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**Friday May 10, 2002**

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**Iqaluit**

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Akulliq)

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(Nanulik)

**Jobie Nutarak**  
(Tunnunig)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Friday May 10, 2002**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irgittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Honourable Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Ed Picco, Honourable Manitok Thompson.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker:** I will say the prayer today.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker:** Ullakktut, good morning members, Mr. Premier. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 033 – 1(6): Canada Health Day in Nunavut**

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important day in Nunavut. This coming Sunday May 12 is Canada Health Day. This day is recognized every year because it has special significance as the birthday of Florence Nightingale, a woman considered to be the mother of the modern nursing profession.

"Together for a Healthy Environment" is this year's theme. Mr. Speaker, for us here in Nunavut, protection of our environment is critical since our access to healthy, nutritious food depends on a safe local environment.

Mr. Speaker, my department is committed to continuing the work needed to build a healthy environment, an environment in which we have the information that we need to make healthy choices for ourselves, our children and our families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Picco. Ministers' Statements. Are there any further Ministers' Statements? Item 3. Members' Statements. Minister, Mr. Premier.

### Item 3: Members' Statements

#### Member's Statement 117 – 1(6): Birthday Wish to Mr. Nutarak

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a Members' Statement. Today is Friday and we lost the hockey game last night and I lost some sleep over that but I am very pleased today though that Mr. Nutarak is celebrating his birthday and I will be giving him a gift after my comments. Thank you.

>> *Applause, laughter*

**Speaker:** Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Iqittuq.

#### Member's Statement 118 – 1(6): Happy Mother's Day

**Mr. Iqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to make an announcement for the upcoming Mother's Day. I have to say thank you to my mother, I don't think she will be watching TV today as they will probably be out on the land.

I will give you a brief overview of what we used to do when we were children. My father was hunting one day and my mother would be busy all day from dawn to dusk. In the fall when we were still living in the tent, there was not enough construction material to build a hut. One time my father was building a hut and there wasn't enough material to complete it.

Our mothers and fathers always seem to be old, but at that time in the 1960's my parents were probably in their late 20's or 30's and they were extremely capable people and especially my mother who used to walk long distances. To date we are now capable of doing everything well, and even today my mother still tells me about the morals of being a human, how to live a good life and she has given me that gift. I hope I live up to her expectations.

I would like to say that I love my mother, she is in her 70's but she has been out on the land for over a week now. I am very proud of her and if they should go back to Hall Beach sometime this weekend, I wish her the very best on Mother's Day. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

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

#### Member's Statement 119 – 1(6): Special Needs Assistants in Schools

**Mr. Haviyok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the shortage of special needs assistants in Nunavut schools. Mr. Speaker, this has been a serious issue within my community as it has been in other Nunavut communities over the last year.

I have concerns about the growing number of our children going into the education system and I am especially concerned about those children who have special needs and require assistance so that they can attain their education.

In Kugluktuk there is a ratio of 25 students to one teacher in one class. With this number of students in one class, how can one teacher help a child that is a level or two lower than his or her classmates, and how can the teacher do this without taking too much time away from the rest of the class?

It is unacceptable that our teachers are doing two jobs. To make things even more difficult, many teachers do not have the special training to assist those students who have special needs and who have difficulty with their basic education. Mr. Speaker, I cannot stress enough that our teachers need more support and assistance in helping our students gain their education. We need additional special needs assistants for our special needs students as they too are part of our future generation.

I encourage the Minister of Education to review the status of special needs assistants. At the appropriate time I shall be asking the minister questions about this issue. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

>>*Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 120 – 1(6): Student Traditional Excursion Trips in Pangnirtung – 10 Year Anniversary**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I received a note to give a kiss to the birthday boy, but I don't think that I am going to do that.

>>*Laughter*

In the community that I represent there is a ten year anniversary of when they started taking the children out on the land as an excursion. Today they will be celebrating the ten year anniversary of taking the children out on these excursions. Usually the children that are taken out are from kindergarten right up to the top grades. The grade twelve students and the older ones are usually taken out for three days to a week, and when they are taken out on the land they go caribou hunting; they go out to the floe edge, and they go fishing.

They are taught how to sew traditional clothing and they are taught how to clean and tan skins, drying meat such as fish and caribou and they are taught all of these traditional skills. They have two instructors who are elders who take the children out on the land. There are four groups that go out, and they also have cooks and helpers.

I would like to recognize the people that originally set up these excursions, Lena Metuq who was the school principal, Frank Alot, Wendy Goodall, David Lloyd who was a



teacher in Pangnirtung before, Rosie Kilabuk my wife and an early happy Mother's Day to her since I am not going to be there on Sunday, and Meeka Alivaktuk the Attagutaluk School's CA. I would also like to thank the volunteers, the teachers and the community residents and the sponsors, especially the Kakivak Association, Qikiqtani Association, Pangnirtung businesses who have given a lot of assistance.

I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these people. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 121 – 1(6): Learning Survival and Hunting Skills as a Youth**

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since today is Friday I would like to make a few comments. I think I was seven years old when I first started going out with my father on hunting expeditions by dog team.

When I was first starting to learn how to handle a dog team, my father used to go to the community on his own. We were about two to three miles away and he would leave me alone out there so that I could learn from experience the survival techniques. He used to give me advice on handling a dog team and of course he told me that dog teams have a homing instinct. They would take you home when you didn't want to.

Even though he told me that, one time I wanted to find out if that was true so I hurried the dogs along and we were on the sea ice and my father was waiting at a seal hole and when I found a breathing hole I started waiting for a seal. I knew that if I got far enough from the dog team they would stop. So I gave the command for the dog team to stop but they just kept going, and I had been told by my father to watch them carefully because of their homing instinct.

So there I was waiting at the breathing hole and I gave the command for the dogs to stop but they just kept going and went home. Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So there I was running after the dog team but they were getting further and further away and I was giving them the command, I was yelling at them and finally lost my voice because they weren't listening to me and the traces were all over the place.

Finally, they got snagged on a piece of ice and I was extremely frustrated and mad. The leader was the only one I blamed everything on. When I finally reached the team we had fox traps at that time that were used to speed up the dog team. So there I was with that

trap ready to kill the leader in frustration and then I decided that's a dog, I can't do that to a dog, so I stopped myself. But I was ready to strangle that dog for going home without my command and not listening to me.

My father advised me and I learned from it. So I learned the types of commands to speed them along. So Mr. Speaker that was the way of life when we were not concerned about the quality of gasoline. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause, laughter*

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

### **Member's Statement 122 – 1(6): Growing Up as a Youth on the Land**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't know if this is going to be interesting or not. My mother raised me when I was a child and I respect her. Her teaching is in my heart. I remember in October when the snow was starting to come and the weather was getting colder, my mother used to build a qammaq, a sod house, and my father would fix the poles.

She would gather old clothing and old skins, anything she can find to keep it warm, to prepare for the cold winter months that were coming. This is something I remembered, her strong sense of maternal instinct. She would gather heather from the land and I use to go with her and she would carry huge amounts of heather to put them on the roof and sides of the qammaq.

She would go back and forth to get enough heather, and she would gather it into bundles, which we would just go and pick up to haul back to camp. We would use seal oil in the qulliqs to warm the house. We did not have many sources of light and when we would play outside for a long period of time, especially on a moonless night, the light from the wick would really seem bright.

When we went inside, I remember smelling the qulliq. We used to go to town to trade and they would get supplies in the fall, when there was snow on the ice. We would not have tea for a long time, along with other southern food supplies and when they came from trading at the post, I remember smelling good food that we hadn't eaten for a long time and we used to eat them in the evening and I remember those good times.

It seems that here in the Legislative Assembly, when we have our lunch or snacks, I do not seem to enjoy the smell and taste like those days, so those recollections seem like a figment of my imagination now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 123 – 1(6): Concerns Over Student Financial Assistance for Students in the South**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): I was going to speak up with all the passion I could muster, but with the clothes my colleague is wearing today, next to me, I keep snickering. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise my concern over the manner in which the Student Financial Assistance Program is administered.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, a number of Nunavummiut are in the south taking advantage of post-secondary opportunities. Sometimes they are moved because their family has moved south. Sometimes the program or study that they wish to follow is only available in the south.

But for whatever the reason they are there, they have great difficulty getting assistance from our government to pursue their studies. Some of our students from Nunavut Mr. Speaker, Inuit from Nunavut turn to First Nations Programs to get funding and assistance because they are unable to get support from agencies in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, this does not show much foresight. It does not promote the future of individuals and it does not promote the future of Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, the majority of these individuals want to return home, to Nunavut, to continue their lives. They would bring with them their education and skills that they have acquired.

Nunavut is desperate for educated Nunavummiut to enter our workforce. Our government should do more to make it easier for them, not to leave them to struggle by themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage our government to review the Student Financial Assistance issue and make some positive changes. We should be providing more support to all of our students, those who are in the north and those who are in the south. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Williams. Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

**Member's Statement 124 – 1(6): Remember Mother on Sunday – Mother's Day**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a little puppy which I love very much. I don't think I will let my dog go near Peter Kattuk, because he seems so fearsome if you are a dog.

Mr. Speaker, today I just wanted to mention that this coming Sunday is Mother's Day. That is the time I miss my mother most. She was my friend and mentor. She was not always agreeable, sometimes she seemed really bossy when I was a child and downright scary.

Sometimes my mother will tell funny stories, Mr. Arvaluk knows all about it because he is her friend. My mother is like that, sometimes she is funny to make us feel better. It would take me a long time to tell you everything that she has done.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to tell my mother that my arm is healing. I can move around now without the cast. I love you mom, and I miss you very much. I wish that I could sit down with you, have tea, and laugh with you. Sometimes my mother and I would laugh so much that we would roll on the floor when we had a good conversation. I would like to thank my brother Louie Bruce; he takes good care of my mother. He usually makes a little cabin for them, wherever they will go camping. And at the moment he is building a cabin for her, he is getting everything ready so that my mother can go fishing inland. He has built more than one cabin for our parents; I thank him on behalf of our family.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that my mother is in my thoughts, I miss her, I thank her and perhaps this will be lost in the translation, but my mother has a pet name for dad and she would say “my man” to my father. This is just to clarify the story I have started, so please bear with me so that I can finish my story. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

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

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My father has a hearing problem. Instead of saying husband, she would say “man” and she can be very, very loud when she calls my father, “angutii” when she wants his attention.

Sometimes, on more than one occasion, she would blurt out “ataniiq” (Lord God) by mistake and you could understand why some of the people who happened to be visiting would wonder why she had just blurted out “Lord God.” Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Members’ Statements. Mr. Picco.

### **Member’s Statement 125 – 1(6): Wishing Happy Mother’s Day**

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to wish a very warm birthday wish to the member from Pond Inlet. I wish him a very happy thirty-fifth birthday today.

>> *Laughter*

I too would like to begin by saying that on Sunday it will be Mother’s Day. And I would like to wish three, Mr. Speaker, very special mothers, a happy Mother’s Day.

Mr. Speaker, (interpretation) Firstly I would like remember my mother-in-law, Ningiuraapik, in Clyde River, I would like to say that we love you, and have a happy Mother's Day. (interpretation ends)

And also through the power of cable television, I would like to welcome and say a very happy Mother's Day to my mom, Ethel, who has the good opportunity at times to watch this session on APTN, I understand. So I would like to welcome and wish my mom a very happy Mother's Day in Fortune Cove, Newfoundland.

I also want to thank the members and especially the people of Iqaluit, who have welcomed my mom several times here to Nunavut and to Iqaluit, most recently last month.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to wish my wife and my best friend, Opah, who has given me seventeen years of love and happiness and three wonderful children, a very happy Mother's Day on Sunday.

We have something special planned for Opah this year. I am going to try to finally get her on the machine down to the cabin. She hasn't been able to get down there yet. She has been, in Inuktitut you call it *nangiaqnatuq*, to go down to the cabin. So hopefully she won't be nangianaq on Sunday.

Also Mr. Speaker, finally I'd like to wish the mothers of Nunavut a very happy Mother's Day and to the mothers of members of this House. Members of this House, the men and especially the women take on a lot of responsibility to become members. A lot of times I know that they miss a lot of special events. I know Minister Thompson; I've been with her over seven years now and now Ms. Williams.

So, I'd like to take this opportunity, to offer a special Mother's Day to Ms. Williams and Ms. Thompson and to the mothers in the gallery and the interpreters too who work long hours on our behalf. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Picco. Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

### **Member's Statement 126 – 1(6): Birthday Wishes**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today is Friday and Mr. Nutarak's birthday. I'd like to remember these people although Mr. Nutarak may have never seen them; I am sending birthday greetings on their behalf.

These are the people; Annie Netscher in Coral Harbour, Annie Ittuq and Pigsuktuq Ittuq and Pittauyuq my aunt. Johnny Nakoolak, Bobby and Marvin, Jimmy Nakoolak, Louie Bruce, Anautalik Mikittuq Kannayuk Bruce in Coral Harbour and in Chesterfield Inlet, Victor Summurtok. George Tannuyak, who was here just recently and Mr. Aggak and

Bernard Pootoolik, Loey Auttut, Ben Pootoolik, and on behalf of those individuals I wish Mr. Nutarak a happy birthday. Thank you.

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

**Member's Statement 127 – 1(6): The Movie: Scorpion King**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First off I'd like to wish my mom a Happy Mother's Day and all the other mothers in Nunavut, a happy Mother's Day.

But I'd like to especially apologize to the Honourable Member Picco's mother. I just realized that she watches on APTN and I'm usually up here giving him a hard time about his department and trying to keep him accountable. So, Mrs. Picco, I'm sorry that I'm picking on your son. He does work very hard and I'm sure we're all proud of him in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, something interesting happened to me this week. I went to the movie, *The Scorpion King*, and half way through the movie I decided, I can't take this guy, the Rock. He was kind of boring and I get up and I said nah, I can't take this movie. So, I get up and I come home to my apartment and I was sitting there wondering why I didn't like that movie.

And I realized that the Rock reminded me of Mr. Picco. In a way that when I'm in Committee of the Whole, I noticed the members probably notice that I get up and walk out a lot when Mr. Picco's in Committee of the Whole.

I just want to say Mr. Picco, it's nothing personal but I prefer you a little bit more than the Rock. And on the end of this statement Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say that I was, Kabblunak have an old saying. It's an old saying. It was called, "Victory grabbed by the jaws of the feet." and nothing was more exemplified as last night when the Montreal Canadians, the Mighty Montreal Canadians, had the Carolina Hurricanes down three zip with 10 minutes to go and it was called a total collapse.

So, I know my constituents in my community are a lot of Montreal Canadian fans but I say bear with them. They may come through, maybe. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter, applause*

**Speaker:** I was debating whether we should rule Mr. McLean's comments out of order.

>>*Laughter*

Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

**Member's Statement 128 – 1(6): Young at Heart on His Birthday**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier, Mr. Okalik said he was going to give me a gift and this is what he gave me for my birthday and I'd just like to show it off as I know that people would want to see it, that is why I am trying to show it and I apologize as it almost fell off.

Today is my birthday and I'm not older, it's just that the numbers of my age are just higher but I'm still young at heart even with all of these birthdays.

In the past, perhaps I am not alone, when we were young when I turned 20; it seemed that I had reached a wondrous age or was it when I turned 16. Nowadays it seems like I am old based on my years, but now that I am older I don't seem to notice the years passing.

I think that as you get older, things stop being so important and you do not notice old age creeping up on you, but I guess it is all in how you feel. Young people probably think I am getting really old, but I don't feel old. It's just when I look in the mirror that I look older to myself.

Yesterday was my wife's birthday and Mr. Kilabuk asked me about a letter that my wife wrote to him saying that he should kiss me for her. So, earlier this morning, when we had a break, he asked me to go outside and that he had a matter to discuss. He informed me about the letter and the offer to be kissed on my wife's behalf, but I declined the offer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause, laughter

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

**Member's Statement 129 – 1(6): Happy Mother's Day**

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, I would like to remember my wife, Caroline as she is also a mother and I hope she has a wonderful day on Sunday. I have three mothers, my adoptive mother whom I loved very much, Piugaq and the interpreter Jean is named after her, so I love her due to her namesake.

Also Avaqsaq, who was my maternal mother and she has several children named after her and as a matter of fact, one within my own family and she just arrived a couple of days ago. After my adoptive mother died, my stepmother Ullatitaq was the lady that took care of me, our children are named after each of them, and I love them all dearly.

Today I would like to talk about our language. Quite a number of us were educated in English and a lot of us tend to lapse into English. I know that in my constituency riding in Rankin Inlet, some elders are unilingual and can only speak in Inuktitut, while others have some capacity in English, especially those who worked at the Nickel mine, like Mr. Qaglik, his wife Elizabeth Qaglik, Mr. and Mrs. Ittinuar, Mr. and Mrs. Pisuk, Mr. and

Mrs. Kapok, my maternal uncle Mr. Tatee and my paternal aunt Manilaaq. Mr. and Mrs. Makpah, Saumik, Evaluarjuk and my sister Mary Autut, Ms. Nokachik, Ms. Nukitook, Mr. and Mrs. Nuluk, Kanajualak Kanaaq.

I know some of them understand a bit of English but they don't speak the English language. I think quite often when we see a friend of ours who is bilingual and who can speak in Inuktitut, we quite often speak English instead of Inuktitut. Things like "How are you today?"

With some of our constituents being unilingual and real Inummarit, I just want to encourage the Inuit to speak Inuktitut when they can do so with their friends who are bilingual. We cannot just talk the talk, we have to practice what we preach and I think that it is prudent to speak your language when there is an opportunity to do so. Just to encourage the Inuit members to try and speak in Inuktitut to their children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you. Members' Statements. Any further Members' Statements? Before we move on I would also like to wish a happy 29th birthday to Mr. Nutarak.

>>*Laughter*

We also have another birthday person in the chambers here, and it is one of the pages who was away from home on her birthday. She turned fifteen while she was here, Chantal Natamalay. Happy birthday Chantal.

>>*Applause*

I would also like to wish a happy mother's day to my mother and all the other mothers in heaven that we have watching down over us.

Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Akesuk.

**Member's Statement 130 – 1(6): Happy Mother's Day/Congratulations to Cape Dorset Students**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize. Firstly I would like to wish my wife a happy mother's day for Sunday and thank her for caring for our children and my father when he was still here. I would also like to wish the mothers in Kimmirut and Cape Dorset a happy mother's day.

I would also like to recognize three students in Cape Dorset who received math and science awards for their academic prowess. I am joyous, envious and proud of them. They are Lau Saila, Makitu Salomonie and Joe Salomonie. I would just like to say that I



hope this encourages them and that they should keep up the good work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Members if by chance I should miss your hand, at the end I normally call and ask if there are any further Members' Statements. At that point, please indicate that you have a statement.

Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it says Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, but I would like to recognize my children who I have never acknowledged. I would like to recognize them, although they are not here because my wife and I are here in Iqaluit, I pass my sincerest love to her and our children are at home.

I would like to recognize them because they are becoming more independent now and I am proud of them that they have reached this stage. This evening, they are going to be playing with Qikiqtarjuarmiut and Pagnirtummiut. My three children, my oldest daughter and my son who is older and the younger one will be competing against those communities.

Sheila Iqaqrialu, Josah and Jazzie Iqaqrialu and my other daughter and my son and my grandchildren. I would just like to recognize them and I love them and am grateful for their being well while my wife and I are here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not very often I get to recognize people from my constituency of Baker Lake. So I would like to recognize Chris DaSilva Assistant Director of Kivalliq School Services, I think that's the new name. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, you have had an opportunity to recognize many of the pages that are here from Arviat this week and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize them too, but also one of the pages from Iqaluit is a constituent of mine, the daughter of the EA to the Minister of Sustainable Development, I

would like to take this opportunity to welcome Sammy to the gallery today. There she is, thank you Sammy.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Picco. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Item 7. Item 6. Mr. Havioyak.

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

Question 145 – 1(6): Special Needs Assistants in Nunavut

**Mr. Havioyak:** Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. I rise today to speak about the needs for additional special needs assistants. I want to direct my question to the Minister of Education. During the committee of the whole on May 6, he responded to one of the questions by saying that there are slightly over 20 counsellors in the schools and on top of that there were 80 assistants working with special needs people.

I just want to ask the minister which communities have those assistants. I just wondered if the minister could give us a breakdown of the 80 assistants that are working in Nunavut. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The 80 assistants that I talked about are all in Nunavut schools in different communities, according to need. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Havioyak:** Maybe I can ask in another way. Is Kugluktuk on that list of the positions of assistants that are required for special needs children? Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to try and elaborate a little bit on the definition or the term we use as a classroom assistant or a special needs assistant. At this time Mr. Speaker, I do apologize to the member that I do not have a breakdown of which assistants, or assistant teachers, or assistants to the teachers may be in Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response, I just wanted to find out a little more because I know the Chairman of the District Education Authority has wanted more special needs assistants in the classrooms there.

They wanted classroom assistant positions put there and I wanted to know if some of these positions will be allocated to Kugluktuk. I just wanted to know if there were going to be some positions allocated there. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well if Kugluktuk, depending on the increase of positions that Kugluktuk may get, the District Education Authority will have the final say as to where or what type of assistants the schools will need for the community.

So the end responsibility of putting more assistants in the classroom will be in the hands of the District Education Authority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 146 – 1(6): How Many Suicides Since April 1999

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as MLAs we have gone through tough times and have experienced many things. We usually attempt to help others based upon that knowledge. There are times things happen that we don't understand because it is not in our experience and we lack that knowledge, and we cannot assist our peers due to our lack of knowledge or experience in the matter.

I often talk about the issue of suicide and I keep bringing it up because this sad practice has continued to this day. Could the Minister responsible for Justice provide us with information from the Coroner's Office as to how many suicides have occurred in Nunavut since April 1, 1999 and bring this information to the House and table it for our information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Justice. Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can look into this matter and if the Coroner's Office has this information, I will provide it to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that this is not an easy or pleasant task, especially when you see the affected relatives of those who commit suicide. I know that the minister does not like this issue; you can see it in his face.

But having experienced instances where people have committed suicide and I have numerous relatives who have committed suicide. We hear about cases where people have killed themselves every month, maybe not every month but this is an ongoing matter.

So I would just like to get some information from the minister's office as to how many people committed suicide since April 1, 1999. Perhaps armed with these statistics, my colleagues, who may not have as much experience in the matter as I, can at least use this information to intervene with those individuals who may be contemplating suicide.

I would like to ask the minister again when he would be able to provide that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not exactly sure when I would be able to provide the information but if it's available I will be able to table it during this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do some work for the Coroner's Office in my community, so I know that the information is accessible, and I myself could provide some statistics, but it is within the minister's realm of responsibilities, and I would like to ask him if he is able to provide the information in the House based on his comments and I would like to ask him whether he will be providing it to us next week? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If it is readily available and if it could be compiled then I will be able to provide it to the House, but I can't really respond to the member at this time. I have to look into it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 147 – 1(6): Scheduling of Airlines – Translation of Federal Legislation

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was asking questions of the Minister of Community Government and Transportation yesterday. I would like to resume my line of questioning in that regard. It's in respect to the scheduling of airlines. I know there are a lot of business people who travel on the airlines and there are a lot of different airlines out there but, they have to follow the regulations of Transport Canada as well as the relevant territorial legislation. I believe that all airlines have to show that they are abiding by the current legislation in order to be able to conduct their business in Nunavut.

With that, I would like to petition the minister on the federal government regulations for the airlines, whether they're translated into Inuktitut or not. If the document from Transport Canada can be made available, whether it's in Inuktitut or not, can the minister

provide us with a copy of the regulations, or better yet, authorize the translation of the document into an Inuktitut copy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** I'm not quite sure if that is the responsibility of the minister but, Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot provide authorization for a translation of a federal government statute, as I have no authority over the federal mandate.

But, Mr. Speaker, perhaps the member could let me know exactly which part of the regulations of the federal government's Transport Canada could, which part he wants the translation done for, what sections, and there are a lot of areas covered under these regulations.

I'm not exactly sure which part of the regulations he wants translated. Perhaps if he could let me know which part he wants done, I could respond to him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's too bad, it should be the responsibility of the Government of Nunavut Transportation Department to provide some information even though it's a federal regulation, perhaps they can use these regulations as a base for our own regulatory scheme. That's what my understanding is.

My supplementary question is, because the minister asked me which part of the regulations that I want translated, there are a lot of people that are bumped off because there is no room on the plane, and they cannot appeal to the manager, only to the frontline staff. They cannot make any managerial decisions and are only there like a brick wall, refusing any changes and they are not willing to refer the matter to their superiors.

That is one of the areas that I want to be able to comprehend, and I cannot understand the present regulations as I do not read in English, but if I were to be stonewalled, I would like to be able to know which provision has been broken or the particular regulation.

There is no one to talk to so I would like to be able to get some information on the regulations. I just want to be able to see their regulations to see whether the people that are supposed to be flight attendants have the right qualifications or whether they have to be able to speak Inuktitut. These flight attendants are almost always unable to speak in Inuktitut and we can only hear the emergency procedures via audio tape.

If there was ever to be an emergency, for those people who are unilingual this would be very complicated because we wouldn't be able to understand the procedure that they want followed. That's why I want those regulations translated into a language Inuit can understand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Transportation, which is my department are more than capable of the job that they're supposed to do and a member should not be saying that we are unable to do these things.

They are able to do our jobs as described within their job descriptions. As I stated earlier to the member, these airlines are private and they, like any business, set their own prices and I can only respond by saying that there are Inuit airlines flight attendants that are bilingual who work at First Air and some in Canadian North.

It's up to the airlines to be able to provide bilingual flight attendants. There are a lot of companies that are providing bilingual speaking employees but it's up to the airlines to be able to provide that. They are like the government in that they want to hire Inuit workers, and they are in the process of training future Inuit flight attendants.

It is obvious that the majority of the flight attendants are still mainly non-Inuktitut speakers, but the airlines try to work with my department as much as possible and we try to assist them.

If the plane is full and the seats are at a maximum, they cannot add any other rows of seats because they have a regulation whereby if the plane is full then you can't have any more passengers aboard the plane, that is why a lot of passengers are bumped off, when the combination of freight and passengers meet the maximum load.

Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, if I could tell the member that there's also Inuktitut speaking office workers at the First Air counter and Canadian Airlines who are open and able to discuss the concerns that the member may have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased with the response that I just got from the minister as she assured us that her department has some control over some of the issues that I raised in regards to airlines and the regulations that the airlines have to follow.

My other question, if that's the case, if your department has the mandate to do so, I would like your department to talk to the airlines about these concerns I have raised so that the information that I've requested can be released, perhaps at a later sitting as to your role as it pertains to airlines and transportation.. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Miss Thompson.

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the individual passengers have any concerns about the availability of space, the price of a ticket or about

the services provided, they can talk to the airlines themselves. There is information available that you can get from the individual airlines and the member can, if he wants to, talk to the airline agents. I would be more than pleased to make an appointment for the member so that he can talk to them in regards to the concerns he keeps raising.

(interpretation ends) Just to say, Mr. Speaker, we are doing the Nunavut air services study. Maybe this was not translated the way I said it yesterday. I was saying yesterday that we are going to do our air transportation study which will be read by the airlines that are involved in Nunavut and Mr. Speaker; we have a very good working relationship with the staff of the airlines. They're a private company and they have services to explain to the client where there are some complaints.

Mr. Speaker, as a transportation department we can make contact with the airlines, with the member involved, and let them explain their standby regulations and also their airfares into communities. That's what we can do as a transportation department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, thank you. I appreciate the minister's response. I'm not only talking about the standby passengers. After asking questions, yesterday and today, I am being led to understand that part of the responsibilities are under her department. I want to know from the minister about what kinds of regulations the department has regarding transportation in Nunavut, and which are amendable.

I think that's my question, based on the understanding I am getting provided by the minister. What kinds of changes have been made in regards to the transportation policy or act or their application therein. I think that's my question. I know that was an excellent response the minister gave but I'm not only talking about standby passengers.

I want to find out about the airlines that service the north and how the Nunavut Government can establish the kinds of rules and regulations that we are going to apply to the airlines, so we can service the clients better. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) The Department of Transportation is not only responsible for the airlines. We're also responsible for the roads, the maintenance of the roads, the issuance of driving licenses and airport services and we are also responsible for marine vehicles.

We're also responsible for ports and marshalling areas. We're also responsible for access roads for hunters. The regulations that we deal with regarding airlines are not simple and we are not responsible for airlines. The Department of Transportation is not only airlines and roads.

Mr. Speaker, what I am trying to say is that there is existing information available out there at the airports and from the airlines at the member's convenience. You can talk to the people who work at the airline so that you can get your information and the member knows that the information is readily available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 148 – 1(6): Number of Judges in Nunavut

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Justice. Could the minister inform the House how many judges are in Nunavut who are from Nunavut? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister of Justice. Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From what I know we have two judges here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The judges are not paid for by the Nunavut Government but there are some judges who come in from the outside and some of whom are extremely old who come to provide services. How many are imported from outside of Nunavut? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know exactly how many provide their services from the south as we contract some of the services out, but I can say that I will try to find that information out. From what I know we utilize about seven judges when we need them from the south.

I could find the information for the member but if we have any problems there are times when we are required to get judges from the south. It is the responsibility of the federal government to provide these judges, but we are lobbying them to get more up here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been a long time that we've been trying to get a third judge up here in Nunavut. We have a large jurisdiction here in Nunavut and it is imperative that we get another judge. Are we going to be getting three judges now and when and how long is it going to take? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.



**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that we've been working on this for a fairly long time. The staff is working hard to get an additional judge but since this is the responsibility of the federal government, I have been trying to make an appointment so that I could have a meeting with my federal counterpart.

I think it's going to be next week that I'll have the opportunity to have a meeting but of course it's quite hard to make arrangements because of the high workload that he has to attend to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Oral Questions, Mr. McLean.

Question 149 – 1(6): Build New Facility in Nunavut

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today my question is to the Minister of Justice. Mr. Speaker, it's no secret in Nunavut that incarcerations are getting higher and higher and I don't think that there's a community in Nunavut that doesn't have somebody that is incarcerated in an institution in the south or in the north.

I'm just wondering, has the minister got any plans, are there any plans to build any additional facilities in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As members are aware, we set aside some money for planning for institutional facilities last year. A large part of that work has been done.

I'm just awaiting a report that was put together; it is a rather lengthy report from what I've been told. I look forward to reviewing it and hopefully making decisions in the near future about a facility or facilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad the Minister of Justice is looking at that and I'm sure the members on this side of the House will be very anxious to see that report.

What does it currently cost and I don't need the minister to give me the exact dollar, but what does it currently cost Nunavut now, to incarcerate people in Yellowknife? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have the current information at the moment but I believe I can provide it at the appropriate time perhaps during my committee appearance, I could have it available for members.

I know it's a lot costlier than having our own facilities so, we try and discourage our inmates from going to YCC and try to have them in our own facilities and in outpost camps where we have them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad the minister is looking at that issue. The outpost camp issue is an issue in my community for the last number of years. There are individuals interested in setting them up but there seems to be financial constraints and the operators finding the necessary funds to build the cabins and purchase the snow machines.

In this report, will that be identified that there could be funds accessible through some other source to pursue the operation of an outpost camp? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What we are doing right now through our new budget hopefully, that will be approved by the legislature, we'll be hiring a full time supervisor that will manage all outpost camps in the system and their operations.

So we are hopeful that we can get that going this year and find ways to accommodate concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 150 – 1(6): Helping People Understand Criminal Law

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is to the Minister of Justice. These are some of the things I have heard, I do not know if they are all true. In Rankin Inlet, I was approached by an elder in Rankin Inlet who was a victim of the court system, although that elder had unintentionally broken the law by touching a person's belongings from the south.

On talking with that elder, this hurt my feelings and I want to be able to see what kinds of plans you have on helping the people in the communities. This elder I'm talking about can't hear too well and the road was not conducive to avoiding parked vehicles. That person unintentionally bumped into somebody's vehicle.

He wasn't trying to make any trouble. He got into trouble by not knowing that you cannot leave the scene and that person is going to charge him by stating that it was that person's

fault and that it was intentional. This tears at my insides when elders get into trouble with southerners who do not seem to care.

What can we do to help the people who don't know the customs of the outside that get into trouble because they are charged, not knowing what is expected of them, how can we protect our elders from these frivolous cases? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I haven't heard of this case and I do not know any law that prohibits you from touching a vehicle. It is not supposed to be like this, that people can get charged for that type of action. I do not know of any law that applies to this case.

Up to date, we are trying to get Inuktitut speaking police officers in the communities and we are in the process of training Inuit. At present we have twelve recruits attending the course in Regina so that these individuals will be able to know the culture and communicate with the people in the communities in their language. This option really is very beneficial to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our elders are not intimately familiar with the policies and laws applicable today, especially if they have not been included in the drafting of these laws and policies. And they don't know how to protect themselves because they're not familiar with today's policies and laws. If the person is charged because they are ignorant of the laws or regulations, how can we help these people to know more about what is expected in the law, so that our elders are not taken advantage of? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Whoever is charged and if that person can't pay the lawyer, we can help them in that regard. There are ways to help them in Nunavut. And also, we are trying to train Inuit people who will be our lawyers in the future.

That's our plan for the future and eventually we'll get Inuktitut speaking lawyers. I haven't seen any law that relates to what the member is talking about so I really cannot answer the question he asked in relation to the vehicle. The person who charged the elder should be the one locked up for invading the elder's privacy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really want to find out more about this matter and this is an issue that hits close to home. Perhaps you can look into

this matter and I have discussed the matter with this elder in Rankin Inlet and perhaps your department can talk directly to that person I'm talking about so that it can be cleared up and clarified? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Yes.

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

Question 151 – 1(6): Number of Active JPs in Nunavut

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice.

There is presently an employee within the department who is working on the court system in Nunavut and especially the Justice of the Peace process. To date, within the department, how many JPs do we have who can preside over trials? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Justice, Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said, we're training people on what their responsibilities will be and we will continue to train JPs within Nunavut. There are presently 65 JPs within Nunavut. I'm not sure which area the training is being held for, but this is something that I can have researched. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary, Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those 65 JPs within Nunavut, they are responsible in their communities when there is a trial going on. Sometimes the communities don't have any judges or lawyers. What are the plans to get legal aid workers in the communities who are able to provide assistance in these matters?

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The JPs are responsible for summary cases in the communities. These types of cases are used everywhere within Canada, where the local authorities deal with these minor cases.

We are trying to get more Inuit JPs and sometimes they require help from the legal aid system and they get this assistance when it is required. It's like this everywhere; Nunavut is no different from other places. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary, Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. JPs can't do their work when there is no lawyer even if the case is a minor one. Is it true when I state that when there is no lawyer available that JPs can't work on the cases? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To my knowledge, the JPs, where they require assistance from the legal aid system, they have support either through legal aid workers in training or court workers, but there is training going on with the JPs and that is what I know of the situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Final supplementary, Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I'm trying to ask is that some communities don't have a court worker. So, the JPs that are being trained at this time, what I want to know is, if the JPs are getting more training, the court workers also have to get some training, because they are dealing with sensitive issues. My question is do they require the same type of training for JPs and court workers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the court workers have to take training as well, whenever there's a change in the laws or regulations and they're always informed whenever there are changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 152 – 1(6): Student Suspensions

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to direct this question to the Minister of Education. It's in regards to students that get suspended from school.

Whenever they're suspended they have no place to go and some of them are banned from the school. Say for instance a student has been suspended, what other avenues are there for students that are suspended for them to go back to school? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps if I could get a clarification from the member whether he asked a question about whether they're protected within the classrooms. Perhaps if the member could clarify his question Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I'm saying is, when a student is suspended from the school because of misconduct perhaps, whether he mistreated his teacher or some other students.

What plans are there with the Department of Education on how to get the student back to school after his suspension is over? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When a student is suspended they would look at the reasons why he was suspended in the first place and whether there was a danger to the students or the teachers.

What we have in place is, Mr. Speaker, just as long as the students and the staff are not threatened by the individual that was suspended, we talk with the student along with the parents and the staff to make sure that the student is not a danger to the school, its staff or the students. We like to review all of the circumstances, the situation in the school and the reasoning behind the request for the suspension prior to the student being suspended.

It is only after all avenues have been explored that the school will then suspend or expel the student. That is how we want to resolve this issue, because we wish to ensure that all people get an education here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand the minister's response and his line of reasoning, but I would like to ask another question regarding the rights of the parents.

The parents have no power to take their children back to school after they have been suspended. I have experienced it myself. And the student has no other avenue to talk to the school or the staff following the suspension and to get back to school and it's not a very good situation for the student.

It has happened in the past where Inuit have had to suspend their education if they cannot get along with a teacher and it is very demeaning to have that opportunity taken away. Here we are, as a government, we keep spouting our wishes of having very well educated children who are comfortable in either language and who will work for our government, but there are students in some communities who keep getting suspended because of some infantile behaviour in the school.

Is the department looking into seeing whether there could be a better system of not suspending students? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are looking into this matter and we are reviewing the issue of the students being suspended from the schools and it's also included in the legislation that we're going to be dealing with in the near future as this concern has been voiced in the past. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the minister another question, maybe the last one. In some of the communities, I think there are quite a few students that are suspended from the schools in the communities and they are not allowed to return to school, although they try to return to school.

And if they go back into the school, when they finally go back to school, they're much older than the other students and have fallen behind their age group and this can be discomfoting.

For those students that have been suspended, is there any other way whereby they can go back to school in a different class with their own age group? Sometimes these individuals are still at the level where they cannot comprehend the material in these Arctic College courses. It would be good if they could be given further education in some other way. I am wondering whether this is also under review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is also in the draft legislation that we're going to be dealing with regarding this issue. We have looked at a minimum age a student has to be when they first start going to school and when the maximum age is for a student to be in the school system and it's all in the legislation that we're going to be dealing with.

There are two different examples that are related to the matter that the member is talking about; a student that has been suspended and a person that has just quit school. There are two different things that are dealt with in the legislation. Mr. Speaker, as I stated earlier, while the child is of school age, we do all that we can to keep them there.

As long as a student is able to go to school we have an option, but we can't control the students that quit on their own. These students are not thrown on the wayside when they are trying to quit school. They also have counsellors in the schools to deal with the ones that want to quit school after they have been suspended. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 153 – 1(6): Policy on Child and Youth Physical/Sexual Abuse Protection

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today my question is to the Minister of Health and Social Services. I'm not very familiar with this but I'd like to ask the minister. It's a fact of life now in Nunavut that we do have children and youth that are physically abused, sexually abused and verbally abused.

What's the current government policy on protecting these children? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there are statutory obligations for child care workers and social workers, or for that matter, for individuals including members of this House, when you are made aware of instances surrounding child sexual abuse, physical abuse, or any kind of abuse to children.

That also extends into the teaching environment as well as the classroom. So anywhere that anyone is aware of those types of abuses, then it's a reportable offence, and it then becomes the domain of the legal authorities to launch an investigation in co-operation with, it could be a child worker, or a social worker and so on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad the minister made that very clear to me. We all know we live in small, small isolated communities in Nunavut. The problem that we have is that when there's something like this happening and I call it a tragedy, that if it is reported, the next steps are the legal issues or the custody issues or all kinds of hard issues that have to be dealt with.

In a community where this happens, what's the option for that child? Is that child just left in the community? Does he have the option to be removed and placed some place else and healed or taken care of? Can the minister answer that for me? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the past year, we've developed a child abuse response protocol in co-operation with the Department of Justice and in co-operation with Education as well as Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, depending on the nature of the case, at the present time I could say that there's 68 children in permanent care of the Government of Nunavut for various reasons which may include abuse, violent abuse, sexual abuse and so on.



We do have children's group homes, we do have safe houses, we do have foster families and so on, where children would be able to take shelter, if so deemed necessary by the child care worker, by the social worker, or indeed, by the justice official.

It is very important to point out Mr. Speaker, the welfare of the child, the safety of the child, the emotional state of the child comes first and those are the first issues that are dealt with when you are dealing with this type of issue. That is why the protocol that we talked about earlier will be very important to ensure that there is that information available to the employees that are dealing with it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my next question is, when something like this happens, he told me that there are 68 children under care right now, are there group homes that these children are sent to. He mentioned group homes, how many group homes do we have in Nunavut?

The other thing that he was mentioning to me is foster parents. Do we have enough foster parents to look after children that have been abused? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that at the present time we have about 68 children who are in permanent care and the custody of the Department of Health and Social Services for various reasons. That may indeed, include physical or other abuse.

Mr. Speaker, we have several group homes and boarding homes which we run for children as well as permanency care in Nunavut as well as outside of Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I wouldn't be able to give the member the exact number of group homes at the present time, as I don't have that information. I can say that there is over 2 million dollars invested in that now for taking care of children in care. There are also children in care in group homes who have special needs, mental disabilities and so on, handicapped.

Those children are also in group homes. There are different reasons for children to be in group homes. But I can say at the end of the day Mr. Speaker, we try to keep the child with the family where possible, there may be in-laws, close relatives and so on, then the other options present themselves such as group homes, or safe houses, and so on.

But at the end of the day that decision is made to the best way possible for the child to be receiving services to make sure that the child is safe. That is first and utmost, the foremost important issue that occurs when this type of incident is reported. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My final question to the minister is, to his knowledge do we have adequate resources to take care of these children at the present time and have any children been refused any kind of service. My basic question is, do we have enough resources to take care of these children and are any children being turned down at this point? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first of all yesterday during the debate on the budget of the Department of Health, I did say at that time that we have had a shortage of foster families available in Nunavut to take care of foster children.

The problem with foster families is acute here in Iqaluit in particular. We need more foster families to step up and to take in some children. As far as I am aware Mr. Speaker, there has been no child that has been turned down to care. It is a statutory obligation of the government to provide that care and to my knowledge that has not happened, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 154 – 1(6): Certificate – Foster Parents

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. Do foster parents, or other guardians that are allowed to foster children, have to be certified? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is an application process that is in place for a family that would like to become a foster family. There are security clearances as well as inspections and on-site visits by our social work staff, to make sure for example that if someone wanted to take in a foster child that they have the bed space available, that it's a good living environment for the child.

As well as letters of reference are requested at the time of the application from the people who are applying to be foster parents. I should add Mr. Speaker that everything is done in the utmost confidential nature on behalf of the child and also on behalf of the foster family. Again it is very important to make sure that when you are putting a child in foster care that the home that is receiving the child is the very best and that has caused maybe some of the delay that we have experienced in foster care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. If a child can't be in their home community, according to your response, they have to send them out of the community. What context

was the minister using when he alluded to this issue of sending the child out of the community? Is it difficult? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there are times when dealing with issues of child abuse, child sexual abuse, other problems such as the breakdown of the marriage or the family, that a child may have to be taken from the community. Again that is done as a last resort; it is done in the utmost care, as well as with a great deal of work with the social work staff, in most cases or other staff on the ground in the communities.

Sometimes it may be an order of the court where a child has to be removed for whatever reasons. At the end of the day Mr. Speaker, again I have to emphasize that you want to be sure that the child is safe and after going through some of the incidences that can happen to children they are damaged emotionally, they are damaged spiritually, and sometimes they are damaged physically. And Mr. Speaker, it is very important that those children where and if possible, have the opportunity of being in their home community, but if that is not feasible or logistically acceptable at that time then we have to take the child out of the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You were saying there was a shortage of foster parents. Do they have to take training in order to become a foster parent as you were saying there was a shortage? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is an orientation that is available to foster families who are taking children under their foster care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I was a foster parent or if someone else wanted to be a foster parent, is it hard to get foster parents in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the situation here in Iqaluit has been that we have been short of foster families. Indeed, some of the members of this House are foster parents themselves. We have been advertising; we have made a request to call on the community for more foster families here in Iqaluit. Outside of Iqaluit in some of the communities again there is a concern with not enough foster families.

But in the majority of communities we have had more success in having foster families available for children that need that care. I think the member has raised a good point and the opportunity to bring this issue up today again emphasizes the need for foster families and if there are families or members who are interested in taking on the roles and responsibilities of a foster parent, then they have that opportunity by contacting the local social worker through the Department of Health in their community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 155 – 1(6): Coroner's Act Re: Drowning

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had my hand up when Mr. Nutarak was talking but I didn't have my hand up now. But I would like to ask the Minister of Justice a question about the Coroner's Act. Many of us have lost relatives to drowning and if you don't retrieve the bodies, I think the act says if you don't have the body we can't say that person is dead.

So therefore when they don't retrieve the body the family members are left with nothing because they cannot access whatever the pension is, or whatever was left for the family. If that is so, is anything being done to review the Act? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. From my understanding you can apply to the courts after presenting evidence and showing evidence to the court that the body wasn't retrieved but there is evidence that they are deceased. You can get a court order to show that they are deceased. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

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

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we need to review this act, as I said many of us have relatives in drowning cases and we have family members that cannot get anything, even if the person was working for you for a long time and saved up money for their family, they can't get that money. I think if the minister is not clear on that, can the minister look into it and make sure the act is reviewed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes I will look into it. If there have to be improvements made we are always looking into ways to improve. But we also have to provide for safeguards to be in place as we don't want to see any false claims being put forward. There have been cases in southern Canada where people pretend to be dead so that their families can get the insurance proceeds. So we have to be cautious on whatever steps that we take. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Premier. Supplementary question. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are only 27 thousand people in Nunavut. That kind of thing is probably pretty hard to do in Nunavut. So let's look at the act to make sure that the family is compensated and it's a matter that is being talked about many times in Nunavut. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Sure.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Supplementary. Members will note that question period is now over. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to go back to item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Thank you.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed Mr. Ng.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an individual from Cambridge Bay that was involved in the negotiation of the Land Claim back when he was with TFN. He has also been a past President and Director of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and is now I believe with the Nunavut Construction Corporation. That is Mr. Jack Kupuena sitting there behind Ms. Williams.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, also at this point I would like to recognize, take this opportunity to recognize four individuals from Cambridge Bay that have been doing the Inuinnaqtun interpreting and translation, there are two of them in the booth right now, Ms. Gwen Ohokak and James Paniuyaq. Also we have seen off and on, Joe Ottokiak and Henry Ohokannoak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize an individual that I went to school with and a good friend of mine and I think he is an EA for one of the members, John Illupalik and I would also like to recognize Jack Kupuena who Kelvin already recognized. He worked really hard

negotiating the land claims agreement and he worked very hard to represent Kugluktuk. So I would like to recognize him. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I also would like to recognize these two individuals. When I first got involved in politics this individual encouraged me, John Illupalik who helped me a lot when I first came into politics in 1985.

Also I would like to thank and welcome Jack Kupuena who is a very good at negotiating and I would like to welcome him. To the far right Betty Anne Eaton, is one of my constituents. So welcome.

>>Applause

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize from the Kitikmeot, he is my relative and originally from Holman, Jack Kupuena.

>>Applause

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual that people often ask me where she is, so I would like to recognize Eva Onalik who is very hospitable during her travels. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any further recognition of visitors in the gallery? Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 021 – 1(6): Income Support – Key Issues and Programs**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as part of my commitment to the Income Support Review, to increase the standing of Ikajuutiit Programs and

Services, I would like to table the following series of one page information sheets that provide information on key issues and part of the program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notice of motions. Mr. Kilabuk.

#### **Tabled Document 022 – 1(6): Turnover Rates of GN Staff in 2001-2002**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to question 408-1(5) brought up by Mr. Tootoo in our February session, I would like to table a letter in regards to the turnover of GN employees for 2001 – 2002. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Tabling of documents. Is there any further tabling of documents? Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Arvaluk.

#### **Item 14: Notices of Motions**

##### **Motion 05 – 1(6): Strengthening Support for our Students - Notice**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, May 13, 2002, I will move the following motion:

I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Quttiktuq, that the Government of Nunavut provide increased and adequate financial support to Nunavummiut who are enrolled in programs to become nursing and teaching professionals, and that this support be linked to future years of service in Nunavut communities;

(interpretation ends) AND FURTHER, I MOVE that each and every student be provided with sufficient resources with which to meet the cost of living; that each and every student be adequately housed; and that the special needs of single parents be met;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that this House encourages the Government to bring forward supplementary appropriations during the fall 2002 Pangnirtung Sitting of the Legislative Assembly to achieve the goals of this motion.

Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

**Speaker:** Notices of motions. Mr. McLean.

##### **Motion 06 – 1(6): Gjoa Haven Gasoline Study - Notice**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, May 13, 2002, I shall move that:

Whereas the Gjoa Haven Gasoline Study 1999, was previously tabled on Thursday, May 9, 2002; and

Whereas this study relates to the issue of gasoline in the territory;

I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Nanulik that Tabled Document 16-1(6) be moved in the Committee of the Whole for consideration in conjunction with the Minister's Statement 20-1(6).

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. McLean. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

### **Item 17: First Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act 2002-2003 – First Reading**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin Inlet South/Whale Cove, that Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act 2002 – 2003, be read for the first time. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. The Bill has had first reading. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Kattuk.

#### **Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act – First Reading**

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East that Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried, and the bill has had first reading. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

### **Item 18: Second Reading of Bills**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to allow for the second reading of Bill 7, the Loan Authorization Act 2002/2003. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. The minister is seeking consent to waive rule 62 (1) so that Bill 7 and 8 can have second reading today. Sorry Bill 7. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed.



**Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act 2002-2003 – Second Reading**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. Mr. Speaker I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin Inlet South/Whale Cove that Bill 7, the Loan Authorization Act 2002/2003, be read for the second time.

The purpose of the Loan Authorization Act 2002/2003 is to facilitate lending from the Government of Nunavut to municipalities. This year legislative approval is sought for a ceiling of 5 million dollars.

This legislation will benefit municipalities which may not have the ability to borrow from commercial lenders. The passage of this bill will ensure that we are able to meet the needs that may arise in municipalities in across Nunavut. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 7 is referred to the appropriate standing committee. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like consent to waive rule 62(1) so that Bill 8 can have second reading. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** The minister is seeking consent to waive rule 62 (1) so that Bill 8 can have second reading. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed Minister.

**Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act – Second Reading**

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East that Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act, be read for the second time.

The amendment to the act is required to allow the Petroleum Products Division adequate financial resources to purchase and to distribute the fuel consumed annually for Nunavut communities. The last major revision to the act was completed in 1985.

Under the existing act, petroleum products cannot meet the financial applications to purchase and distribute petroleum products due to the increased costs of refined products in world markets and increased consumption in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried and will be referred to the appropriate standing committee. Bill 8 is referred.

Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters; Bill 2, Bill 3, Bill 4, Bill 5 and Bill 6, and Bill 11, Minister's Statement 20-1 (6).

And, according to the authority vested in me, by Motion 02 - 1(6), the Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out with Mr. Iqaqrialu in the chair.

Before we proceed, we can take a short break before Committee of the Whole and I'd ask Mr. Picco, to remove his binders and employees and so on from the walkway, so that the Sergeant-At-Arms can proceed in safely. Thank you. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House Recessed at 12 p.m. and resumed at 12.58 p.m.*

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

**Chairperson** (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Thank you. We can begin the committee. Just before we begin, welcome. Yesterday, we stopped at Community Government and Transportation. I would now like to ask the Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation to seat herself at the witness table. Sergeant-At-Arms please escort in the witnesses.

What is the wish of the committee? Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): We would like to start with Bill 6, Appropriation Act 2002 – 2003 and continue on with the Department of Community Government and Transportation. After that is done, we would like to deal with Justice. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Does Ms. Thompson have anything to say and could you introduce your staff.

### **Bill 6, Appropriation Act No. 2, 2002-2003 – Consideration in Committee**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is Shawn Maley. (interpretation ends) If people don't recognize him in that suit, it is Shawn Maley. He's got a very nice suit on now. And, to my right is Mike Rafter, from Finance. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Madame Minister. Welcome. I think you're the new Minister of Community Government and Transportation. If that is the case, please identify your new portfolio. Thank you.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm the new minister at Community Government and Transportation. My Deputy Minister, John Walsh cannot be here, so Shawn Maley is taking over right now.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. We will have comments by the members, you can speak for 10 minutes and you will have the chance to ask questions. If there are no comments we can start going page by page, starting with page 7-5. If you could please turn to that page. Page 7-6. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Directorate, under 7-6, it states that the broad based legislation that applies to all communities, such as the Hamlets Act or Transportation are included...Thank you Mr. Chairman

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Just to let the members know that we are on Community Government and Transportation. Branch Summary. Directorate, Page 7-6. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Directorate under Community Government and Transportation it's all Deputy Minister's office, policy division and all those. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Anything else Mr. Arvaluk?

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister gave us a copy of an employment summary by category document. Looking at that document, under Directorate, the offices, is executive and senior management.

Is that in 7-6? And looking at the document that she provided for us, Employment Summary by Category. Did you get what I said? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. We don't have the same copy of the document that you have, Mr. Arvaluk. Or we're looking at the main estimates page by page but with that, maybe I will allow the minister to respond to the member's questions. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the committee meeting, I handed out that paper that Mr. Arvaluk is talking about. Perhaps if he could ask his question again and detail the matter, so I could respond to it. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I'm sorry, Ms. Thompson. Go ahead, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Under the directorate I understand these are positions with deputy minister's office, policy division, emergency, finance airport, special advisory corporate affairs, etc. What is the ratio in your employment of beneficiaries employed in that directorate page, 7-6? Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're just looking for the figures on that page. But I could say that I realize that we have to have

more Inuit or more beneficiaries. A lot more beneficiaries have to be employed by us. As a minister, I realize that there are not enough of the beneficiaries being employed by my department under directorate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Out of total positions of 179, it can't be 179, but anyways, in the executive and senior management, middle management. Okay, I'm not talking about professionals or paraprofessionals. In those three categories, management positions, am I correct that you have only eight beneficiaries employed in that directorate out of how many positions that have been filled? I understand that, I cannot get a clear picture on this one but I see that you got, in the executive you have one beneficiary and four senior management and four middle management.

That's all I could see Mr. Chairman. Is that correct? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct that there are only eight beneficiaries in... (interpretation ends)...there are only eight, Mr. Chair, for senior management, middle management. For senior management our total PYs are 17. Out of that 4 are Inuit. For middle management we have 39 PYs and out of that only 4 are Inuit employed in those Mr. Chairperson. I realize that this is very low. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): You deal with hamlets and with the communities recognizing that a majority of the transportation or the need for coordination and transportation are also in the communities. Road and airports, etc. dogs.

Can the minister tell me, over the last three years, why the Inuit employment in this very community oriented department has been so low in the last three years? Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot answer for the last three years but I realize that there is a need for more Inuit to work in our department. I can say that the regional staff have Inuit that are dealing with the hamlets on a regular basis but we need to do better. I realize that.

I don't really know what the problem was in the last three years but all I can say is that I have discussed this with my department and we will try to do better in hiring Inuit.

A lot of it has to do with technical people are needed at that level but our goal is to have more Inuit dealing with the hamlets and we will pursue those goals for this department. I could not answer for the last three years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. And on page 7- 2, that's a part of it. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I find it rather startling that, I knew the regional offices are doing very well with Inuit employment. I know that hamlets are doing very well with Inuit employment. Perhaps not so much in the City itself but other communities, most of the employees are Inuit.

But in the directorate the policies are developed at the directorate level to be used in the communities through the regions to the communities. Perhaps it's a problem hiring Inuit who know about the communities more adamantly and they would be the ones who are developing the policies and directives.

I also recognize that Mr. Chairman, there's a lot of full time folks, from the south originally but have lived in and been adopted by Nunavut. I appreciate that but even with that recognition, have you taken the Human Resources announcement about Inuit Employment Plan to your directorate level? Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** We have taken Inuit Employment Plans very seriously. I've just been in this department for three months but I've asked my department now to refocus their energies on serving our communities better and see where we can train Inuit to go into positions and I agree with the member. We need to improve and do better at this level and we will try our best to accommodate that concern because we agree with him.

My staff have been told and directed by me to improve our Inuit Employment Plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I apologize. We went a little off track but we're back here again. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That gave me an idea. Mr. Chairman, in the directorate level do you have on the job training for the preparation of getting into senior and middle management positions? Well executive and senior management positions because I heard one point that the Department of Finance had on the job training for several of the employees for these senior management positions.

Do you have a similar kind of on the job training for Inuit for the senior management positions? Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have two trainees for the positions of accounting and also planning in the Motor Vehicle Division. So we are starting to plan for more training in our department. This is something we need to improve on and we will certainly see where we can train people to take over the jobs. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to make my question quick because I have three minutes left. Can you tell me from your senior management how many Inuit employees have left the department in the last three years? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. You will have every opportunity to ask further questions even after your minutes are up. That's for the information of the members. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We lost two employees who were in the Assistant Deputy Ministers positions. David Akeegok moved on to another position and Rosemary Keenainak was moved to another position also. At times when there is shuffling of portfolios, there tends to be a shuffling of senior managers as well.

We don't have the numbers in front of us but Methuselah Kunuk used to work in the department when I was the Minister of MACA. He has since moved on to the Qikiqtani Inuit Association office and I don't know how many there are currently who have moved on. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Have you looked at your regional offices in the Kitikmeot, Kivalliq and Baffin Regional Offices to see if you could recruit those middle managers? I am happy that you have an experienced Assistant Deputy Minister now from the Kivalliq; there is one that has come from there.

But have you looked at other middle managers from your regional offices to move them to headquarters, or at least attempt to move them to your headquarters in the directorate level and train new ones in the region. The reason that I am saying that is because the communities and the regional offices are great training grounds for potential senior managers at the headquarters level. Have you made that move? Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can only say that we will encourage more Inuit employees coming from the regional offices to headquarters if they

want to. We are always open to those ideas and we will pursue those where there are Inuit that want to be promoted to headquarters level. I am pretty sure the regional superintendents would have a pretty good idea who would be willing to move up, but a lot of times that involves moving families and a lot of our regional staff have stayed in those regions so long that it is difficult sometimes for them to move.

But we need to recruit more younger Inuit that may be more mobile and this is something that we are going to be working on in the department and we will certainly pursue those goals to put more Inuit in senior management. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** If I ask a real quick question, then maybe I could ask one more. Do you have people in your files from your regions that you would be able to contact when the positions become available at the headquarters level? Do you have a pool of people that can be quickly contacted to encourage them to apply for senior management levels? Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have started a newsletter to all of our decentralized offices and to the regions. So all the staff should know that there are positions opening in our department and should be able to take advantage of those positions in Iqaluit at the headquarters level. Yes we are encouraging this with our staff and my staff at the regional level are very good at promoting Inuit staff if they wanted to move.

Right now we will have all Inuit Superintendents in our three regions. That's what we are pursuing and I agree with the member that we need to make sure that we have more Inuit employment at the headquarters level but to say that, we also have improved since the last time in our Inuit employment rates across the department we now have 62 employees working in the department. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): This is more of a policy question. On the same page, is it true that you no longer practice five year capital planning at the community level for heavy equipment for example, dump trucks and things like that for example? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have a capital planning process and we communicate with our hamlets still and if we are not then we should be told. But my staff are doing that, it is something that we carried over and is still being done with our hamlets. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like in a hockey game you owe me two seconds after the whistle. Mr. Chairman, on the directorate are you getting some feedback from the communities on how to deal with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit through your special advisors? Do you have a network of incoming advice from the communities on how to deal with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, and does your special advisor?

Maybe I will just rephrase my question. Does your staff for Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit catalogue the information coming from the communities, especially the hamlets and mayors, in your office? Qujannamiik.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have a special advisor on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit at the headquarters level, Tom Sammurtok. Also in each region we have a contact person who is constantly listening to the concerns of the hamlet councils and other people on a regular basis. So yes we have those people. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to get back to James' earlier question. When you talk about special advisors, there are three positions in this department, so is there a director on top of a special advisor? What is the exact structure? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have to have positions like a special advisor to deal with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Because of its importance we now have special advisors on top of directors or there are directors also for Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): I'd just like to ask the minister if they have directors, are they all Inuit beneficiaries? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit advisor is an Inuk beneficiary, but the directors aren't Inuit beneficiaries. We've hired an Inuk beneficiary to collect information in regards to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, because we do not want to lose any information that is collected.

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



**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just to get some more clarification, if they're well qualified for their positions, why aren't they in the directors' positions?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These advisors are very qualified and they deal with the senior managers and for instance, Simon Kuliqtana is the Director for Sports in Igloolik. There's a position in Baker Lake in Sports North, and this individual, Marilyn Neily, in Iqaluit, who is very qualified in her position with sports. We also have Tom Sammurtoq, who deals with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. We have an individual who deals with different regions.

There are a lot of positions but there are three main divisions. There's the deputy minister and two assistant deputy ministers. There are three divisions that we deal with within the department and as individuals we try to listen to people that are well qualified in what they do. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was 777 thousand dollars and it's now 1 million 608 thousand dollars. Under travel and transportation, are you expecting to travel more? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I spoke to my new staff about that and I told them that they should visit communities more to get information and consult with communities on different matters. I encouraged them to go to communities more so that's why there's an increase. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Under contract services, it's over 1 million dollars. What kinds of contract services or contracts are there in the department? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I stated, in Nunavut, there is a review that needs to be done on air transportation corridors. If we were to do a review on the air service study, this money would be used for that or other types of contracts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): On page 7-7, under Grants and Contributions, Grants, Leadership Forum, to facilitate leadership meetings in Nunavut. There was no previous line item and now there is a figure of 150 thousand. Would this 150 thousand be used for meetings held for SAOs and councillors for example? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): The mayors sometimes want to meet, for instance mayors from the Baffin, mayors from the Kivalliq, mayors from the Kitikmeot, sometimes want to get together or hold a conference to discuss common issues. So this would be used to facilitate a conference such as this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under that, there's contributions for firefighter training. She spoke about it in her speaking notes. So my question is why was the training not available to all communities? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sometimes, the facilitators or trained teachers will go to the communities and hold fire training workshops for firefighters. I can say that we will review this course and if we have to make changes, we will do so in respect to the training of firefighters in the regions. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's very clear and I will relay that to my constituents who wish to have this type of course, as there was a course taught in Arctic Bay and no one knew about it. This 54 thousand dollars, what would the fire equipment funding be used for? What kinds of equipment? How could the community ask for this funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The regional offices are aware of what communities need and the 54 thousand dollars for fire equipment is used for jackets or boots for fire fighters. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand what it's for. But my question is how would one approach the office to get a part of this funding? How would a community ask for this funding? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): I apologise, the communities can request money through the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make a little comment about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

I have seen what is being done here in the Baffin Region using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit procedure and in the Kitikmeot it seems like it is not as advanced as the people of Baffin. How can we go about using these methods since we want to use it more in our region and make it move visible in the Kitikmeot? How can we go about this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand where the Kitikmeot is concerned about and Kane Tologanak is an individual that the communities are able to work with. In Kugluktuk there was a conference that was facilitated by Tom Sammurtok and the communities were invited to participate in the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit conference. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response. Sometimes you probably don't know where I am coming from and we would very much like to use the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit methods in our area as well. Thank you for your response and if we are using it more then it will be more visible in our region.

I would like to ask another question in another area. Your staff will be visiting the communities in our region more and it will help a lot in our communities when your staff visit our region more often. When I was a mayor in Kugluktuk, sometimes the staff at the regional or headquarters level would have one job and go to one community just for one day and after that one job the staff member would leave right away and we didn't like that at all.

If this person could do more than one thing at a time when they go to visit the community, then it would be more effective. If each person was able to do more than one job then it would be more helpful. We should teach our people at the community level how to drive trucks, lands management and so on. How do you see this now, is it progressing? I would like to ask the minister that question. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. His question and comments are very clear, but Mr. Chairman, in the Baffin because the population is higher, sometimes we have to visit the communities. For example in Pond Inlet and sometimes we have to send people from our office out on an emergency basis.

So I understand when the member says that staff should come in an assist the hamlets more with their responsibilities. So I understand what the member is saying.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Do you want to continue? Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This brought to my mind that the aboriginal people that are working, the ratio is very low. There are fewer Inuit people working in senior management positions that there should be.

For people in Kugluktuk we have to keep this in mind that the Inuit people ... (interpretation ends)...technical people just to get things off the ground. I understand that. I think now that we have some positions filled in the management area, again I just want to follow up what James was saying let's get some training going so that you have more Inuit employment in those decentralized communities. Again, so we are benefiting the communities instead of having someone coming in from the south to work. I want to I guess, encourage that, or pressure your department or division to have some trainee positions open at each level for senior management positions. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We also participate as a department in career days so that we can promote our department at the high school level, at all levels in the community. That's one way we can attract more young people to go into professions of their desire after grade 12. Training requires a lot of O and M dollars and this is something that I know the government as a whole is pursuing to get more trainees into our positions.

I agree with the member that there is a need for more Inuit employment in my department and we are trying everything that we can to, and we will try everything we can to make sure that we are promoting Inuit employment in our department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Anybody else? Any other questions? If there are none, we are on Community Government and Transportation. Branch Summary. Page 7 – 6. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance 10 million 218 thousand. Any other questions or comments? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Turn the page to 7 – 8 which goes on from 7-9 to 7-15. So if you have questions you could ask your questions relating to all

those pages for your information. Under Community Government and Transportation. Branch Summary. Community Government. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I want to ask a question on 7-11. Sport Nunavut. To assist sport organizations and associations with the costs of clinics, workshops, conferences, competitions and projects oriented towards the development and promotion of amateur sport.

Is that a realistic budget and how was the budget set by the government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a very good question and Shawn Maley was a previous recreation director so this is in the bottom of his heart. So I think I will give him the pressure to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Maley.

**Mr. Maley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As to the question by Member Glenn Mclean. To answer your question this particular line item just deals with sport association development with Sport Nunavut. What we are seeing here is in fact a 500 thousand dollar transfer out of the budget because it was an Arctic Winter Games year.

Then we topped that up with additional dollars, as Mr. McLean asked, to in fact augment the training and travel costs with Sport Nunavut. In addition to this line item though we also offer a number of programs in the sport areas, through recreation and leisure and I am sure that you will be asking questions further as we proceed later today. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Maley. All these questions that are raised are all interesting. So Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sport Nunavut is located in the community that I live in it's no secret. One of the issues that was brought up was that you are giving referee's clinics, Sport Nunavut were at one time going out and running different clinics and hiring coaches and due to the strong central government that we have in Iqaluit, that a cheque for a coaches clinic would have to come out of Iqaluit.

They never trusted the Sport Nunavut people to issue a little 50 or 60 dollar cheque to pay people that volunteer to do things. And there is a lot of skill level in all of our communities and I think it's time to give people in the decentralized communities that are in charge of different organizations. I know a director or a superintendent has spending authority up to 250 thousand in the old GNWT and I am sure that we have passed that down to our directors and superintendents.

If we haven't, we should and I strongly recommend it. But have you decided if you are going to give this organization any kind of spending authority in regards to writing cheques at the local level or having a finance person at the local level, help do some cheque writing authority? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are looking at the changes right now and so we will be seeing some changes in that area that we need to improve upon. Just for the members to be aware that we are looking at this right now and we will see some changes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Do you want to continue Mr. McLean?

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, my question to the minister is that when I was doing my Nunavut Tourism last summer, it was very delightful to see new arenas opening up and being built in certain communities. We all know that 50 to 60% of our population is under 20 and what I noticed this summer was the large usage that community halls were getting, and gyms and stuff.

The kids seem to be really athletic. Kids in Nunavut are very athletic a lot of them and they like to play, on the land or in the gyms or in the arenas and things like that. Since division we had a really successful program for recreation directors up in Inuvik where kids would go up there for two years and become recreation leaders and people like that and it seems to have disappeared right off the face of the map in the last three years.

I think it's needed because sport and recreation is important to the young people in Nunavut because in the Bathurst Mandate and it was in a couple of other budgets that we wanted to keep people healthy and we want them to make healthy choices and things like that. My question on this, like you say recreation association development 40 thousand, coaching development 215 thousand. I think we are selling our young people short on the kind of money that we are putting into sports and recreation, coaching development and that.

We have the facilities; they are in almost every community. But what are we doing to enhance sport and recreation activities in our communities for people in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There used to be that two year program in Inuvik and what we are planning to do now is divide that same program into ten modules that can be delivered at the community level and each module should take nine days to complete.

We will try to do it better so that each person will not have to leave their families for two years to be recognized for that certificate. So we are tailoring it to the communities and we will deliver it in ten different modules. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Do you want to continue? Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's good news that we are going to give another level of certification to recreation directors. And I am sure that a lot of our communities can identify individuals that could benefit from this.

I want to bring up a couple of other issues, if I can Mr. Chair and I will ask them as questions. I will make a brief statement and I will ask them as questions. In the old GNWT, in the old days, there was a lot of recognition given to individuals in communities and we know who they are. There always seems to be someone in our communities whether it is an elder or a young person, somebody interested in minor hockey.

But what I noticed a lack of and I have brought this up three years in a row, in Standing Committee meetings, that there are people out there that are always at the arena. The volunteers in Nunavut, and this department I think should be the lead department in recognizing volunteers in sport and recreation. There are always the clinics out there and the coaches that give up all their free time on the weekends and we really don't do much for them.

There's also the search and rescue volunteers that go out and risk their lives to save people. We don't do anything for them. We don't recognise them. And just a simple recognition of these individuals that go out and do these types of things would really, really mean something to them.

I also want to bring up one other organisation, it's the Fire Brigade. The fire fighters that volunteer, I think they get 10 dollars a meeting once every three months. I'm hoping that your department will some day, and I know you've only been in this department a short time; someday I hope, Community Government and Transportation will recognise them before the end of my term, whenever that is, will recognise sport volunteers, search and rescue volunteers and fire brigade volunteers.

Will your department work on doing this for us sometime? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Actually, my husband did 12 years of volunteering as a referee. That was 12 years of time he spent at the arena instead of home and he just retired the last game. And that's what he's saying and I think I can officially say that now. He's never been recognised for that, so I should recognise him now for that. We will do certificates, volunteer certificates for all those categories.

We will start on it right away and the hamlets can tell us who needs to be recognised in their communities and actually we will be recognising search and rescue volunteers in Baker Lake in the very near future.

So this is a good start and we'll improve upon it and recognise those people that deserve it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. There's a lot of volunteers that we need to recognise in Nunavut so this is something that you have to be aware of. I now have Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under 7-8, there is a Nunavut Consumer Complaint Bureau under Community Government and Transportation. I would like to know how well the people know this. How many people have approached you about this Consumer's Complaint Bureau in the past? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Williams. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you. I say hello to my husband. When we first started we were working on this one, the Consumer Complaint Bureau and sometimes there are people purchasing items from the south and these people need help.

The Nunavut Consumer Complaint Bureau has to be more open to the public so the public will know more about it. Due to its infancy, I could not even begin to tell you how many people have taken advantage of this office. This office is located in Baker Lake. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I smile at you Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same, on Community Government and Transportation, under the contracts, First Air flies to Nanisivik, there are jets that are a 726, slightly larger than a 737, flying up there. And there is food served on board. There are sandwiches and salad served for meals. These meals are usually frozen.

Now that the weather is getting warmer, sometimes there are people, older people without teeth, they are served potato chips, or other cold snacks so they don't know what else is available from those airlines. Canadian Airlines used to serve hot meals in the past and they were flying up there and back to Ottawa.

They were serving hot meals on the flights. It says in here that we can complain about service provided by companies. My question is, can we complain about this to this office? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Where are you exactly, I cannot catch where you are. What page are you on?



**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same page. 7-8.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. About the airline meals, the complaints should go directly to the airlines. I want to clarify this so that it is understood. Sometimes we have to be careful because there are telemarketers from the south trying to sell things like vacuum cleaners for example, when we might not be aware about giving important personal information to these sales people.

We have to be very careful about these advertisements to make sure that this does not happen. There are more people selling everything, trying to make money from us. So this is all under the Consumer Complaint Bureau. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): On this page it states they provide information and assistance. This is in relation to my previous question, it's under service, is that part of services? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you. Services means, in English, the meaning can be different things. This is not serving food. It's trying to state for the workers so that's what it means. I'm not clear what the question is. To my understanding, the services, my department works with the RCMP, like the people trying to sell vacuum cleaners or different things to make sure they are not trying to take your money or something like that.

Too many Inuit people are ignorant of the things going on like this from the south.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question. (interpretation ends) The department's goal is to develop a model and conduct an assessment of funding needs in communities. What stage is the department on with the needs assessment right now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson**: I can only say that the division, a lot of our divisions are starting up in our department and we're trying to improve and trying to tailor to the needs of Nunavummiut. In a lot of cases we are at the starting stages which is good, to make sure that we're delivering services according to the wishes of our Nunavut communities

and some of the numbers that are being asked of us, we can't say right now because we're developing our divisions.

But, Mr. Chair, what the member was asking, I didn't catch the tail end of her question. Can she clarify what she was asking? Thank you.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Community Government, you are working on the Municipal Finance Review. What stage are you at with this right now? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are at the recommendation stage now. After the recommendations are approved, the standing committee would be involved in this, and then they would be implemented. That's where we're at right now. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same page, 7-8. The funding was planned for 2001/2002, under Grants and Contributions, where are we now? When will it come into effect?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are you talking about the funding or research? Can you clarify that? Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): You were going to visit the communities and hear their concerns in relation to community development. For example, Community Government and Transportation was going to hear concerns of the communities and there was money available for 2001/2002 for that.

The government stated that they were going to get into the communities and hear their concerns. I want to know if this is already in place? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Excuse me. The funding review from the communities that we were going to do, not myself but under my department. We were going to review the policies of Community Government.

The communities have this information. We have information available for the communities and the motions and the motions that have been made have to go through this House and under Capital Plans, we'll have to go through communities and find out what they think of them and to find out their concerns.

We're working on that to make sure the motions are carried out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm starting to get my voice back but the mayors of the hamlets just had a meeting in Ottawa. The resolutions that they provided, will the resolutions be part of the information from the communities that we will be receiving? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Sometimes I get mixed-up. Mr. Chairman, the resolutions that were brought up by the NAM meeting, they have not been provided to us yet but we will provide some information to all the communities on any informational items that they might want to get.

I would like to be able to visit the communities rather than just writing them correspondence or talking to them by phone. So, we will be providing information to the communities whenever we can. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Last question Mr. Chairman. Under 7-8 and under 7-10. It's part of 7-8 but it's in 7-10. It's the municipal extraordinary grant. It was 33 thousand dollars in 2001 – 2002. Now its 113 thousand dollars.

What kind of grant is that and how come it's increased so much? Is there something the department is expecting?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): The amount of money that we got for the senior citizens' grants was 100 thousand dollars and it's 20 thousand dollars now. These are for the property tax rebates for the senior citizens. From there we moved it to municipal extraordinary grants.

I'll just use this as an example. There was a vehicle that was broken in Coral Harbour; it is geared for vehicles that break down so there wasn't much of it so we increased it to that amount. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** I understand, however, your budget for 2001 – 2002 was 33 thousand dollars and in the revised estimates for 2001 – 2002 it is still 33 thousand dollars. Why is this not reflected in your statement, that 33 thousand dollars was too small? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the revised estimates it was 33 thousand dollars. What we're trying to do is we're trying to stay within our budget and just transfer from one area to another, as long as there is no extra funding taken away or from any other sections.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Mr. Chairman, does that require a Financial Management Board decision to spend over and above 33 thousand dollars? For example, breakdown of the Qimmusiugurak in Salluq. If so, does it not reflect in your revised estimates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Mr. Chair, we could have put 100 thousand in senior citizens grants this year and not use 80 thousand dollars of that.

So we re-profiled it, which is within our mandate if we are inside, that it doesn't require a Financial Management Board submission to change from one grant to another grant and it was noted that there were some emergencies in some communities in terms of equipment that we have to attend to and 33 thousand dollars was not enough to tend to those emergencies so we did that within our mandate.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** That's not my question though. I'm okay with this re-profiling, if it's not needed in one area and, especially within the same department division, or different division within the same department, you can re-profile that.

What I'm trying to understand here is, if, I don't know maybe I'm not qualified to be a Community Government and Transportation Minister, but if I had an estimate of 33 thousand dollars and something goes wrong in some communities that requires an extraordinary grant, wouldn't that be reflected in your revised estimates.

So that you need more than 33 thousand dollars, you print the revised estimate to reflect that. That's the only question I have Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Shawn Maley to respond to that question, he can answer it better than I can in a clear way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Maley**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer to the question and it's a good question, the answer to the question is that the municipalities we've noted in the last couple of years have experienced a number of equipment failures and that's largely due to our inability to keep up with capital expenditures in the municipal equipment area and this has certainly been a result of the past government before Nunavut began.

So, we've encouraged municipalities to start their own municipal equipment reserves which they use to cover off costs. So what we've found and we've certainly heard this from the mayors and senior administrative officers; they cannot keep up with the repairs on aging equipment.

So the department we are doing two things. We've tried to listen to their concerns and profile new equipment in our capital plan and also, by profiling more money into our extraordinary grant, we were better able to respond to equipment repairs rather than putting that pressure on the municipalities. We tried to share that cost burden with municipalities and that's reflected in a smaller amount of money than previous years but in addressing their concerns, we've recognised that we have to profile more money now.

And that's why we're seeing this difference. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk**: I am not arguing that as 113 thousand dollars is probably still very small. I think it's still too small. What I'm simply trying to understand in the accounting system, in the main estimates, I should say, if they needed more in 2001/2002, why is it not reflected in the revised estimates of 2001/2002.

Why is it still the same as the main estimates when you needed more during 2001/2002? When you needed more in 2001/2002, then it's reflected in 2002/2003 with 113 thousand dollars. Okay. It's probably still too small but could we as regular MLAs see some justification by adjusting your 2001/2002 revised estimates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year when you approved this, the senior citizens' grant and municipal extraordinary grant were blended together and in regards to the question of the member I will have my finance guy, Mike Rafter, answer that but these two were together. We're separating them this year. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Rafter.

**Mr. Rafter:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the previous three years' main estimates, when you refer to them, you'll note that the senior citizen grants were combined with extraordinary grants.

This year we've proceeded to separate the two components. So now you see that total of 113 thousand dollars. I guess I could comment further that 113 thousand dollars likely isn't enough either. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Referring to 7-8 you said in your, actually it's on 7-9, on the fuel price adjustments I guess.

I know last year, or the year before, in the price increase, I know municipalities needed some extra funding to offset the costs of the increase in the fuel, on the petroleum. When I look at this, I guess the paragraph that says associated with the fuel price increase. Is it because some of the invoices come in late from the previous year that you are paying this year?

I'm just trying to get a picture where there was no price increase this year. Are you projecting increase on the fuel prices? I don't know. I'm just trying to get why we need this cost associated to the increase? Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I will not make myself clear. What we do is offset the incremental operating costs associated with the fuel price increases. But now, looking at the amount of money that is allotted for that section, I think it was about half of the price of the fuel. Right now there hasn't been an increase to the fuel price. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I was, it was that earlier but I just wanted to make sure. You know it seems to me, when I look at it that it seems like we're projecting some increase on the fuel that's why I asked that so thank you for your answer on that.

I want to go to 7-13. When we were talking about municipal services put together like for water, sewage and garbage and so on. I'm not sure if it's the same anymore. But how often do you provide the payments to the municipalities? I'm not sure if it's quarterly or once a year, or as soon as they make invoices and as soon as you receive them.

Another part of the question would be, as soon as you get an invoice from the community or they put in a claim on grants, how soon can the hamlet get their repayment on the municipal services? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Haviyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We used to do it by invoice but now we just automatically give it to them on a quarterly basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Haviyak:** Okay, the reason I asked this question, I know it happened last year and I'm sure it's going to be the same this year that the administration at the hamlet were saying they were receiving payments late and it sort of gave them a hard time to, you know, they didn't have enough money to pay some of the invoices that they have outside of municipal services because they're using it for that services sometimes and they're receiving it late.

They're taking a position where they say they don't have enough cash flow. I'm not sure, I haven't checked this but I just want to make sure it doesn't happen in the future that their payments are on a very regular basis, like you said, quarterly.

Like if you say July, then get it on July 1. You know what I mean. Make sure they're getting their payments on a regular basis. I know you said quarterly but I'm just letting you now that they do receive some payments late even though we say quarterly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Haviyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our department has always been on time, because as our mandate for the municipalities, I cannot say for the other departments, every department has different dates, that they give out their payments to hamlets but our department cuts the cheques on time and have given them out on those days that they said they would. The other departments I cannot speak for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Haviyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record, it's good to hear. I just want to go on to another area, on the Northern Games contribution, 103 thousand dollars annually.

Each community from what I can see, each region, holds their own Inuit games. If you divide this into three regions, approximately about 33 thousand dollars per region and I know, in our region the cost is going to be higher than that.

If they say, a real number, for example, for that region would be 33 thousand dollars, but if the real costs were about 40-50 thousand dollars to the games in the region itself, is there some flexibility from somewhere that you can assist that region to raise that cost to hold the games in that region. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Haviyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can improve where we need to improve in this area. This is not divided into regions because it's by community. If a community needs help and assistance, my staff is available to help them but if there's a problem with specific communities with this funding, then we can try to help them find some funds from other sources or give them ideas in this area.

There has not been to date, major problems concerning this program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Haviyak.

**Mr. Haviyak:** Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq. Thank you, for the answer. I hear you but the Northern Games, as you know they're Inuit traditional games and they're also played in the Arctic Winter Games. Does this department have plans in the future, where they can have northern games from all the communities of Nunavut?

Something different from the Arctic Winter Games, but rather Inuit games across Nunavut. Yes, we are getting together with our regional communities, but they're not really meeting as Nunavut communities. They're just representatives from one region.

What I'm saying is maybe in the future, we need to have one big Nunavut, northern games rather than just by community, maybe that is a thing that you need to look at, in the very near future rather than in the Arctic Winter Games, which is good, I'm happy with that but we need one big one just for Nunavut.

I think that's another thing that we need to look at, if I can compete with Peter somehow, a muskox fight or something. That's what I've been asked to look at and hopefully the department will be able to look at something like that. Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Haviyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's something we can look at in our division for one whole Nunavut games. The other thing that we



need to improve upon is dog team races and this is something that we can also put in our business plan for the northern games section.

We need to tailor our programs to Nunavut and this is what we're trying to pursue in our recreation department. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for his idea.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Haviyok.

**Mr. Haviyok** (interpretation): Thank you. This will be my last question. In reference to 7-15, in terms of the Recreation Facility Operators' Program, there's nothing in the 2001/2002 main estimates. But now we have our 2002/2003 main estimates. Perhaps it was in another area but I just want to find out as to how it got into the 2002/2003 main estimates.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Haviyok. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We used to do this in the NWT and it's something that we're starting up again. That's why it's not showing in those areas. We have a very good program in this area for ice making technology, ice maintenance, and equipment operation including zamboni training.

Just taking care of our assets in the communities and managing people at work, facility management, purchasing, supplying those facilities. We have a new program now. It used to be done under GNWT. We are starting our own in Nunavut. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. On page 7-10, 113 thousand dollars for the municipal extraordinary grant. This is one question that I brought up before. It seems like the hamlet councils do not have translators and it's usually the English language that is used for writing documents and we can't help them as Members of the Legislative Assembly.

They are an existing organization and there are hamlets in each of the Nunavut communities. Is it possible to provide funds for translating documents and to provide those monies to the hamlet councils? Is it possible to use some of this 113 thousand dollars to do translation work at the hamlet level? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can look for other funds to be used by the hamlet. We can possibly use some of the funds from the O and M and we could also include that money and identify it from other line items. This is specifically for extraordinary circumstances and for one time funding.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): And also you mentioned something about dog team racing and including it in the Nunavut games. I think that will please everybody in the whole of Nunavut and especially to the ones that organize the dog team races.

I'm moving on to 7-11. Recreation association development. In here, it says, there is the Nunavut Recreation and Parks Association. How is that divvied up between those two when there's only 40 thousand dollars slotted for this particular thing?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we establish an entity called an association or some kind of entity we can get funds from outside sources. This is not specifically for the parks but we're trying to establish an association with this 40 thousand dollars.

This association would be outside of the Nunavut Government and if it's set up like that we can start looking for outside sources of funds that could be used for recreational purposes. We would use funds from outside of the Nunavut Government and because it would be a stand alone association we can then access other funds from out there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): It says Nunavut Recreation and Parks Association. Would Parks Canada be able to contribute funds to the hamlet councils to put money in here?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is written in the English concept. If we went to southern Canada for example, they have parks established right in the middle of a rural area but in the Inuk's minds eye it's a totally different concept. It's just the English wording that makes you think that it's for parks purposes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Haviyok.

**Mr. Haviyok**: Koanaqtit, Itsivautaq. I'll ask the question anyway. As you know, I've trying to promote our language dialect in my community and I have asked the hamlet to do the same trying to promote it and the writing system and so on and they came back to me and said they just don't have funds to do that at this point.

So, I thought I heard this. Additional money can come out from the operations if they need that service. Translating their documents like for example, minutes. Especially the minutes I guess. I though I heard that part. Translation can come out from O and M additional funds I am hoping, to that hamlet. Koanaqtit, Itsivautaq.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Haviyok. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said, a community that wants to access funds under the community development fund from the regional office, to do translations they can do that.

It's up to the hamlet how they use the community development fund. If it's for the development of a community in terms of recreation or training they can use that fund so, these communities can ask for that fund if they want to do more translation at their hamlet level through the regional office and it's an area that we can also address through the finance review that we're doing already because it has come up with the MLAs and also hamlets.

But, right now you have funds available to you for that program in your hamlet through the regional office under the community development fund. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** In 7-13. (interpretation) In regards to the entire page especially the water and sewage services block funding has slightly decreased which I'm not overly concerned about, but my question when we're talking when we're doing our capital planning we usually ask the hamlets about what their priorities are and we have them identify their priorities.

In regards to their daily expenses especially those outlined under 7-13, have you asked the communities if their estimates are accurate or do they see the number of dollars that they're going to be getting and they see like today, they may have to make a decision like we do within the Nunavut Government.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll get Shawn to respond to your question. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Maley.

**Mr. Maley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understand the question correctly, the way in which we fund municipalities, this page basically, other than community development funds the last time, basically makes up our core funding for hamlets.

And other than water and sewer, the MOAP, Municipal Operating Assistance Program provides a base of funding which municipalities decide on how they're going to spend that.

We program the dollars based on a formula that takes into account each of the facets of hamlet operations. But we fund it as a block fund so the municipalities can create priorities of their own and they can spend the money that way.

The money in the water and sewer block fund is more restrictive because our mandate is to provide water at a cheap and affordable non-profit rate for our community members. So that's more restrictive.

The transfers from other government departments also known as CTI dollars, this we don't have control of. Normally other departments will make the rules. We simply act as a funding and accounting agency. An example of this is the municipal liaison officers. We fund the money through our department for the municipalities to have a MLO officer.

This amount, the 3.861 million dollars is becoming more flexible. Other departments are not putting as many restrictions on those dollars. So, to answer his question, the priorities for spending are for the most part, set by the municipality and we fund them in accordance to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Have these, especially the water and sewage block funding and the MOAP, been reviewed by the department lately and is it sufficient according to your community consultation? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the finance review, we have noted that they need more money for water and sewage and we have to address that.

We have noticed that during our review, finance review, the MOAP funding that we give to the hamlets we need more money for water and sewage services and this is something that we have to address as a department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Do you want to continue Mr. Arvaluk?

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Is this included in the program review or are you planning to overhaul the funding criteria to those municipalities especially in the water and sewage block funding and municipal operating assistance program to reflect the real cost needs of the community?

Sometimes, this Government of Nunavut sometime in the future will have to look at the overall expenditures of 500 or 600 million dollars by slowly divorcing ourselves from the GNWT through our leadership and initiatives that will reflect more of the Nunavummiut needs.

Including reviewing the top heavy administration costs, handing it more to the communities in terms of operations and maintenance and capital. Will this be part of the overall review to reflect real costs needs? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have reviewed all hamlet operations under the finance review and we looked at the real cost needs because this has not been reviewed since '95.

We, in Nunavut, I guess I can say, we didn't like the way the GNWT did it. So we're going to make some improvements. Those recommendations will be going into the Financial Management Board, the real cost needs of Nunavummiut.

So it's something we have looked at already under our finance review, everything that is required to operate a hamlet in the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. We are now on 7-8, which, I don't have anybody else on my list. We are now dealing with Community Government and Transportation and we have to ensure we pass them properly. When we're approving the main estimates we have to have a quorum so, let the bell ring for five minutes.

Thank you. We are now on 7-8. Community Government and Transportation. Branch Summary. Community Government. Total operations and Maintenance 45 million 298 thousand dollars. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): This page goes on to 7-15. So we'll move to 7-15. Community Government and Transportation. Branch summary. Transportation. Total. Any comments? Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Transportation. Travel and transportation. There's been an increase. What's the reason for this increase?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The license department, under transportation the motor vehicles department is in Gjoa Haven and because this is being decentralized there's more travelling involved. With that we need to make an increase. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Thompson. Are you done Mr. Nutarak? Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Just make a comment. Just to get some clarification. Transportation Department headquarters, I don't understand how the licensing is in Gjoa Haven.

My comment Mr. Chairman, I have stated before and will continue to state that the cost of travel is very expensive in Nunavut and it's also very costly for medical travel and I'm wondering if this department can work with Sustainable Development and the Nunavut Development Corporation.

I wonder if the Nunavut Development Corporation could purchase a plane or loan, rent the airline and this is something I've brought up at an earlier date where Sustainable Development can organize different wildlife to be transferred to other communities such as from Igloodik to Rankin Inlet to bring in fermented walrus meat or if Nunavut Development Corporation was to purchase an airline or an airplane, I think it would be cost efficient and it would be used quite frequently by the Department of Sustainable Development and transportation.

There are also products that are sold to the south from Coral Harbour, Chesterfield, Cambridge Bay, and Rankin Inlet and this plane can be used to bring these products south. I used to think that when you cut the lettuce it was supposed to be brown inside, but that's not the case because when I went south they're all green and the reason why the inner part is brown is because the lettuce had frozen.

I think if the Development Corporation was to purchase an airplane they could bring in fresh products to communities and they'd probably need more than one airplane because there's a lot of demand, a big demand to bring fresh products and other things to communities.

The consumers in communities would also be able to bring in equipment through that airline. And this is something I'm wondering if this is something that your department can look at so that we could bring in fresh products or other equipment at a cheaper rate.

So, under 7-16, under transportation, I would like to encourage Sustainable Development and transportation to work together and bring in products through their own plane.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): His comments are very clear and the review on the Nunavut Air Services Study, this could also be included in that study and we could work with the Department of Sustainable Development as to how we could work on this. It's a very interesting suggestion and I know that the Department of Sustainable Development would be interested, or have programs where they could bring in caribou meat into communities that don't have enough caribou meat and other wildlife.

This is something that we could include into that study under Transportation. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to thank the minister for her response. This is something I think that needs to be done. We are able to bring in food through mail but I'm wondering if the Federal Government would support something like this.

My other question is how soon will this review be complete so that we're not putting down the airlines, we're just trying to make suggestions as to how to correct some of the problems that arise. A lot of the times the airlines are full and some communities aren't able to receive wildlife or country foods. In Coral Harbour there's 35 hundred caribou in Coral Harbour that could be sent to other communities.

There's fish in Pangnirtung and Cambridge Bay that could be sent to other communities. In Nunavut there's a high cost of living so I'm just wondering when this study will begin and when it would be completed?

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This study that we're talking about, the proposal will be closed on May 15 but it would go on up to eight months. So it will take time.

The other things we talked about under transportation concerns will be in this study. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): This is my concern. I would like to raise a question on third party funding. I've always brought this up regarding docking facilities. In 2001/2002 it was approved by the federal government and in the 2002/2003 main estimates, as you know, the hamlets rely on you and many times they have been turned down by the federal government.

So 1.2 million dollars hasn't been used. It seems like it's not going to be used. The Fisheries and Oceans, will it be carried over to another year on the docking facilities? As you know, I just want to get clarification from you so I can pass it onto the hamlets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding is not going to be used for something else so we will use all that money. (interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, we will be completing that process with this money and we will make sure this money is dedicated to that project in Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. I don't have any more names. Back to Community Government and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total operations and maintenance 14 million 193 thousand dollars. Do you have any comments on this? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Information item page 7-17. Any questions on this? It's okay. Page 7-18. Any questions? Is it okay? Next, page 7-19. Any questions? It's okay. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one quick question on 7-19 the Canada/Nunavut Infrastructure Program. The Canada/Nunavut Infrastructure Agreement funds environmentally sustainable green municipal infrastructure projects.

Can the minister explain who is eligible for these projects and does there have to be any funding coming from a municipality or is it 100 percent project funding? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we understand it, there are no funds coming from the municipality. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the minister clarify what these projects would be so municipalities can apply for them? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was a question that was asked by the mayors too and I answered that by saying anything that turns green from either sewage or water. I think that's why it's called Green Municipal Infrastructure Projects. It's for municipal projects. Green Municipal Infrastructure Projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean:** No, it's just I'm a little confused on it and I guess they have to be environmentally friendly projects. Can the minister just explain what projects the municipalities could bring forward? Like, I know they're green projects, but could you be a little bit more specific? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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



**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not made a formal announcement yet on this but we're saying projects such as water treatment, sewage treatment, and solid waste management. Green Infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq. As you know for the last couple of years I've been raising the issue of sewage sites crossing a bridge trying to get the Department of Sustainable Development in partnership with your department to do with the bridging across that sewage lagoon.

Where we come in to our community from going hunting back and forth it cuts right through the sewage areas. So, I've been raising this but I haven't been able to get an update. I'm just wondering if that would qualify under this line? Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We probably might not be able to do it with this fund. But maybe there is another way of doing it using the new program that we're promoting in the near future. Access roads. That is if the hamlet wants to use that money to put a little bridge over the sewage lagoon in Kugluktuk or the sewage area in Kugluktuk. If they want to put a bridge or go around the lake as they've been doing.

We could probably find funds somewhere else under another program that we're looking at right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Qujannamiik, Chairman. I have a very good idea for that one. Like, mosquito populated enhancement project or something Green. Mr. Chairman, my question is, in some communities like Coral Harbour that had extremely careless population when they're gone that filled the islands with litters of barrels everywhere and in some instances they have created garbage dumps that were not designed by nature to be garbage dumps. Does clean up of those areas fall under that funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This does not include those clean-ups. That would have to come under a different program. Environment Canada is working with those programs. We would also like to see those places cleaned up but it does not come under this. This is for municipal infrastructure.

A lot of our municipal infrastructure has been there for years and years and unattended. This is more for those priorities right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess the proposal will have to be written. For example in Coral Harbour we have homemade community initiatives. Free money made access roads to our spring camps. Does that include building an access trail to some of those cabins that we have?

I guess what I'm asking here Mr. Chairman, is that open to things that are green for example. Most popular pastime now besides hockey, is golf. Does that include creating a golf course or something like that, that is considered green? If that's not possible, when you make up your criteria to qualify under that program, will you be able to list some of these items that could be included for the purposes accessing this funding? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a hard enough time trying to figure out why they put green on there. I can only say that sewage makes things green when it flows down the valley.

We're not making any golf courses. We could probably do that under another program, under Canada's Golf Course Program which I haven't found yet. This is for infrastructure in our municipalities that are outdated and need to be updated right now; the relocation of our garbage dumps and sewage lines and sewage dumps, and water equipment.

This is more for that because a lot of our municipalities have been in existence, and I guess you can say we have not looked after those infrastructure very well as a government. We're just attending to them now through this fund. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I get off track here, let me know. But we're talking about garbage dumps and the green plans and things like that. I was just reading on the Ottawa Hansard that the federal government is negotiating with the U.S. government for 100 million dollars over the next ten years to clean up DEW Line sites.

We are the Government of Nunavut and the federal government is another jurisdiction. I guess they're the Federal Government of Canada. Do we have a role to play or is our government notified about these clean-ups and do we have any role to play in them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a government we should be involved in that and I think the department that deals with environmental clean up is DSD and I know that NTI has a role in that too Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll probably talk to the DSD Minister and his department but the point I want to get here is that as a government, Community Government and Transportation, because there are concerns in my community that there's an old navy site out at Gary Lake that's being cleaned up and nobody's aware of it.

I'm sure NTI is probably aware of it and the federal government are aware of it and I made probably 10 phone calls to try to get aware of it in terms of who's doing it and who's responsibility is it and stuff because down the road if they do clean up that site and they don't do a proper job, or they do something that's not right, then eventually, we are held liable for it.

The Government of Nunavut will be on the hook for it down the road later. Because, today, I know for a fact today, that the federal government in my community had a large presence for a number of years and they left a lot of waste behind and my colleague, Mr. Arvaluk was commenting, and I lived in Coral Harbour briefly in 1975 and I seen what they left down in Snafu.

And they also did the same thing in Baker Lake. In the municipal boundary there is a large number of drums, old buildings, asbestos laden, you know, just in the vicinity there's a lot of old federal government junk and they won't clean it up because they say it's not their responsibility anymore.

And, you know, it's eventually going to get down to where it's going to be a municipal responsibility. The municipality is going to make your responsibility that eventually these things are going to be cleaned up.

So I know Sustainable Development is probably involved in it but, I don't know if that is really their mandate because I think Community Government and Transportation are closer to the situation than maybe Sustainable Development are on these issues.

So, I just thought I'd bring it up. It's just more statement than anything else and it should be watched a lot more closely because there is a lot of junk laying around from the old federal government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** I think that was more of a statement but Department of Sustainable Development is actually under my department. No it isn't.

>> *Laughter*

We will work closely with the clean up crew. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Thompson. Anybody else? We were on 7-19. Any more questions on 7-19? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Page 7-20.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): And we'll get back to page 7-5. Community Government and Transportation. Program summary. Detail of Expenditures. Total operations and maintenance 69 million 709 thousand dollars. Any questions? Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was a very large amount of O and M and Capital equalling 86 million, 759 thousand dollars. Why is the directorate so high at 15%? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have quite a lot of divisions under this department. We have EMO, we have transportation, and we have quite a few directors for this department that's why it's that big. We need those divisions in the headquarters level. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just for the department to have as consideration. There's a huge amount of money on Community Government and Transportation and Directorate, 15%, 21% for transportation. I just wanted to say that this should be reduced a little bit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can certainly review that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just another brief comment on the budget of Community Government and Transportation. Community Government and Transportation indirectly employs a lot of people, a tremendous amount of people at the hamlet level, which they fund through their transfers.

Travelling around last summer and meeting at most hamlet offices and seeing that there is a lot of Inuit staff in these offices. It's high. It must be up around 75, 80, 90% mark.

That's Inuit staff in all the hamlet offices around Nunavut and a lot of them have been there for a long, long time.

Now, it's a challenging career, it's a hard job, but they are challenging jobs in these municipalities and my community of Baker Lake has over 90 full-time and part-time staff working.

A lot of them like working for the municipality. They have a good working relationship with Community Government and Transportation. The thing that I noticed that's lacking in the last couple of years, they were very good at it when you were a minister in the NWT, was training local people to assume more responsibility.

Under Community Empowerment, and at the time, when you were the minister, you made funding available for the municipalities to train more local people to assume more responsibility in the administration process in the municipalities.

There was lots of training going on and it seems to have fallen by the way side. I know there's been a tremendous push for decentralization in our communities and a lot of our employees moved into government jobs but it's just my feeling, being involved in hamlet councils over the last 15-20 years, that Community Government and Transportation is one of the lead departments in training local people for the government.

I can't say that HR will be able to do that. I think that if you look around in the Kitikmeot, the Kivalliq and maybe over here, where you've got long term people, it's in Community Government and Transportation. They're dedicated people and they're good at training local people.

I wish that you as the minister would make an extra effort to initiate more training of local people at the administration and support levels at the municipalities so that we don't have to rely on too many outsiders because outsiders working at the municipal level really don't understand and that's where your Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit comes in.

So I'm hoping that the next time that you're doing your operations and maintenance on your department, that you'll ask for additional dollars to do more training at the municipal level because the end result will mean that if we get more younger people trained at the municipal level, they'll be sitting at your left and right hand side ten years from now.

I'm not taking anything away from the two individuals that you have. They're long term northerners and they're very good and dedicated at training local people now and they're exemplary. So that's all I'm saying to you.

If you can get back into that old mode of training local people to ascend into the ranks of Community Government and Transportation, it will be a very successful department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, that's all I have to say. It was a statement. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that was a statement. We have allocated 404 thousand dollars within this budget for community training, SAO training. We're going to start on those. This is something that I had told the department to start putting their energies into and we will review the Community Empowerment Initiatives again and see where we can make improvements with that. Thank you, very much.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. We're on page 7-5, Community Government and Transportation. Program Summary. Details of Expenditures. Any more questions on that page? If not, total operations and maintenance 69 million 709 thousand dollars. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. I would like to thank the Minister of Community Government and Transportation. If you have any last comments to make Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, very much to the Committee of the Whole and you, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I would also like to thank your officials, Mr. Maley and I would also like to ask Ms. Williams, what the wish of the committee is?

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue with the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We will now begin with the minister responsible for Justice. I am the Chairperson of Ajauqtiit, so I will have Mr. Nutarak come and Chair the meeting for a little bit.

**Chairperson** (Mr. Nutarak) (interpretation): Minister Okalik, you can begin with your opening remarks.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to appear before the committee to present the Department of Justice 2002-2003 Main Estimates.

The department has been allocated a total operating budget of 44 million 199 thousand dollars, which represents an increase of 6.7 million over last year's budget. The new money in the department's budget will help us enhance our programs to make sure we reflect the priorities of the Bathurst Mandate and to integrate Inuit Qaujimaqatungit into our department.

The largest allocation of new funding is for additional expenditures for RCMP services. The largest proportion of the new resources will cover new positions to bring all detachments up to a minimum level of two officers and to provide additional floaters so that there can always be two officers in each community.

This new funding has allowed for the re-opening of the detachments in Kugaaruk, Grise Fiord and Kimmirut, and it also includes the resources for the opening of a new RCMP in Repulse Bay.

Mr. Chairman, in increasing our level of police services, we also need to reflect Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. Early in April, 15 Nunavummiut departed for the RCMP Academy in Regina to begin their recruit training. Simon Awa, Assistant Deputy Minister returned recently from visiting that academy and he advises me that all the trainees are doing very well. In addition to our current 12 Inuit RCMP Officers, the graduates of the Police Academy will allow us to better serve Nunavummiut in their first language.

Through active Inuit recruitment programs, we can only improve and integrate Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in law enforcement services.

I am also pleased to let you know the RCMP were able to swear in and hire bilingual telecom operators last month. We are also bringing two individuals from Hall Beach and Arctic Bay later this month for their telecom operator orientation. We are hoping those two individuals will do well and will then accept full time positions as telecom operators.

(interpretation ends) Some of the new money allocated to the Department of Justice responds to the chronic pattern of under funding related to the costs of providing regular court services to court circuits in communities. Both Court Services and the Legal Aid and Court Worker Services, through the Nunavut Legal Services Board, are affected by the fiscal demands of providing these services. There are allocations of new money for court services and the Legal Services Board to address budget shortfalls that have existed since the creation of Nunavut.

The court circuit is not a perfect system, but it does represent a great commitment to conducting the business of the courts in the communities that are affected by judicial decisions. The Nunavut Court of Justice is unique amongst all Superior Courts in Canada because of its standard practice of having respected community members sit with the judge as cases are heard.

The Justice of the Peace Program is another significant part of making the court system function at the community level. In the current fiscal year we will be establishing the new position for a Senior Justice of the Peace who will serve on a full time basis and will provide additional leadership in this area. This position is targeted to be filled by an Inuk. Again, by hiring more Inuit we will be in a better position to integrate Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in our court system.

(interpretation) Traditionally Inuit did not need jails or correctional facilities. It is hoped that through the Community Corrections Program we can start to reverse the trend of putting people in correctional facilities and focus on healing instead.

Therefore you will see in our budget for 2002-2003, new funding for the creation of additional community corrections positions.

The department will be providing stronger supervision and support for corrections' camp operators by having a designated staff member dedicated to this area. This, still again, is using and integrating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

(interpretation ends) The additional allocation of funding for the Akitsiraq Law School that appears in the Main Estimates provides for a full year of funding for this program.

I am pleased to report that the law school is going very well. Like all law schools anywhere in Canada, it is a challenging academic program. The students just completed their first work experience as part of the program in several public and private sectors. Even after only a few months of legal training they are bringing fresh perspectives to each of our work places, and impress their mentors with the quality of their work.

(interpretation) We are pleased to be able to enhance the quality of our programs and services to better serve Nunavummiut and to do our best to integrate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. To this end, my department has been allocated a new position to hire a full time Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Coordinator/Policy Analyst.

Those are my opening comments, but I will be pleased to respond to any comments that members of the committee may have with the Main Estimates for the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Does the Chairperson of Ajauqtiit have any opening remarks? Thank you.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be able to give the committee's opening remarks as we begin debate on the 2002-2003 Main Estimates for the Department of Justice. Later on, members will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding these estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit has had the opportunity to meet with the minister and his staff. The minister was able to give an update on his department's proposed expenditures.

Mr. Chairman, members were pleased to hear that funding for 14 additional RCMP officers has been allocated. This new funding will enable the detachments in Kugaaruk, Grise Fiord and Kimmirut to re-open and allow for the opening of a new detachment in Repulse Bay. Mr. Chairman, the lack of officers in these communities was an area of concern in the past, as was the existence of single officer communities. Mr. Chairman,



the presence of additional RCMP will ensure that Nunavummiut, and the officers themselves, feel that much safer in their communities.

However, there continues to be concerns about the apparent lack of officers in the communities of Whale Cove and Chesterfield Inlet.

Mr. Chairman, at the same time, encouraging the recruitment of Inuit Officers continues to be a priority for the department. Fifteen Nunavummiut have departed for the RCMP Academy in Regina. Members were pleased that these would be in addition to the already existing 12 Inuit Officers.

The hiring of an Inuktitut-speaking dispatcher for the RCMP is indeed good news for the unilingual members of the community, who have publicly expressed frustration about this in the past.

Mr. Chairman, there continues to be some concern as to the liability issue with Corrections and on-the-land Camps. Therefore, members were pleased to hear that a person designated solely to this job would be hired. This will help to ensure stronger supervision and support for corrections camp operators.

Members noted with concern that funding for Legal Aid does not appear to have increased at all, which helps to assist people without means, while there continue to be increases to funding for internal government legal services. More support is needed in the area of Legal Aid.

Members were pleased to see new funding for Victims Assistance. We look forward to learning more detail on how exactly victims can apply for this funding. We also learned of a Pilot Project called Inuusirmut Aqqusiuqtiit Mediation Agreement, which was developed to deal with family law issues. Members also look forward to hearing more about this pilot project.

Mr. Chairman, the committee is pleased that the department plans to recruit an Inuk Senior Justice of the Peace Officer, as this will incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to the court system and therefore making the court system work at the community level, especially where Inuit are concerned.

Mr. Chairman, members support the Akitsiraq Law School Program and its students, who are now participating in the "work experience" part of their program. Members look forward to hearing more about the additional funding being provided to this program.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening remarks, members were generally satisfied overall with the department's progress, and I anticipate that individual members will raise their own comments and concerns on the department's 2002-2003 Main Estimates.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. What's the wish of the committee? Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to report progress.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor and it's non-debatable. All in favour? Opposed? Carried. We can ascertain the presence of the Speaker.

**Speaker**: Returning to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Nutarak.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 6 and the Main Estimates and would like to report progress. And Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder for the motion? Mr. Kilabuk. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried Mr. Kilabuk. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Picco. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Meeting of the Standing Committee on Health and Education at 4.15 today in the Nanuq Room and tomorrow afternoon meeting of the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development at half past one in the Tuktu Room.

Orders of the day for Monday May 13, 2002:

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

- Motion 5 – 1(6)
- Motion 6 – 1(6)

17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 2
- Bill 3
- Bill 4
- Bill 5
- Bill 6
- Bill 11
- Minister's Statement 20 - 1(6)

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills.

22. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday May 13 at 10 a.m.

Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 3.50 p.m.*

