



**Nunavut Canada**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

**6th Session**

**1st Assembly**

**HANSARD**

Official Report

**DAY 1**

**Thursday March 7, 2002**

**Pages 1 - 37**

**Iqaluit**

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

# Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

## *Speaker*

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(Arviat)

**Ovide Alakannuark**  
(Akulliq)

**Hunter Tootoo**  
(Iqaluit Centre)

**Hon. Jack Anawak**  
(Rankin Inlet North)

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Elders and Youth*

**Enoki Irqittuq**  
(Amittuq)

**Hon. Ed Picco**  
(Iqaluit East)

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*Premier; Minister of Executive  
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Minister of Justice*

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk**  
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**Glenn McLean**  
(Baker Lake)

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**  
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*Minister of Education; Minister  
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**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Thursday March 7, 2002**

**Members Present:**

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

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Mr. O'Brien): I would like to call on Mr. Alakannuark to say the prayer.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker:** Good afternoon. Mr. Premier, members. Before we proceed, Mr. Clerk, will you please determine if the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to address the members of this Assembly?

**Opening Address: Throne Speech**

**Commissioner Irniq** (interpretation): Elders, Mr. Speaker, Premier, members, and honoured guests and visitors, I am pleased to welcome you to the opening of the Sixth Session of the First Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

This Assembly and the Territory of Nunavut will soon complete our third year. Recent months have been a time to consider what we have accomplished in the first one thousand days.

From that discussion, considerable pride and satisfaction has emerged. It is in the nature and tradition of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to acknowledge and speak positively of the accomplishments of others, and as Nunavummiut, there have been significant accomplishments that should be recognized:

The Government of Nunavut, through the work of this Assembly, has authorized the construction or acquisition, by the end of the 2002 building season, of almost 300 public housing units in Nunavut.

>>*Applause*

(interpretation ends) The Government of Nunavut, with the approval of this Assembly, has spent up to 35% of its annual capital budget on schools to teach and train our growing population of youth. We have seen the number of Grade 12 graduates rise steadily.

>>*Applause*



Last year twice as many of our students completed Grade 12 compared to 5 years ago. Even more impressively, last year more than six times as many of our students completed Grade 12 compared to 10 years ago, and they did this in communities across Nunavut. (interpretation) We have established the capacity to graduate nurses and lawyers, something others had told us we could never do, and we have done it in Nunavut.

Based on plans made through the Decentralization Secretariat, we have seen more than 400 positions transferred or established in decentralized communities across Nunavut. (interpretation ends) Our contracting back to the former government in Yellowknife has been steadily reduced, bringing home an additional 14 million dollars of our budget annually to be spent in Nunavut.

Those numbers do not include the Nunavut Power Corporation, which moved to Nunavut on April 1, 2001. It was something others had told us we could never do. It captured an additional 47 million dollars in the economy of Nunavut.

(interpretation) The Bathurst Mandate has guided our efforts. It has given clear direction, and has stated the principles that we must continue to follow as we move forward into the second half of the life of this Assembly.

The recent midterm review not only recognized these accomplishments, but it also re-emphasized for all Members the importance of some of the most basic goals of the creation of Nunavut.

It is important for us to remember that Nunavummiut, through the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, and the process of setting up this government, did not work to achieve a government that was simply located in Nunavut.

We worked to create a government with its heart and soul in Nunavut. Where Inuit Employment is a reality. Where Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is a living part of the way government operated. Where the Inuktitut language is the means of expression.

These goals must not be lost in the day-to-day pressures and decision-making of government.

(interpretation) Mindful of these goals, the path over the next years has been reviewed and re-oriented. Changes are underway. Ministers have taken up new portfolios. Very shortly, changes will be announced in the public service to support those portfolios. In the new budget year there will be additional funds proposed for, and a new emphasis placed on, the role of the Department of Culture, Language Elders and Youth.

This department is a unique expression of our desires as Nunavummiut. It is a department that is unique in Canada, for the multiple mandates it carries and for the goals it seeks to achieve. These goals will not be achieved by weakening, reducing or taking away

departmental authority. Instead, the department needs to be strengthened and given the authority and tools it needs to do the work it was designed to accomplish.

>>*Applause*

Over the next months we will hear ministers of this government describe plans to promote and strengthen the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Members will hear proposals to increase the role of the department and its authority within government, enhancing its ability to advance the triple goals of Inuit Employment, Inuktitut Language and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

>>*Applause*

(interpretation) In this Sixth session two fundamental pieces of legislation will be introduced in this Assembly for consideration.

An Education Act which was developed for, and is suited to our needs and values will be brought to Members for consideration. The proposed statute is the product of the efforts of a working group mandated under the Clyde River Protocol, and extensive consultations by the department.

Through the efforts of the Members of this Assembly, the Act will be reviewed, and its provisions tested, to ensure that the next ten years of education in Nunavut follow the most desirable path.

(interpretation) Since before the Final Agreement was signed in 1993, Nunavummiut have known that the provisions of the Wildlife Act are not consistent with the rights and practices of people in this territory. This Act must be entirely re-written for the Nunavut context, respecting and incorporating the provisions of the Land Claim.

(interpretation ends) This is an important and sensitive piece of legislation. Members of this Assembly will want to consider with care the proposal that will be brought to you by the Minister of Sustainable Development. Again, in the context of the Clyde River Protocol, Nunavut Tunngavik, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and our government are working together to develop appropriate and timely legislation.

>>*Applause*

Some say that an Act of this nature will take years to develop; some suggest that Nunavummiut will need considerable guidance to know and express their desires for this legislation. The government proposes extensive and wide spread consultations on the content of this legislation, but is also confident that the terms of the Land Claims agreement and the knowledge and wisdom of Nunavut hunters will provide the guidance necessary to allow the Minister to develop and introduce legislation during this Session.

(interpretation) In the next months the government will bring to this Assembly and release for public consideration a number of evaluations, reports and studies that raise significant issues for the future direction of our government.

Members are aware that Cabinet met in Repulse Bay last September to talk about economic development, and specifically the development of community-based economies.

(interpretation ends) In the next few weeks, Members and the public will be asked to consider the “Naujaat Challenge” proposals and materials leading to an economic development strategy for Nunavut.

This initiative provides an opportunity for Nunavummiut to balance our traditional economy and way of life, with the economic development expectations of our families – especially as they impact on the future for our children.

The government has undertaken a study of the future of our fuel and energy needs. The report deals with the potential of alternative energy sources and the methods of structuring the generation and distribution of fuel and power to our communities. The Ikuma II Report will be released by the Minister Responsible for the Nunavut Power Corporation.

The report continues the efforts of our government to identify and clarify the existence and role of the various utility operations in Nunavut. The complexity of this tangled knot of structures, funds and often hidden subsidies, can lead to competing and ineffective approaches in the ways our government attempts to support and deliver services to Nunavummiut. These approaches must be clarified and simplified, consistent with the direction of the Bathurst Mandate.

The NNI policy has passed its first anniversary and a review of that policy and its impacts has been finalized by the Department of Public Works and Services with the participation of Nunavut Tunngavik. Members should expect to see the final document tabled by the minister in the early days of this next session.

Nunavummiut Kiglisiniartiit is about to release the results of the First Nunavut Household Survey, based on information collected last year. This will provide valuable information on all aspects of life in Nunavut, but in particular on language use, household status and work patterns.

In addition, the Evaluations Division of Nunavut Statistics has completed an extensive study of our government’s successes and challenges in moving jobs into Nunavut communities.

Members will receive copies of this report and can anticipate the Minister Responsible for the Decentralization Secretariat will be tabling this document and announcing plans to address its recommendations.

(interpretation) Cabinet has reviewed the need for a single policy focus for Nunavut's housing issues. Last December, the Nunavut Housing Corporation was added to the portfolio of the current Minister of Finance. The minister will soon be announcing details of the government's plans to bring employee housing and public housing under one roof.

(interpretation ends) Effective immediately, policy responsibility for the staff housing portfolio will be transferred from the Department of Public Works and Services to the Nunavut Housing Corporation. This will not immediately impact on Housing Associations or staff housing policy, but in the next months members will be asked to consider budgets and be advised of projects which will show how this new combination of responsibilities will bring much needed new resources and more effective policies and allocations for housing across Nunavut.

(interpretation) Work is underway to provide housing options for GN employees. Programs in Iqaluit, and potentially in four more decentralized communities, are being developed where affordable homeownership units could be constructed and sold to employees at cost. This would permit the continued growth of homeownership, allowing the proceeds from sales to be reinvested in housing options for Nunavut.

Consistent with this approach members will hear, in the coming months, plans to allow public housing clients to transfer into home ownership, while remaining in their homes. The Nunavut Housing Corporation will continue to increase its housing stock by replacing these units with new public housing units.

In addition, for Nunavummiut who choose to remain in public housing, a new rent scale will be announced that will be more fair, equitable and affordable.

>>*Applause*

In fiscal matters, our government has revised its Estimates process so that Capital Estimates have been completed in November, permitting better planning and purchasing practices and savings on construction and sealift costs.

The financial capacity of our government is maturing. Responding to the recommendations of the Auditor General of Canada, Members will see more detailed budgeting and financial reporting, enhanced financial capacity and training, and a careful review of values in assessing lease and purchase options.

The programs review process launched last year has resulted in the collection of a detailed inventory of programs and expenditures, reconciled against current budgets. It is now planned to move to a more consultative phase.

Information collected will be analyzed and results presented for discussion with Ministers, Members and Nunavummiut from many sectors of our communities. The goal

of this process is to ensure that inherited structures and programs are shaped in ways which best reflect the needs and goals of Nunavummiut.

Operating Estimates will be presented by the Minister of Finance during this session.

In the next weeks, during the planned break in Session, the City of Iqaluit will host the Arctic Winter Games, in an effort shared with our cousins in Nuuk, Greenland. To the many Nunavummiut who will be participating as athletes, hosts, organizers, officials, performers and volunteers, I am confident that Members join me in wishing you well in your events and in the friendly and valuable exchanges which surround these games.

Shortly after that Nunavut will host the Canadian Ministers of Sport and the Romanow Commission on Health Care Reform. In mid-June the Canadian Ministers of Aboriginal Affairs will meet in Iqaluit.

In October, Her Royal Highness the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Each of these events is a sign of the growing stature of Nunavut as part of the Canadian federation and the international community.

Updating the words of my predecessor Helen Maksagak when she opened the First Session of this Assembly on April 1, 1999, to reflect our current situation, I would conclude:

(interpretation) There is still work to be done everywhere. Not everything has worked, or will work, the first time. We accept this and continue to strive. There have been many successes, many positive steps, some delays and false starts.

(interpretation ends) Sometimes it is hard for us to see the progress Nunavut has made because we are so close to it, we have worked so hard to achieve it, and our hearts are so filled with hopes for its future. But we have made significant progress and Nunavut will continue to make progress.

Again, borrowing from Nunavut's first Commissioner: This is still our government, we are still building it, we still own it, and we still have the responsibility to make it work.

(interpretation) As Members of this Assembly it is your responsibility to continue to work towards the goals you have in common; to achieve the vision you have identified in the Bathurst Mandate; and to ensure that whatever you do in this new Session advances the interests of all Nunavummiut.

I would like to urge all members to work together, to have a healthy life and to celebrate, as these are the best ways of progressing forward.

I would also urge members to work together with the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Premier, as they have worked from their hearts, on smoking cessation. Smoking has killed many people in Nunavut and we have all been affected personally.

I now declare open this Sixth Session of the First Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. I would ask everyone to join myself, the Speaker, and Members of this Assembly for refreshments before the resumption of the Order paper. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

>> *House recessed at 2:04 pm and resumed at 2:35 pm.*

**Speaker:** Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 3. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Ng.

### **Item 3: Ministers' Statements**

#### **Minister's Statement 001 - 1(6): Minister's Absence from the House**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise members that the Honourable Jack Anawak will be absent from the House due to illness. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Item 3. Ministers' Statements. Item 4. Members' Statements. Are there any Members' Statements? Mr. McLean.

### **Item 4: Members' Statements**

#### **Member's Statement 001 - 1(6): Baker Lake's 2002 AWG Participants**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm almost glad to say it's the end of the session and I can go home again. Hooray.

>> *Applause*

Uqaqti, I'm excited to rise today at the beginning our new session to extend congratulations and best wishes to some people from Baker Lake who are about to take part in 2002 Arctic Winter Games.

Uqaqti, the Kivalliq is renowned for its hard hitting, action packed, and enthusiastic hockey players. I am pleased to introduce to members of this House the two names that you'll be hearing a lot from in the near future. Richard Iyago, on the Midget Boy's Hockey Team and Tars Kinaktok, on the Bantam Team are getting ready to suit up and hit the ice and give lessons on hockey. We wish them and all members of Team Nunavut the best as they go for the Golden Ulu.

Uqaqti, the Arctic Winter Games showcase the best of our athletes and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the circumpolar world. Baker Lake will be well represented by two of our most talented throat singers, Emily Alerk and Lucy Kownak.

Uqaqti, the games would not be going ahead without the dedication and hard work of scores of volunteers and mission staff. I can't single out people today but I just want to add Mr. Speaker that I want to thank everybody that's helped out with the Arctic Winter Games trials from Baker Lake.

I would also like to thank Iqaluit for hosting the territorials and the great hospitality that they showed the people from Baker Lake when they were over here. I would also like to commend Iqaluit for taking the initiative for hosting the Arctic Winter Games and I wish all athletes and people from the world the best of luck. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

#### **Member's Statement 002 - 1(6): Increase in Graduation Rates**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today is the first day of the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. As such, I would like to take this opportunity to focus the attention of the members on the youth of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, last year more than 100 students graduated from high school in Nunavut. I am pleased to note that the numbers of high school graduates are increasing each year. As more students graduate from high school greater responsibility lies with educators to ensure that they are ready to either enter the labour force or continue their education.

Mr. Speaker, I'm concerned that the current system does not adequately prepare students for life after graduation. Having said that, there are several different ways to show students their post-secondary options.

Recent labour force studies undertaken by the Department of Education show that students require more relevant and interesting learning experiences to prepare them for their future.

Examples of such experiences include culture programs and school projects using current technology. In addition it would be beneficial for students to have access to summer employment and volunteer positions. Mr. Speaker I am just about done my Member's Statement. I would like unanimous consent to complete my statement.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. Mr. Speaker it is important that students know that a high school diploma is not an end goal but a means to an end. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we show our youth what opportunities exist beyond high school so they can choose careers that will benefit them, and ultimately benefit Nunavut as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge the Minister of Education to support hands on programs such as the ones I discussed today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Member's Statement 003 - 1(6): Iqaluit Hosts 2002 Arctic Winter Games**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise today to deliver my first statement of the 6<sup>th</sup> Session on a very positive note. In just over a week the capital of Nunavut will become one of two sites hosting the 2002 Arctic Winter Games. We will be very proud of the efforts of the host society and the volunteers and community residents when the City of Iqaluit welcomes hundreds of athletes and coaches, parents and visitors to celebrate the Games.

I look forward to attending the events, cheering on the athletes and congratulating the participants. I myself will be involved in officiating at the Speed Skating venue. Mr. Speaker, landmark events such as the Arctic Winter Games leave behind an important legacy. Children and youth are inspired and encouraged by events such as this.

Physical activities, sports and recreation are a very important component of healthy lifestyles and healthy lifestyles lead to the overall well being of individuals and families and ultimately communities. The games and competition show the results of dedication and energy and sportsmanship. These are things that we can admire and aspire to. I would like to wish everyone participating in the Games the best of luck. Win or lose, it is important that you do your best and have fun. Let the games begin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

### **Member's Statement 004 - 1(6): Grave Relocation Workers**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't expect you to call my name so early, but thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, I'm glad to be here, alive and well, and this is the first sitting of the 6<sup>th</sup> Session. Mr. Speaker, firstly I'd like to say hi to my family whom I have left at



home for many days. During our 5<sup>th</sup> Session I made many statements about concerns regarding the relocation of graves. I'd like to thank the ministers who I directed questions to and I hope that during this 6<sup>th</sup> Session everything will go well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Member's Statement 005 - 1(6): Session End - Gratitude to Repulse Bay Pages**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad to be here today on our last day before we all go home and I'll be making a brief statement.

Yesterday, I talked to my wife and she asked me to say hi to all the members today when I was back in my seat. I want to thank the community of Repulse Bay and the members for giving our students a warm welcome here in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Ms. Williams.

**Member's Statement 006 - 1(6): Quttiktuq Constituency**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank my constituents for their support. I appreciate their assistance and I'd like to thank my constituency assistant for keeping me informed of the activities that are happening in Resolute Bay.

I hope that I'll be visiting Resolute Bay in April to hear their concerns. I also invite the athletes from Quttiktuq to come by my house while they are in Iqaluit. They are welcome to come over for some caribou. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

**Member's Statement 007 - 1(6): Vest from Daughter-in-Law**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today is the first day of the 6<sup>th</sup> Session. During the Commissioner's Remarks we were reminded that we have a lot of work ahead of us.

I have six children, recently my son married, and my family is growing. My 6<sup>th</sup> daughter-in-law made my vest and I decided to wear it on the first day of this 6<sup>th</sup> Session. So I'd like to thank her for making the vest for me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 008 - 1(6): Support for Small Businesses**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm very glad to see my colleagues happy around the table. But as long as I don't get what I ask for, I don't think we'll ever be pleased, but we'll be pleased about the proceedings in the House, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express how sad it is to see a small business closing down. Yesterday the Member for Iqaluit West made a statement regarding the closure of the Arctic Creations store in Iqaluit.

I would like to say that I share his feelings, as I know many of the women from my community would go to her store to buy material or sewing items. I'm sure that a lot of people are unhappy about the closure of this store.

Mr. Speaker, we must do more for the existing small businesses within Nunavut. Financial support is not the only way to support small businesses. Small businesses must also be supported through proper guidance and how to successfully operate their business.

We should be making more effort to provide services in the areas of financial management, loans, taxation issues, and advertising. Mr. Speaker, I also would like to say that these private businesses, small businesses in Nunavut need stronger support and I know that the private businesses, small businesses, find it very hard to get adequate support services.

I know that other entities say that they're willing to support small private businesses but once they start applying there is hardly any room for them to get assistance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

**Member's Statement 009 – 1(6): Encourage Children to attend Church with Parents**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleagues have spoken very well and are understandable and I appreciate them. My younger brother, Tommy Bruce also says hi to all of you.

Mr. Speaker, what I was going to say before, what I've been thinking about is children and I would like to briefly mention it. First of all, and it certainly won't be the last time, I would like to thank the volunteers who have worked tirelessly here in Iqaluit. I feel very much for them. Some of them meet every evening at times to be well prepared for the young people. I appreciate their efforts and my staff as well; I felt like crying hearing that they meet every evening.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to say something briefly, of something that has been felt, especially by our elders.

Mr. Speaker, when I was a child and I know too that for those of you that are the same age as Mr. Iqittuq and myself, the same age group that are our age group used to go to church along with their parents. The different churches, the different religions have to be entered by the people, by the parents and especially children, so that the children are not forgotten when the parents go to church. You don't see parents going to church bringing their children to church as often.

Mr. Speaker, when we lived in Yellowknife, there was a six year old child that asked his mother about the clothes that the preachers wear. Why the priest is wearing a robe, or why an Anglican Minister is wearing a robe because the child did not know that these religious leaders wore those robes because she did not attend church that much. We have to teach our children to not just watch TV but teach them religion and if they don't the parents are at fault. Mr. Speaker I would like to get unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. I think the parents are at fault nowadays. When we go to church, we don't urge them enough to go to church. We always see adults going to church along with their smaller children but not with their middle children. I urge the parents out there to take along their children even if they are teenagers.

I am not blaming anybody but I am simply reminding them. The ministers years ago used to talk to us about alcohol, relationships and so on. I am in support of the church and I urge them to talk about things that lessen the quality of life because life is very precious, and to think about the children, to tell them to go to church so they can experience a better life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Mr. Haviyok.

**Member's Statement 010 – 1(6): Gratitude to AWG Volunteers and Congratulations to Athletes**

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to make a short statement about the young people coming here to participate in the Arctic Winter Games. I would also like to give my gratitude to those volunteers because they work very hard without getting paid. They are helping these young people by organizing the games as well as the coaches.

If it wasn't for the volunteers it would not be possible for these people to come to Iqaluit to participate in the Arctic Winter Games, and I would like to thank all the volunteers on behalf of my constituency. Also for those young people that are going to participate in the Winter Games. I want thank each and every one of them; I would like them to have a successful game, and to look after themselves and to be careful, and to recognize the other athletes and listen to their coaches and officials.

I would also like to thank the residents of Iqaluit as well for helping out the volunteers, and welcoming other Nunavummiut. I would just like to say thank you to the residents of Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

**Member's Statement 011 – 1(6): Elders' Hardships and Today's Challenges**

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise to make my statement. I am one of the elder Members of the Legislature. I would like to talk a bit about that, but when Ms. Thompson was making her Member's Statement encouraging our children to go to church, that reminded me of the time when we lived in Sanikiluaq. During the winter our only mode of transportation was by dog team and we had to go across the bay to one of the other communities to go to church. I just wanted to point that out.

This was used by the residents of the Belcher Island. They had to use the dog teams to go to church and the dogs were very good. When I was growing up, we did not have huge units, homes, and vehicles, I didn't even know that they existed when I was growing up.

I never knew that motor vehicles existed when I was growing up because the only mode of transportation was walking, by kayak and dog teams. Those were our only mode of transportation. At that time I did not even know that any form of government existed in the world. We did not know there were any forms of government and many of us did not believe that there were such things in the world and we did not even know that there were white people living in the world.

Today, our elders, if they did not work hard and endure their hard work, we would not be here. For example, I would like to say how proud I am of the elders and thank you for their endurance of hardship so that we may live our very much easier life today. They wanted us to care for each other and respect each other, respect our elders. They worked very hard to teach this to us.

Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement please. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and also my colleagues. Although we went through hardship, nowadays we are living two cultures, two life styles. I can live the traditional life style and the contemporary life style we are living in today and also our young people. People who are younger than me go through challenging times and hardships, because they were assimilated into the western way of life very quickly as the westerners start arriving to the north.

In spite of that I would like to say as Nunavut residents we now have our own territory and we do have regional try outs for the Arctic Winter Games. I think that the Nunavut residents will win many gold Ulus. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Mr. Kilabuk.

#### **Member's Statement 012 – 1(6): Passing of Mrs. Nashalik and Condolences to Family**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I remember Inusiq Nashalik, and her relatives. His wife, Ooloosie Nashalik, passed away yesterday in Pangnirtung, she was 88 years old. She was a mother to many people and one of my CA's in Pangnirtung; she was also the mother of Rasie Nashalik, who is the host of CBC Igalaq. I remember the family. I sympathize with them and I sympathize with my constituency and also we will pray for the family members. I know that residents of Pangnirtung will be there for them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Mr. Picco.

#### **Member's Statement 013 – 1(6): Closure of Arctic Creations Due to High Lease Costs**

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it was almost ten years ago when Kakivak and QIA looked at the development of an Incubator Mall which became the

Parnaivik Building adjacent to our own Legislative Assembly building, many years ago. The idea of Parnaivik was to support beneficiaries to get into private business.

One of the first businesses Mr. Speaker, to start up, was Monica Ell's Arctic Creations Store. Monica, in those early days, and I know, Mr. Speaker, because I had an office there and worked at the Business Development Centre, worked seven days a week to make her business very successful.

As the manager of the Business Development Centre, I remember the courage it took for Monica to move ahead and to open a small business. I remember many times speaking to Monica about the hard work and the soul searching that it took her to move forward on her idea.

Mr. Speaker, this was a business she would not have been able to start without the assistance and the support of Kakivak, and Mr. Speaker, indeed the Parnaivik Building. Monica's store was successful and she moved into a larger space inside the Parnaivik.

Unfortunately Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that the lease costs were prohibitive in her new space. This has caused Monica to close her store.

Mr. Speaker, I join with Member Okalik, Mr. Iqaqrialu and many Iqaluit residents over the past few days, who told me how disappointed and saddened that they are about the closure of Arctic Creations, Monica Ell's store.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note that the idea of the Parnaivik Building was to support Inuit beneficiary businesses. That was through subsidies and lower lease costs, through the development, Mr. Speaker, in good times and slow times of those businesses. Today, it seems, Mr. Speaker, that the original idea and the concept of Kakivak has been forgotten in the development of the Parnaivik Building.

Mr. Speaker, I will be joining with some of the other members here in writing QIA and QC about the decision on the leasing costs and seeming lack of support for small beneficiary businesses in the community of Iqaluit, which have served not only Iqaluit, but the Baffin, and indeed Nunavut residents. Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

#### **Member's Statement 014 – 1(6): Arviat: AWG Participants/Athletes**

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Picco. Are there any further Members' Statements?

Members, with your indulgence, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the athletes that will be attending the Games here in Iqaluit, and also in Greenland, from my home community of Arviat.

Going to Greenland in boy's volleyball, the coach is Simeonie Memgard. Sedrick Manik, Petrick Memgard, Yvonne Memgard, Thomas Akumak, N. Doyette, with the mission staff. In the girl's volleyball, Joannie Tautunngie.

Here in Iqaluit in Peewee Hockey, Glen Akkak Jr., Terrence King, Edmond Pameolik. In Bantam Hockey, Katy Lindell, Jordan Kidlaapik. In Midget Hockey, Jackson Aroalik, Kudlu Irniq, David Sallak Jr, and Gleeson Ukaakuak.

In Mixed Boy's Wrestling, we have Justin Irniq and Leo Karetak and last but not least in dog mushing we have Chris Uqaqtisiaq and Laurie Uqaqtisiaq, and Paul Nautalik as the coordinator. I wish them all luck in the Games. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Ng.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when you were doing your little statement the time clock wasn't on. But anyways Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize not officially in the Gallery but two individual constituents that have been with us and have been providing valuable services in Innuinaqtut interpreting and translation and they are Henry Ohokanoak and James Panioyak, and of course all the other good work from other interpreters as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize someone from my constituency in the Gallery. He is the first one to always come here every time when we have a meeting, Evan Alford. He is also in my riding. Welcome. Also our Sergeant-At-Arms Saimanuk Kilabuk. Welcome. Also to the elder sitting here it is her birthday; Rita Nakashook. Welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, at the beginning of our Sixth Session I would like to recognize an individual who is having her birthday, Rita Nakashook who is my first cousin. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize Lou Budgell who is sitting over here. A good friend of mine, originally from Rankin Inlet before he moved to Iqaluit. I guess I am his MLA because he lives in my neighbourhood in the riding of Ed Picco. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been a long session. Today I would like to recognize a constituent, a former business partner and now Vice President for the Power Corporation; David Simailak from Baker Lake.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. David. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a couple in the Gallery. Both of them have been recognized already. The first one is the President of the Federation of Nunavut Teachers, Mr. Lou Budgell. Also I would like to recognize a birthday girl in the House. Recently Mr. Speaker I found out that she is my great aunt. I am very happy she's here. I just realized after Mr. Nutarak's recognition that he's a first cousin, so maybe we are related somehow. I would like to welcome her to the Gallery, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a girl I could not stop when I was a goalie in a hockey game. She plays a very good game of hockey; Jessie Mike. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize the birthday girl and say happy birthday to her. She's also my relative, so both of these guys are my relatives as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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



**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I too would like to welcome to the Gallery the Vice-president of the Power Corporation, Mr. David Simailak. As Mr. McLean had said David has been instrumental in achieving some of the success that we have had with the staffing of the headquarters of the Power Corporation in Baker Lake. This morning they unveiled the web site for the Power Corporation so I would like to take this opportunity to welcome David to the gallery.

Also Mr. Speaker, on my immediate left, behind Mr. Akesuk, who I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Rita Nakashook, and a very happy birthday. Behind Rita is a well known official Mr. Speaker, as Ms. Thompson said, a former resident of Rankin Inlet, who is right now involved in I understand very heavy negotiations on snow removal up by his house, Mr. Lou Budgell.

Over on this side on my right Mr. Speaker, a person who has been introduced and who has an opportunity sometimes to come here to the House and watch the proceedings, well known by all members and people of Nunavut, Mr. Speaker, a member of the Nunavut Arbitration Board, Mr. Andrew Tagak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I don't often have people in the gallery from my hometown of Arviat. I have one today; Elisapee Karetak who is taking the law program here in town and the former principal of the elementary school in Arviat. Welcome to the gallery.

>>Applause

Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

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

#### **Question 001 - 1(6): Keener Interest in Traditional Economy**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today my question is to the Minister responsible for Sustainable Development and I'll try to keep my preamble short.

It's a sad, sad, day Mr. Speaker, when I hear about Monica Ell's business closing down. This is the traditional economy, something I've been talking about for the last three years in this Assembly. I want to take notice of the wall hangings around this Assembly today.

Take a good look at them because they might not be around much longer. Sally Webster's business in Baker Lake has been shut down due to financial problems and it's not something I like to speak about in this Legislative Assembly today but it's been closed down because she can no longer do it.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the Print Makers Association in Baker Lake has closed down their print making facility in Baker Lake due to economic problems.

Can the minister responsible let me know if he's going to take a keener interest in the traditional economy in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Sustainable Development. Mr. Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Speaker. Good afternoon colleagues and good afternoon to my constituents.

The traditional economy that the member is talking about is something that we want to support more in Nunavut. I will try to help all the private business people as well as the traditional economy businesses.

I will be working with the people out there and the Members of the Legislative Assembly to keep the traditional economy and the businesses strong in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's hard for me not to be sarcastic at this point in our Assembly. But you know, I've been hearing about policies, revisions, looking at, consulting and stuff like this. But the fact of the matter is the traditional economy along with the tourism economy is disappearing in Nunavut and it's time for the department to start looking at it as a joint venture if not the whole government as a whole. Can he tell me what the short term plans are going to be? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The funding that we have been giving to private businesses and the traditional businesses, and I am sorry to say that they are not always very much, what we try to do is try to keep the business economy going in the communities. We will be doing some planning and considering how much more we can do for those traditional businesses and the business owners to help them out in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary question. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is nice to hear the minister talk about that but in the meantime the people that make these wall hangings, the people that do the prints, the people that make the carvings, are going to be going to the social assistance office to look for money to feed their families. So it is going from one pot to another. But then to be on social assistance is not the same as producing the beautiful art that you see around

the Assembly. I am hoping the minister responsible would go to the Financial Management Board and ask them for a little bit more money to keep this economy alive and not have it totally collapse. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister of Sustainable Development I try to help the people with their businesses and the traditional economy. We will try to see what else we can do so we can assist them in any way we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is no secret that we have a beautiful Jesse Oonarke Centre in Baker Lake and if the minister went over there today and looked in it, the facility is probably 60% empty.

There is nobody working in there and it is no secret that the Jesse Oonarke Centre in Baker Lake draws the least subsidy of all the businesses of the Nunavut Development Corporation in Nunavut. Could you direct the President of the Nunavut Development Corporation to maybe assist or help the print makers and wall hanging people in Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will speak to the President of the Nunavut Development Corporation on this matter. I have been to the Jesse Oonarke Centre in Baker Lake and they make very good wall hangings and prints and the ties that they make are very beautiful. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. Iqittuq.

### **Question 002 – 1(6): Retreat for Suicide Survivors**

**Mr. Iqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't recall exactly when, but at the beginning of the Fifth Session I was talking about suicide and what we can do about suicide prevention and how the survivors and the parents who have lost children could form a support group. I would like to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services how we can get a support group. When can we establish a support group or what kind of plans can we establish for survivors? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, about a week and a half ago or two weeks ago, here in Iqaluit we had over 40 delegates, Community Health

Representatives and Wellness workers and so on from across Nunavut meet to discuss exactly what the member is talking about.

That is, having informal and indeed formal groups set up to deal with the survivors and the families that been left behind after suicide incidents. Mr. Speaker, I'd be very interested in following up with the member on his suggestions. That is something Mr. Speaker, if groups and families and so on want to be involved in that, the Department of Health and Social Services would certainly try to help and facilitate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I like your response. Usually you start off by saying that was a really good question. That was a very good answer. I would also like to thank you for having your department available to help with the establishment of a support group.

A suggestion was given to me about survivors who have gone through the grieving and their loss and have accepted their loss. They have gone through the healing process and now can decide what they can do to help the survivors. I think it is about time that those people who have gone through the grieving period get together so that they can look for solutions. I am not saying the counsellors should be involved, I think that the solutions that we could find that would be the most effective would be the suggestions that are made by people who have gone through the healing process who have accepted their loss and so on.

So my question to the minister is, could there be a possibility of your department getting these people together? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know one of the issues that were being dealt with at that conference that we talked about earlier, I believe there were 44 delegates facilitated by Elisapee Davidee, there was discussion of both informal and formal contacts and help between organizations and indeed people in the communities.

Mr. Speaker if there is a request that comes forward from people on the specific issue that the member talked about, then Mr. Speaker, I would direct the department to help facilitate that type of group or that type of organization. The answer to the member's question is yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary question. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand your response. Would it be possible to find some funding from other agencies or organizations? I think there are 26 communities in the whole of Nunavut. I am sure that there are survivors in

every community. I am looking at a forum of maybe six representatives from each of the 26 communities. Is it possible for the government to look at outside sources of funds so we can pull them together and get such a forum underway? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Mr. Speaker, one of the initiatives that the department is in the process of bringing forward in the new budget, we've discussed our Mental Health Strategy. A component of that is the National Suicide meeting of the National Suicide Group. Its Chairperson is Sheila Levy who is actually from Iqaluit. At that meeting we'll have people from all over Canada here in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, at that time we also would be looking at funding people from other communities to come share their ideas, their thoughts, and exactly what the member is talking about.

So I would be interested Mr. Speaker, to facilitate delegates from each of the Nunavut communities to attend the symposium on suicide through the national meeting that will be taking place in the upcoming year here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not just talking about Nunavut. But the reason I am asking these questions is because there are a lot of survivors in each of the Nunavut communities and my question is, can we get such a forum or a meeting or a conference together with the survivors attending this meeting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there has been talk in the past about such a program, such an opportunity for a meeting.

Mr. Speaker, that is something again that I would commit to the member to do and maybe the idea would be to do it in conjunction with the national meeting. So we'd actually have a Nunavut Symposium for Nunavummiut before we actually host a National Symposium, and probably do it around the same time.

I think that's an excellent idea and that's something Mr. Speaker, I will follow up with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Question 003 - 1(6): Update on Turnover Rates**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Human Resources.

Like I said in the last session, which ended yesterday, I asked the minister if he could provide information on the turnover rate and he indicated that he had that information and would provide it to the members of this House.

I would just like to ask the minister for an update on the information that he had already. Why hasn't it been provided? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): I said that once I get the numbers compiled I'd get them to members. When the session resumes I will have those numbers ready for the members.

But Mr. Speaker, like we said earlier, the database hasn't been updated for quite some time now and they have to be entered into the database first before we have the complete total numbers. I'll have them ready next time.

**Speaker:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I may correct the minister, he indicated when I asked him the last time that they had that information. I also asked him at the time why it wasn't incorporated in the Public Service Report that was tabled on the last day of the last session and again, here we are on the last day and we don't have any information.

Is the minister now saying that he doesn't have all that information available as he indicated earlier in the last session? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since this is the first day of the 6<sup>th</sup> session, what I'm trying to say Mr. Speaker, is I will have the information available and what I want to do is give you the total information. Our employees could not enter those into the database because of problems with the system. I now have the information. I will be giving out the information at the continuation of this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe the minister indicated the last time I asked him that he has that information now. I am just wondering if you could

explain what putting that information into a database that he has already, has to do with providing that information to the members of this House.

Why, if he has that information as he had indicated before, do we have to wait until the next sitting to be able to get that information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At that time when you asked that question, I did have the numbers but they weren't divided up into categories. I couldn't give the information to you because of that. I instructed my staff to divide them into categories so that you could have accurate information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess, Mr. Speaker, I'll ask the minister if he would be willing to commit that he table those documents on the first day of our next sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said, I will have the information available as soon as possible. If you are not satisfied with the information, please inform me. But they will be available and I will table them in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

#### **Question 004 - 1(6): Staff Housing for 13 Positions in Kugluktuk**

**Mr. Havioyak:** Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. On my question to the Minister responsible for the Decentralization Secretariat yesterday...(interpretation)...I didn't finish my question in regards to this issue, so I would like to do that today.

I had a response which said that 33 positions were supposed to be relocated to Kugluktuk. 13 positions were not filled as of yet. Why is that? If they were to be filled, would they have staff housing available? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have had a shortage of staff housing everywhere in Nunavut. Those that have been housed are priority positions. We are looking for additional housing for staff and we are currently reviewing it.

There are only a few still vacant in Kugluktuk but then again we are looking at all the communities. We would like to have this whole process completed this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we know, the Nunavut Government was created on April 1, 1999. Now it is 2002. These positions should already have been filled.

I understand the minister when he states that we don't have adequate housing. When will you review or when will you tell the House that the staff housing is available? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a government we are going to complete the decentralization process within three years. We haven't reached that deadline yet but there are quite a number of positions filled in Kugluktuk, the majority have been filled.

In regards to staff housing, we are working on that as a government and you have probably seen through the media that we are looking at finding additional staff housing in the communities and building additional staff housing.

I can't respond to you at this time but we do have to talk to the people who might construct these buildings and we would like to complete that as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response and I understand your response.

My constituents would like to find out why these positions haven't been filled. These are the questions that I get from my constituents. As far as these positions that are vacant have you as a minister been looking for people in Kugluktuk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some of the positions have been frozen because of the shortage of housing. It's something that we did not want to do. It's our last option but we did have to freeze some positions because of the lack of staff housing. Also, if at all possible, that we appoint people to these positions who currently have housing. It's one of the options but one of the challenges that we have is finding employees and housing them.



Our Deputy Premier is now responsible for the Housing Corporation and we're working on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

**Question 005 - 1(6): Gasoline for Coming Summer**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Public Works.

Just this last this week we've been discussing the quality of gasoline. Recommendations were made, so can the minister state where they will be purchasing the gasoline for Nunavut this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Public Works, Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past week we've been discussing the concerns regarding the quality of gasoline and the gasoline is purchased through NTCL. I will be talking with NTCL about the concerns from Nunavut. We will inform them that a better quality of gasoline needs to be purchased in Nunavut and we will be doing this shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, samples of the gasoline in Nunavut are being sent out. When does the minister expect the results to be in from the people that are looking into the quality of the gasoline?

**Speaker:** Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The samples were sent out to England and we haven't received the results. We expect the results will be in shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are aware and Nunavummiut are aware that Public Works is working very hard to solve this problem. (interpretation ends) Can the minister commit to buying a barrel from the south and bring it up here, get 2 skidoos, put in gas from the south and some from up here. Let them operate and then take the motors out and check them. Would he commit to doing that? The tests would be done up here instead of going other places. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a very good question from the member. The Department of Public Works and Services does not have or own a snowmobile that we would be able to use for this purpose. So I cannot really commit to it at the moment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the minister, there are a lot of snowmobile stores here in this area. Would they be able to look into this to see if one could be made available? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure about how the dealers will feel about doing this but I'll look at it, although I cannot commit to it at the moment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

#### **Question 006 - 1(6): Young Offenders Outpost Camp Supervisors**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. There are young offenders' camps in some communities, in Pond Inlet and I think in Pangnirtung. Do the camp operators have supervisors regionally? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Justice. Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are staff that are reviewing this issue ever since there was a death that occurred last year in one of the camps. We support these programs as a government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): After the death occurred last year, has this program been slowed down? The operator in Pond Inlet told me that he hasn't been contacted since spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There was a coroner's review done and we're looking at how we could better set up the supervision of young offender camps. But this is something we'll be dealing with this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Supplementary question. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): While they're working on this, are the camps shut down until then? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The program is continuing and we are looking at improvements. We expect to make an announcement very soon on the program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are they presently laid off at the moment? He didn't answer my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From what I know they haven't closed the camps except where this incident occurred. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

#### **Question 007 - 1(6): Working with Financial Organizations**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Sustainable Development in regards to my Member's Statement.

There are various small business support programs in place in Nunavut. I know that there are criteria that we have to follow in order to apply for assistance. First of all I would like to ask if you work closely with all these entities that support small businesses in regards to development? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like my colleague to clarify his question. Is he asking if I met with all the business people in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Iqaqrialu, please clarify your question. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am talking about groups like the Kakivak Association. It is an entity that supports small businesses. Your department supports small businesses and NTI has a program. The banks have programs for assisting

small businesses. I was wondering if you work with these entities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now his question is clearer. I thought you meant all the private small businesses in your first question. But you are asking about these entities that support small businesses.

I have discussed this matter with these entities to find out how we can get more support for the small businesses of Nunavut. I have plans and I've already stated that we would like to have close consultations with these entities.

So we are now working on that issue and I would like to see it sometime soon in the future as to how we can get better support to small businesses.

The member's question is a good question about how they can meet and consider other options for how to get more support to the small businesses. I can consider this and see if there are other ways we can meet with these entities that support small businesses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his response and I would like to see that go ahead. I don't know if my question is going to be out of line and Mr. Speaker you can correct me if it is not related.

When small businesses start operating they have to start paying for all sorts of bills. They have to pay for the insurance and they have to pay for income tax, and the Worker's Compensation Board. They have to pay for all these various bills. They end up paying for everything, even though they are not making much money themselves. They have to pay for their operations and maintenance, like the phone bill, and computers. There are many bills that they have to pay.

I was wondering if your department could look into this to find out how we can improve this situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we do have start up funds. We do provide support and assistance to small businesses that are just starting up so that they can develop themselves. We will continue to support them.

There are also various small businesses that could be supported by the Kakivak Association and by the Federal Government. They apply for funding from these various entities and they do pay very close attention when they start up their businesses.

That is how it is. In the future it is evident that we will look for ways we can continue to develop the small businesses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understood the minister's response. I do have a supplementary question. If it is going through the Federal Government and there is some form of assistance for small businesses of Nunavut, are you working closely with your federal counterparts, or have you never worked with them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, for small businesses that are just starting up, I used to help these small businesses when I was an Economic Development Officer under the Hamlet. Yes, when I was an Economic Development Officer, I used to look for additional funding, especially when you are an Economic Development Officer trying to help a small business start up.

As an Economic Development Officer you have to look at all these aspects. We have looked very closely and I'm sure that the staff are doing the best that they can to support the small businesses. We do have a program that provides services for small businesses and it is the Economic Development Officers who are working together to find additional funds to assist these small businesses in developing their businesses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. His responses are very interesting and I am very glad to hear them. I think that there have been quite a few small businesses that go bankrupt because they can't afford to pay certain bills.

Even though Iqaluit is a city, a small store is closing because they cannot make ends meet. Is he willing to look for new ways to support small businesses? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will do the best we can to assist the small businesses. We will continue to support the small businesses. I would like to work with these entities that support or give assistance to small business whether they are Inuit organizations or government departments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Question 008 - 1(6): Funding for Gravel Access Roads**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister responsible for Transportation. In my constituency there is hardly any gravel to use to build access roads. I was wondering if she would provide funding to complete the access road in Repulse Bay. That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Transportation. Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have heard and know about the lack of gravel in Repulse Bay. We were in Repulse Bay as a cabinet and saw it for ourselves.

Mr. Speaker, we will set up funding for access roads. But at this time I don't know the figures. But this has been one of my concerns. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll use an example in my question. We've been trying to build an access road in Kugaaruk and annually they provide funding for access roads. In Repulse Bay they weren't able to complete the access road. I was wondering if the minister would provide funding for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the Kugaaruk access road that was built when they cleaned up the old military site, we had to get funding through environmental programs and it was done through another program.

The money was coming from another source. There was no funding previously when we became the Government of Nunavut for that, Mr. Speaker. I will start setting up funding for access roads. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Supplementary question. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When would you expect to see the funding made available and in what year? That is my last supplementary question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want this completed as soon as possible as I know that the summer is just around the corner. Some communities have been just verbally requesting funding.

In the GNWT we had funding for access roads that could be obtained by the municipalities but once we became Nunavut Government we did not have that budget line. But we are working on that now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Puqiqnak.

### **Question 009 - 1(6): Problems Encountered by Post-Secondary Students**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will be directing my question to the Minister responsible for Education. During my statement, I spoke of those who graduated from grade 12. Last year we had 100 graduates.

We are very proud of the students that graduate but in my constituency, they can't access additional education beyond grade 12 even though some graduates try to further their education. I am wondering what the problem is when they can't get funding for tuition fees. So I would like to ask the minister what the problem is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister of Education. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When there is a problem with the students getting funding, we look at the problems of each individual, usually on a case by case basis.

I'm not exactly sure which question he's asking so I can't really respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll use an example; there was an individual from Gjoa Haven and one from Taloyoak that completed grade 12. I know this individual from Gjoa Haven tried to go to Nunavut Sivuniksavut and was told that it was already full.

I just wondered whether there could be another way that they can enter the Nunavut Sivuniksavut or another program. If there is another avenue whereby he or she can apply? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We support Nunavut Sivuniksavut, which is used by Nunavummiut students. The member already told me that

the individual did not have room because the program was full. Additionally, Nunavut Sivuniksavut is not really our department's responsibility.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know that those students would like to take further training. They have completed their grade 12. I am sure that their parents prepared for them to go away to school. But they have to wait for about two years and it just seems like their grade 12 education that they have gained is kind of a waste.

I just wondered if they have any policies in the Department of Education on how they pick people from various communities for that program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Nunavut Arctic College has personnel that deal with entrances. Part of their job is promoting and advertising for the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a short question. I just wondered if the minister knows how many people have applied to the program from my constituency? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have the information at this time on exactly how many people applied from the member's constituency.

This year up to October 2001, there have been 319 students that received Student Financial Assistance from our department; 154 people in Nunavut and 165 outside of Nunavut that are taking their education down south. Looking at how many people have graduated in 2000, there were 136 that completed their education. We will try to keep promoting it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I asked the minister if he could find out how many students were from my riding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.



**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I tried to tell the member that this would take a while for me to try and get the information. But as to how many of them have not been approved for Student Financial Assistance that will be more difficult. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Members will note that Question Period is now over. Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Petitions. Item 9. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 10. Tabling of Documents. Mr. McLean.

### **Item 10: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 001 - 1(6): Letter from John Jacobson - Tower Arctic**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, again as Chairman of the Standing Committee for Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development I have to table a document regarding the extension of the sunset clause on the NNI Policy and today I'd like to table a document from Tower Arctic in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Item 10. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tootoo.

#### **Tabled Document 002 - 1(6): Press Clippings - Auditor General**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a package of press clippings on the subject of the Auditor General's recent report to the Legislative Assembly. I was hoping to be able to have them attached to my report yesterday, unfortunately I missed it but I will table them today.

**Speaker:** Tabling of Documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

#### **Tabled Document 003 - 1(6): Education Act Overview**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the following document "Education Act Overview" which provides an overview of the major sections of the Education Act with a brief description of each section.

It also provides a selective list of significant changes that have been made in the Act and compares them to previous legislation or previous drafts of the Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Item 10. Tabling of Documents. Item 11. Notices of Motions. Mr. McLean.

### **Item 11: Notices of Motions**

#### **Motion 001 - 1(6): Extended Adjournment**

**Mr. McLean:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on March 11, 2002 I will move the following motion;

I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that notwithstanding Rule 4 that when the House concludes its sitting in Iqaluit it shall be adjourned until April 24, 2002;

and further, that at any time prior to April 24, 2002 if the Speaker is satisfied, after consultation with the Executive Council and Members of the Legislative Assembly, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during adjournment the Speaker may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and transact business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time.

Mr. Speaker, at the proper time I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. McLean. Item 11. Notices of Motions. Item 12. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Kilabuk.

### **Item 12: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 1 - Education Act - Notice**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, March 11, 2002 I shall move that Bill 1, Education Act be read for the first time.

At the appropriate time Mr. Speaker, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Item 12. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 13. Motions. Mr. McLean.

### **Item 13: Motions**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm also happy it's the last day. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. McLean, you have unanimous consent. Please proceed.

**Motion 001 - 1(6): Extended Adjournment**

**Mr. McLean:** I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that notwithstanding Rule 4 that when the House concludes its sitting in Iqaluit it shall be adjourned until April 24, 2002;

and further, that at any time prior to April 24, 2002 if the Speaker is satisfied, after consultation with the Executive Council and Members of the Legislative Assembly, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during adjournment the Speaker may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and transact business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time.

And everybody have a safe trip. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. McLean. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Item 13. Motions. Motions. Item 14. First Reading of Bills. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Item 14: First Reading of Bills**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Mr. Speaker as per Rule 62 (2) and notwithstanding rule 62 (1), I request the consent of this Assembly to waive the two day notice required for first reading of Bill 1, Education Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Are there any nays. There are no nays. Proceed.

**Bill 1 - Education Act - First Reading**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Mr. Speaker I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that Bill 1, Education Act be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? Bill 1 has had first reading. Item 14. First Reading of Bills. Item 15. Second Reading of Bills. Item 16. Orders of the Day. Ms. Clerk.

**Item 16: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk (Ms. Aglukkaq):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Orders of the Day for Wednesday April 24th, 2002. 1:30 p.m.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements

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

As well tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development will be meeting in Tuktu.

*>>Applause*

**Speaker:** Members before we finish for the day I would like to thank our Pages. They deserve a round of applause along with our Sergeant-At-Arms, Mr. Kilabuk for their services.

*>>Applause*

Of course our staff and the interpreters without whom we wouldn't get through the session. Thank you very much. Great job.

*>>Applause*

Mr. Clerk, this House stands adjourned until April 24th, 2002 at 1.30. Everybody have a safe trip home. Godspeed. Sergeant-At-Arms

*>>House adjourned at 4.29 p.m.*



