? Are you just listening to their suggestions or have you acted on their advice? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**An Hon. Member:** They only listen.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we don't simply listen to them. As I said, when we are provided suggestions as to how we can improve the management of

units, we follow the advice with new units that are being built to ensure that they are better aligned to our northern climate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Quassa...Minister Kusugak. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are many old units that the majority of tenants live in and I'm sure they need to be replaced. We shouldn't just abandon the old units that have mould and only deal with the new units. That's not how we should be thinking. I just wanted to make that comment while the minister is listening.

I'll ask my question in English, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps it's similar to my colleague's earlier question. (interpretation ends) The Nunavut Housing Corporation's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates include modernization and improvement funding for public housing units. Approximately how much funding has been used for mould remediation projects during the 2019-2020 fiscal year? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was explaining how it would be dealt with and it is not just for new units. This also includes old units that need to be worked on. We need to modernize and improve old units, not just the new units. The LHO staff are working on that. We have spent approximately \$7 million to \$9 million on that.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, it's

okay to call me Minister Quassa. Quassa is my Inuk name after all. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. I realize that and that's not why I was mixed up.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Quassa, do you have another question? Please go ahead.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) During the Legislative Assembly's sitting of May 29, 2018, the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation made a minister's statement concerning the issue of mould remediation in public housing units. What specific mould remediation initiatives will the Nunavut Housing Corporation be undertaking during the 2019-2020 fiscal year? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can, through you, have the president give the particular details Mr. Quassa is asking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Audla.

**Mr. Audla:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. After having done a lot of the assessment with what we see as post-1980 builds, we're looking at the pre-1980 builds now as well as what we can do to further remediate and try to prevent mould. A big part of that will be

tenant engagement. We hope to reach out to the local housing organizations as well as the tenants and work on that aspect of it.

We're looking at finalizing the previous assessment right now. We hope to come out with some kind of report as to the actual issues of mould and what the main causes are and what we can do towards mitigating and preventing. That's a big next step for us and we will have more information as that becomes more detailed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Audla. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll move on to another subject. Earlier this year the Legislative Assembly approved capital funding for the housing corporation to construct five new public housing units and five new staff housing units in Igloolik. Can the minister update me on the status of the construction of these units in Igloolik? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) We are on track for the construction plans. There are no delays. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister confirm what the minimum Inuit labour content requirements are for the new units? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that greater detail at this time for those units, but it follows the NNI Policy, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very quickly, what is the requirement? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. It's my understanding that the requirement varies from contract to contract and community to community, but I'll let the minister confirm that. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to confirm that, Mr. Chairman, you are correct. For that particular contract, we would have to go back and see it because, yes, it varies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Can the minister clarify how the Nunavut Housing Corporation enforces the minimum Inuit labour content requirements? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. If I could have Mr. Audla give the particulars on how we enforce, or deal with that section, Mr. Chairman, through you. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Audla.

**Mr. Audla:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the member for the question. I'll start by first saying that as the chairman and the minister said, 20 to 40 percent of contracts are sort of the Inuit content aspect of it. It varies, again, from project to project or by community, depending on the availability of the labour force.

At the NHC we do track these contracts quite vigorously. We try to track everything to ensure that they are following and living up to the contracts. We also regularly look at the historical performance of those companies on the contracts. In that way, we're able to determine whether or not these contractors have lived up to previous requirements. If not, then it's something that we take into consideration when it comes to determining whether or not we will actually award these types of contracts to those specific contractors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Audla. Mr. Quassa.

**Mr. Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe this will be my last question. The reason I'm asking this is in our community it was raised as a real concern that they bring in southerners for housing construction. They don't really hire local carpenters. That's the reason why I'm asking this question. It's clear that my community is

not the only one where this happens.

My final question is: can Minister Kusugak...I almost said Quassa. Can he get back to me on that? I would really like that information so that I can tell my constituents exactly how many local Igloolik residents are going to be employed during the construction of those units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Quassa. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if you had an Inuktitut name like Quassa too, we would really be having a lot of fun this afternoon.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, I would be more than happy to get back to my colleague on that.

(interpretation) The Inuit labour requirements need to be applied depending on the construction. After the construction involving the use of wood, if they start working with metal, there will probably be more southerners. It defers and sometimes there are more Inuit employed during certain phases of construction. It depends on how the construction is going.

I'll have my officials immediately look into the status of how many Inuit have been employed in total and how many workers are employed from outside of the community. Maybe I'll put it that way. I'll let you know, Mr. Quassa. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister

Kusugak. Mr. Main, you're next on the list. Please go ahead.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister and your officials, welcome.

I had a different question, but I'll supplement my colleague's question instead. As the minister stated earlier, Inuit employment is between approximately 20 and 40 percent. Do you have discussions with the contractors on how more Nunavummiut can be employed? It's at 20 to 40 percent right now. For example, are there discussions with private contractors on whether our goal should be 40 to 60 percent? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Aarluk. They have discussions with them when possible during the construction of public housing on how and where they can increase Inuit employment. Those discussions are held and that's the objective for the long term according to the (interpretation ends) blueprint for action. (interpretation) Yes, there are discussions with them whenever possible on how to increase Inuit employment and how the housing corporation can make it easier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. If you have discussions with these private companies, what reasons do they give as

to the barriers they have? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In discussions with the contractors, they discuss where to find the employees. They can approach the economic development officers, the hamlet, or the housing association and go on local radios. We encourage them and have discussions with them.

It's a lot easier to get employees in some communities and more difficult in other communities. There are different barriers for people who want to work in the community. In some communities there aren't enough available workers and in other communities there are capable workers who are not certified as carpenters or people who are certified for construction. The problem of non-certified people is a definite barrier.

There are different challenges. Even though there are workers available, there are those not willing to work. Sometimes that's the case. There are many challenges, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does language cause a barrier? They noticed that in Whale Cove this summer when they started the construction. The imported people who were hired couldn't even speak English. They spoke French. That's fine because that's their language, but if they were going to work with the Inuit, they need

an English-speaking foreperson. I would like to know if you noticed whether language has been a barrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that question, Aarluk. Yes, it becomes a problem occasionally. I don't know if it becomes a barrier, but it becomes a problem. If they experienced a problem at an earlier time in the community you mentioned, that is the kind of thing we would like to hear about because it should not be a problem. Sometimes we don't hear about issues, but we are open to hearing those problems. It might become a problem, but it should not become a barrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Main

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. The 20 to 40 percent is being used right now within Nunavut. If we were to say today that that's not right, if we say (interpretation ends) 50 percent minimum for all contracts going forward, (interpretation) how would that affect the amount of money that you spend on construction? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a very good question, but the answer will be different for each community. If there

are more employable Inuit here and if there are fewer employable Inuit there, if their capacities and what they can do are different. We know that if we were to say that, we would fall behind on projects. Looking at the available workforce, we would probably increase spending. We would very much like to know how much of an effect it would have, and they should look into your question. That is serious and we need to find that out, but I am unsure who would be able to answer it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if the housing corporation has brought this up, but the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Housing Trust (interpretation) was a big topic at one point. I read the document, (interpretation ends) Lessons Learned. In this Lessons Learned from the Nunavut Housing Trust it says, "...the construction of housing stock was heavily overburdened with socio-economic objectives which the budget for the delivery of housing was not able to bear. In trying to solve other problems, the focus..." was lost, was cloudy.

This is kind of similar. It makes sense based on what you just answered that costs could go up if we want more Inuit employed. If you look at the big picture, it would make a lot of sense. If you look at people on social assistance, it would make a lot of sense. Is there any conversation along those lines with other government departments and the housing corporation in terms of "Do you have a pool of labour; we would like to use that



pool of labour,” in terms of funding arrangements or creative approaches to increase employment of local people? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A very interesting question, and yes, through the blueprint for action, we have begun to try to deal with some of those very issues that you are bringing up. We work with other departments when we're talking about housing and other programs out there and other jobs out there when it comes to trying to figure out what's going to be put where and what kind of strain it's going to put on a community.

Let me say this: I think that if the employable people out there wanted to be employed, we would have a lot less number reaching the higher end of Inuit status on these jobs. It's very hard to try to get there, but it's a goal that we as the government and as a territory, with your support here, are constantly trying to reach the higher end of the NNI Inuit employment requirement. It's one that we strive to reach.

Hopefully it won't need to be a requirement, that we will have so many Inuit working in all aspects and all areas of construction and in housing, for example, that we won't need the NNI Policy when we start a construction project in your community or mine or any community in Nunavut, that the Inuit employment will be 80, 90, or 100 percent. There is no reason why it can't or it shouldn't be able to be there without incentives. I think it's all our

goal to be there, but for many excuses or reasons, we have trouble getting there, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. I'm trying to understand this. Another thing that was mentioned in this Nunavut Housing Trust report is that one of the things that were tried was the LHO delivery of construction. It says right here on page 8 of 12, "Will not be pursued in the future." That's pretty straightforward in terms of saying, "Lessons learned. We're never going to try this again."

I would be interested to hear whether there are any LHOs across Nunavut that have expressed an interest, maybe in some of the smaller communities. Recently has there been any interest in terms of them taking over the construction or trying out to build a couple of units? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't had any interest from the local housing organizations to take on such projects, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Sorry, Mr. Kusugak, if you want to continue.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry about that. We've had local housing organizations work with communities through education and stuff to teach youth how to build shacks and

cabins, and stuff like that. As for constructing housing units, we haven't had any interest. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'll just ask one last question on this Inuit employment subject.

One of the other things mentioned in this Nunavut Housing Trust report is the use of a different work schedule, recognizing that your local workforce has different pressures on it than your transient workforce. Your transient workforce can come in and work 30 days straight. They don't have a wife or husband at home and kids to look after.

In terms of the scheduling, a local employee who doesn't want to work 30 days straight may get labelled "lazy" or "not as good" as our transient workforce. Is this something that is still employed, this modified work schedule where you would work six days a week in terms of construction or is it something that's completely up to the contractors under the current capital system? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) It's at the discretion of the contractors doing construction in the communities. They run their own operation and set their schedules and how many hours the locals are going to be working and for

how many days. It's at the discretion of the contractor and they have an agreement with the worker. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Akoak. We have a motion on the floor to report progress. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour. Thank you. Opposed. Thank you. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress. Thank you.

Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses out.

>> *Laughter*

Now I will rise to report progress.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Moving on. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Rumbolt.

#### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 9 and the capital estimates and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq.

>> *Laughter*

The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

Moving on. Third Reading of Bills. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that there's a meeting of the Regular Caucus at 5:45 p.m. in the Nanuq Room.

*Orders of the Day* for October 26:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First

Reading of Bills

16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
  - Bill 12
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 9
  - Bill 10
  - Bill 11
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. (interpretation) Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Friday, October 26, at 9:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House adjourned at 17:38*

