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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Akulliq)

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(Iqaluit Centre)

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(Rankin Inlet North)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday May 14, 2002**

Members Present:

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, 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, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manito Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Rebekah Williams.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Ullakut, good morning, Mr. Premier, members. I apologize for the short delay; we had some technical problems to deal with. Bear with us; we are still having some technical problems.

>>*Technical difficulties*

Speaker's Ruling

Members before we proceed with the following items, I would like to give a Speaker's Ruling. On May 8, 2002 the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung rose on a point of privilege. The background which gave rise to the point of privilege is as follows.

Bill 1, the Education Act has received second reading and is currently before a Standing Committee. It is fair to say that the Bill has received considerable public interest and debate. Following second reading of the Bill, the Member for Iqaluit Centre tabled a letter written by the Iqaluit District Education Authority and directed to the parents.

The letter discusses Bill 1 and sets out the specific provisions that the District Education Authority is concerned about. Following the tabling of the letter, the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung who is also the Minister of Education, rose on a point of privilege. The Honourable Member did not specify the point of privilege, nor did he indicate what remedy he sought should there be a finding that there was a breach of privilege. The Honourable Member proceeded to discuss the substance of Bill 1, addressing each of the concerns raised by the District Education Authority in its letter.

It is important to always keep in mind that parliamentary privilege is the right of all members, both individually and collectively to be free from obstruction and interference in carrying out their public duties. Anything that obstructs a Member or the House from performing their duties is a breach of parliamentary privilege and subjects a person to discipline, as determined by the House.

The Honourable Member for Pangnirtung did not specify the basis of his point of privilege. From the context, one can only infer that he is concerned that the tabling of the letter written by the District Education Authority constitutes a breach of privilege, that is, that the tabling of the document in some way interferes with the functioning of the House.

Pursuant to Rule 44, all members have the right to table documents which may be in the public interest. A document which discusses proposed legislation on a particular matter and which is prepared by a statutorily created body with responsibilities for the matter must certainly be a document in which there is public interest. Indeed, it is difficult to think of a document which would have more or greater public interest values than this one.

The tabling of the letter in no way interfered with the functioning of the House or any of its members. Rather, it might be said that it is the duty of the members and the House to facilitate access to such a document. Accordingly, I find that there has not been a breach of parliamentary privilege.

Although the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung did not refer to Rule 20, I am going to consider whether the Honourable Member's statements fall within Rule 20 which provides the following:

With leave of the Speaker, any member may explain a matter which, although not a contempt or breach of privilege, concerns the member in his or her capacity as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. In particular the member may explain he or she has been misquoted, misunderstood or deny published accusations against the member.

The purpose of Rule 20 is to provide clarification when there has been a miscommunication or misunderstanding as to something that has been done by a member. It is not for the purpose of allowing members to debate the substance of Bills currently before a committee. I find that the Honourable Member's statement does not fall within the scope of Rule 20.

Finally, I would like to remind members of the process to be followed when a member wishes to raise a point of privilege. First the question of privilege must be raised immediately. Once raised, it is up to the Speaker to determine if there has been a prima facie or apparent breach of privilege. If the Speaker determines that there has not been a prima facie breach of privilege that is the end of the matter. If there is a finding that there has been a prima facie breach of privilege then the matter is referred to the House for final determination of the matter.

I wish to caution all members that as Bill 1 is currently before a committee, it is improper to discuss the substance of the Bill in the House. All members will have the opportunity to debate the Bill when it is reported back from the Standing Committee and referred to Committee of the Whole. Thank you.

Members I have one more caution or comment that I would like to make. I would like to take a moment to address a part of a statement made by the Member for Iqaluit Centre. I would caution members to avoid the suggestion that other members have acted in a disrespectful manner especially in reference to statements made previously in this House.

As the Member for Iqaluit Centre noted himself in his statement, members can have reasonable disagreements over issues of public policy, but I would urge all members to avoid personalizing our deliberations. Thank you.

Returning to the Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Ng.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 038 – 1(6): Minister Anawak Absent from the House

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to advise members that the Honourable Jack Anawak will be absent from the House May 14 to 16. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 137 – 1(6): Fire in Gjoa Haven Co-op Warehouse

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to let the members know, yesterday morning I heard from my constituency office in one of my communities that the old Co-op store and present warehouse in Gjoa Haven burned down with all the goods and supplies inside. It has been totally destroyed right to the ground. I offer my condolences to my constituents in that community for losing all of the supplies in the warehouse, and it is definitely going to affect them financially, as this is a loss. I offer my heartfelt sympathy to my constituents and I am so sorry that it happened that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. Members' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 138 – 1(6): Inuinnaqtun Dictionary Publication

Mr. Havioyak: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a proud achievement and another step in preserving and enhancing the Inuinnaqtut language. Earlier this month a brand new Inuinnaqtun-English dictionary was published.

Mr. Speaker, this is an exciting step forward for Inuinnaqtut speakers. This dictionary is an excellent tool for Inuinnaqtut speakers. We look forward in the future to involving

more consultation with the elders on wording, pronunciation and to develop some of the word's meanings in more detail.

Mr. Speaker, people using this dictionary will see that it is using a new spelling system. While this is a good system and used in our schools, there is also another spelling system for Inuinnaqtut that is used by our elders.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to this summer when the Minister of Education and the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth have committed to visiting Kugluktuk for discussion on the spelling system used for Inuinnaqtut.

I would like to recognize Gwen Ohokak, who is with us here today for her hard work on this dictionary. Gwen began this work with Margot Kolot and Betty Harnum. Elders Mabel Angulalik and Frank Analok were also part of the team revising the dictionary.

The Kitikmeot Heritage Centre published the dictionary for Nunavut Arctic College. Funding was provided by the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. On behalf of the Inuinnaqtun speakers I would like to extend my thanks for their hard work.

Koanaqutit, Uqaqti.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Members' Statements. Ms. Williams.

Member's Statement 139 – 1(6): School Guidance Counsellors Require GN Support

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. I rise today to express my support for the roles of school guidance counsellors across Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the statistics tell us the story and we can see for ourselves the fact that many Nunavut students are not graduating from academic programs in their schools.

Unfortunately these students who try but do not succeed in academic programs are not prepared to enter the trade programs either.

There are many opportunities for students who graduate. There are opportunities in secondary institutions like universities and colleges. There are opportunities in trades and apprenticeship programs. There are opportunities to enter into specialized access programs. There are opportunities in the workforce.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, our students are not prepared, neither by the system nor the parents to take up those opportunities and if they are not prepared they will lose these opportunities, and therefore Nunavut will be weaker.

(interpretation ends) School guidance counsellors can play an extremely important role in helping our future workforce ready themselves for the opportunities ahead of them. School guidance counsellors can work with students to identify the opportunities that are available to them.

For example, in many communities especially in the smaller communities, jobs are available but only in certain sections of the workforce. Students could benefit from assistance in identifying the skills they need to develop to enter these jobs.

School guidance counsellors can work with teachers in classrooms to assist students in identifying the work on these subjects that can prepare them for their quality opportunities that lie ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage the Department of Education to examine and provide more support to the roles of school counsellors in our communities, especially in the smaller communities of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Williams. Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 140 – 1(6): Harmful Effects of Child Vaccinations

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make a few comments on some documents that were written by an elder and especially Mr. Speaker, it is in regards to the immunization of babies in the north.

Just recently there was something on the radio. Some statements have been made to me about immunization that is going to be started in the north and once these papers are translated into English, then I'll table it.

In the document, we were told that if a baby under a certain number of months old is immunized, it could do more harm than good to the health of the baby. If the dose is too large, it could impair the child mentally or physically. They could tend to get arthritis or some bronchial problems in their later years.

So I would urge the members to use caution if they're going to immunize children under a certain number of months old. The person is totally convinced of this fact in the story so I will be tabling this letter once it's translated into English, as it's written only in Inuktitut and I will be posing questions at the appropriate time. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 141 – 1(6): Clarification of Member's Statement of May 10, 2002

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my members' statement is more of a clarification. I want to talk a little bit about language and translation of language and the concepts that are spoken when you're switching from one language to another language.

Kablunaaq humour as we know is very difficult to translate well into Inuktitut and sometimes it's a challenge to be an interpreter when you are translating humour and jokes.

Inuktitut humour is also very difficult, Mr. Speaker, to translate and what makes it more difficult sometimes is that in our language, we don't have his and her and I think it is also a very big challenge to the translators when they are translating at the same time that we are speaking.

I am going to give you an example and also to clarify something from the unedited Hansard on Friday, May 10, where I was speaking Inuktitut. And I quote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My father has a hearing problem, instead of saying wife he would say "man." And he can be very, very loud when he calls my mother Angutii, translated man, when he wants her attention.

Sometimes on more than one occasion, he would blurt out Ataniiq (My God), by mistake and you would understand why some of the people who happen to be visiting would wonder why he had just blurted out My God. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

In my statement I was accidentally translated as referring to my mom as being a male and my dad being a female, which is very shocking to my dad. I would not dare say my dad would call my mom a man.

What I was trying to say is that on Mother's Day, my previous statement before I said the conclusion was that, Mr. Speaker, that my mom calls my dad "man" instead of "husband", and sometimes she called him 'Ataniiq' which is 'my Lord' in reference to God by mistake. That was the joke, Mr. Speaker, and I just wanted to make a point that sometimes it is very difficult to translate Kablunaaq jokes into Inuktitut and Inuk jokes into the Kablunaaq language.

Sometimes, Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to say the humour here in the House, but Mr. Speaker, I know that my time is up. I just wanted to make a clarification and apologies to my parents. If they saw the unedited Hansard, which they won't, I would not dare go into my dad's house with that hanging over my head. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, minister for that clarification. Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

Member's Statement 142 – 1(6): Inadequate Distribution of Funds to Communities

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a good thing that I don't tell jokes in the House. And I am sure that would be a problem to translate them into English.

What I would like to say is that in Nunavut there are different communities. Some are woefully behind and some are more up to par with everything. It could be the equipment for their meetings. There are different factors and as MLAs I think that we defend our communities more so when there are not enough financial resources for everyone. It has to be fairer for the allocations in Nunavut.

I believe that there are twenty-six communities in Nunavut. I think that there is a better system that we can use in Nunavut. It was quite obvious that in the beginning of the Nunavut territory, that with the previous government, with the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Nunavut communities were always a last priority.

In some ways that has not changed be it for distribution of equipment, infrastructure, or dollars for operations and maintenance.

I want further review on the matter as it could be improved so that if one community is getting way more than the others it will be obvious that we are favouring some of them and I don't want to see that happening with this government. We have to see each community on an equal footing and equally distribute to the communities, so there are no have or have not communities. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement 143 – 1(6): Spring Piano Recital at Inuksuk High School

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I just want to today, make mention of an event that happened last Friday here in Iqaluit. It was a spring piano recital that took place at the high school in which 21 of Janet Troje's piano students held a recital to show off what they've learned over the past year during their piano lessons.

Mr. Speaker, some of these kids range from six years old to teenagers. And I think that the opportunity to participate and take music lessons, like I said there's only 21 students that did that. I think it would be great to see more opportunities available like that to our young people. Not only private lessons but maybe something offered in the education system.

I'd like to congratulate all the students that participated at the time. I think that the recital went excellent. Special recognition, I'd like to say is to my daughter Eden who played two songs, a "Whistling Tune" and "You Are My Sunshine." And also note, Mr. Speaker

that Ms. Williams's son, Virgil also played a couple of tunes at that recital and the song that he played is "My Heart Will Go On" and the theme from "Giovanni" by Mozart.

I'd like to ask all the members in this House to join me in congratulating all the young people on a job well done and to Janet as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 144 – 1(6): Ordination of Reverend Bobby Patsak and Jean Simailak

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to talk about an event that happened in my community on March 24, 2002. There was an ordination that was held by Bishop Chris Williams for Bobby Patsak of Baker Lake.

He was ordained a Minister of the Anglican Church and also Jean Simailak, was ordained as a deacon. Assisting was the Reverend Fred Carson, Executive Director of SOMA Canada and the Reverend Mike Shouldice from Rankin Inlet.

Reverend Patsak trained from 1998-2000 at the Arthur Turning Training School in Pangnirtung. Reverend Jean Simailak has had various courses over the years and has served as a Lay Reader at the same Anglican Church in Baker Lake since 1980.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate these two individuals for their success in their endeavours in life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? If not, we'll move on. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Picco.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome some constituents of mine in the gallery, Mr. Scott Cooper with Uqsuq Fuel Oil, the General Manager, also Chris West, who is the Manager of Retail Operations for the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation. And also next to Chris is Dallas Letemplier, who is the Baffin Gas Manager and next to Dallas is Mr. Mike Hine, a well know Geologist, an employee of the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual from Rankin Inlet. His name is Simon Ukpatauyak and he's behind me. I would also like to welcome a person who used to live in Rankin Inlet or perhaps is still a resident, (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize another individual who has worked at the Northern Store where everybody got to know him very well. He's sitting right over there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. But I think he's working for a different department now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery, Simon. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize two individuals from First Air that are sitting behind us, Mr. Jim Ballingall who's the Vice President and Mr. Rick Lefebvre, who everybody in here knows as the Director of Nunavut operations. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery Rick, Jim. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 165 – 1(6): Effect of Cape Dorset Disaster on Capital Projects

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly and I'll try to keep it concise, the government makes plans for emergencies. Contingency funds. For example, this past winter there was a community, Cape Dorset, which was designated as a disaster community when the pipes froze and burst and they had to use the contingency funds held in reserve by the Community Government and Transportation to resolve this emergency.

My question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Community Government and Transportation. Is that disaster going to have an impact on the capital funds that will be used in the summer? To use the communities as an example, is there going to be some delay in the projects that were slotted to go ahead in the fall. Is there going to be an effect on these projects after the situation that occurred in Cape Dorset, on the capital funds? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The matter dealt with in Cape Dorset will not have an effect on the capital projects that are planned

already. We had to set aside some capital funds to repair the damage to the pipes that was caused by the freeze up but it's not going to have an effect on any of the projects that are upcoming. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the understandable response. It was a concern that was voiced by my two communities and I'm sure that the people from my two communities are assured that there will be no delay in any of the projects that are slotted to go ahead this fall.

I have no questions just that I have understood. Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Question 166 – 1(6): Assessment of Decentralization Plans for Kugluktuk and Igloolik

Mr. Havioyak: Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. Yesterday, I made a statement on the Evaluation Report on Decentralization. Today I wanted to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Decentralization.

On that report you made some recommendations and one of the recommendations, if I may I can say the recommendation number 10 says the decentralization of the Department of Health and Social Services operation to Kugluktuk and for the decentralization for the Department of Sustainable Development, Wildlife Division, Igloolik will be assessed.

I am just wondering when will they begin to do the assessment in these two decentralized communities? Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Each department is in charge of what kind of employees are transferred to each of the communities. Our main concern is to provide support to each of the departments and that decentralization does occur.

What we are doing right now is ensuring that there is sufficient staff housing for each of the communities who are decentralized. We have been working with the Minister responsible on that issue. And issuing RFP's trying to get additional housing in this area.

We are very supportive of efforts to try to decentralize at this point. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Thank you, Premier. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. Thanks for the information. I know that the two departments are talked about...maybe the rest of the departments.

My question was there will be an assessment, the assessment in those two communities. Do you have a timeframe as to when these will be done? I will ask again. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. At this point no timeframe that has been set, as of right now, the commitment is still there to ensure that the number of jobs that are committed to those communities will take place.

We have not formally developed a position on the recommendations that have been put forward and we will be doing that in the near future.

We have not responded to the recommendations yet, we are still examining them. The commitment is there for each and every one of the communities that were identified and put things to and we have no response to date. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 167 – 1(6): Plans for Provision of School Buses

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I apologize Mr. Speaker, I didn't quite hear you. Thank you.

I will be directing my question to the Minister for Education. Last year, there was one time funding when they dissolved the divisional boards. They had a one million surplus, and this one million dollars was distributed to the communities. And two of the communities had purchased a school bus. Due to this surplus they spent this extra funding for two buses. This was a one time funding surplus.

I would like to ask the Minister of Education in regards to the necessity of school buses. In regards to the school buses, do you have any plans for providing school buses to other communities or is this a non issue? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister responsible for education. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we usually communicate directly with the communities on these types of issues. For bussing services I would like to explain to him because we have two different ways of operating them.

Some communities provide school bussing through contracts and some of the municipalities administer the bussing service. We look at the bussing services with the communities as their situation is unique and we usually discuss the matter according to the problems that they're experiencing. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A couple of years ago, they could only provide bussing services through contracts and last year the system was different because they had used the surplus funds to purchase two school busses for two communities.

The bussing system was different from the year before in that regard. And in regards to the two different services regarding bussing through contract or municipal services, the minister stated that these two systems they're using are different. I thought I understood you last year that providing school bussing through contract services would come to an end.

So I was wondering if the contracting of school bus services was terminated or are communities that are requesting a school bus contract, will they will be allowed to get their school busses? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are using both systems right now either contract services and through municipal services. For the communities that provide school busses, we do have a contract for school bussing.

The contract school bussing is up and running but also we did try out that new initiative last year where we purchased two school busses that were provided to the municipality to provide bus services for the school children. Both are still running. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): For communities that have contracted bussing services, would they have just contracted services for eternity or could it go through the hamlet council or through the District Education Authority. How would it work when the community is requesting for providing school busses and it is already contracted out?

I was wondering if the minister is willing to provide some clarification. If there was a contracted service for school bussing, and the municipality wanted to provide the bussing service, if they had the possibility of going that route or would they have no choice but to extend the contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps the communities would have to identify what their needs are, what they're requesting and also, looking at if they can provide better services and if the costs are lower, then we usually look at these options with the District Education Authorities as to which services they would like to see.

Providing that there's funding, they set up the service program for the communities. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Pond Inlet, we have one bus but it's evident now that they require an additional bus because the school population is increasing as the minister might already be aware of.

They made amendments to the bussing policy, so if the District Education Authority in Pond Inlet wanted to get an additional bus, I was wondering if the minister is willing to look for funding for an additional bus.

Also just to elaborate a bit, the students are sometimes only able to have a half hour for lunch as they have to immediately get ready for the school bus as it is already making its rounds and the children are sometimes forced to eat really fast. There is a problem with the bus service in the regard and that is what I am trying to raise.

The Pond Inlet DEA, if they wanted to get another bus would you be willing to look into the matter with the DEA or if there was no funding, that it is impossible? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we went to that situation, yes. I would have to say that we would have to look at the safety aspects involved. We would look at how long or how far the homes are from the school and also we automatically look at, as I stated before, in the House, when we were dealing with bussing service, the priority needs and the safety issues and the distance from the school and the homes.

Those are the strategies that we use and I would like to, yes, we provide and work with the DEAs very closely in those issues. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 168 – 1(6): Plans for Mauling by Problem Polar Bears

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister of Sustainable Development in regards to polar bears.

Yes, this summer in my community we are expecting to have polar bear problems in my community because the adjacent areas from Clyde River all the way up to Mittimatalik and down to Qikiqtarjuaq, there are numerous polar bears roaming around and the polar bears have moved into that area.

My question is, although we don't want to use the polar bears as an excuse to dislike the government, we seem to disagree about this issue because we feel for our Inuit people and we don't want to see any polar bear mauling human beings in our communities.

My question is, if a polar bear had fatally mauled an individual or if the polar bear injures a human being, what kinds of plans do you have to give support or reasonable assistance to the Inuit? Last year my son was almost mauled by a polar bear. If he was mauled, I would be very hurt because there were two polar bears right close to him and he just ran away from them and that's why he didn't get mauled.

So, my question to the minister is, what kinds of plans do you have if an Inuk should be mauled by a polar bear? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues.

The Wildlife Officers work with individuals if there is an incident of a polar bear mauling any individuals and they work with the people. If the polar bear had mauled an individual fatally, the polar bear would have to be found and shot.

The Wildlife Officers are responsible; they work very well when situations like this arise. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the wildlife officers are working on this issue, do you have any funding available if a polar bear should maul an individual, do you have any funding to compensate the victim's family for their loss or death? I am wondering if there are any funds set aside for this purpose. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes we would review the matter with the individual or the families of the individual and WCB because there are options that they could apply to their situation and the forms which have to be filled out. I am not saying there is definitely funding available, but we could probably use the WCB if there should be an incident such as this. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary question. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I like the sound of his response but my colleague asked yesterday about grizzly bears destroying hunters' property. Ever since we can recall, the property of the hunters has always been destroyed by polar bears.

Sometimes they totally destroy the equipment and render it useless and they even destroy the cabins outside of the communities.

They destroy the cabins and the polar bears break into the cottages so I was wondering what kind of plans the minister has to support the individuals or hunters who lose their equipment or if compensation is even feasible? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes there is usually insurance for homes or buildings. If there was an insurance policy on these cabins, yes they could be paid through their insurance providing that they pay their premiums...I would urge the cabin owners to insure their cabins so that they will have less problems when and if they should experience polar bears destroying them. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we were under the GNWT, we used to fight for protection and funding and now that we set up the Nunavut Government and it seems like there's no insurance available when we request it for the cabins and when we look to the department for assistance, there is never really anything set up.

So I was wondering for Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq, those two communities that I represent both have large numbers of areas where the polar bears roam around. I am wondering if you could identify a definite place or person should any property damage occur where these hunters can get compensation? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize. If the member can give me a report on any hunters or individuals who could not get any funding or insurance, so if he can give me the names and the wildlife officers can help the individuals if they want to insure their cabins. I apologize for any inconvenience caused to the individuals, perhaps the community HTO can also assist in this matter.

But Mr. Speaker, I would like the member to give me correspondence as to whether any individuals have requested compensation for losses or insurance for their equipment in either Clyde River or Qikiqtarjuaq. Thank you.

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

Question 169 – 1(6): Clarification of Responses Re: Consultation on Bill 1

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Education. I would like to quote from the Hansard Mr. Speaker.

On Thursday April 25, last month I had asked the minister regarding the results of the consultations and the list of changes to the proposed, to Bill 1. The minister replied, “Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes the member is right about consultation proceedings have been requested by members and by the committee.”

Mr. Speaker, two weeks later on Wednesday May 8th, I basically asked the same question, asking for an update when I could get that information.

I’ll quote from the Hansard that the minister’s reply said, “Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To date we still have no specific request from the standing committee for this information.” I’d like to ask the minister if he could clarify those two different responses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Education. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The quotations, I regret that I don’t have a copy of the Hansard with me, but at that time when I responded to the member’s question that I had yet to receive any specific requests from the special committee.

When I spoke to the member about the issue, I had agreed to make the information they requested available so that the standing committee can have the information when discussing the issue but the standing committee has not given me a list of their questions or information requests. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on April 25th, I specifically asked for the results of the consultation and a list of the changes and the minister specifically said yes, that that information has been requested.

Two weeks later he said he had no specific request. So I would maybe like to ask the minister, on the 25th of April he said yes and answered that this information was asked for by the standing committee and by members. I know I’d indicated that day, that I myself had asked for that information.

I’d like to ask the minister, it indicated yes at that time, we had and I guess again, ask when we can expect to get that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Just to remind the minister that when we’re dealing with issues like this where you have documents that you don’t have in front of you, there’s different dates with different figures, you have the option to take the question as notice or leave the question unanswered. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to respond so that there won't be any confusion. I think there has been some confusion or misunderstanding by the member in that there are two requests made by the member and there was a request made by the standing committee and on top of that the standing committee was requesting results of the consultation process. Mr. Speaker, if I had explained further, I would elaborate to them further and give them explanations. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the minister also went on to say that he would provide us with that information and at that time as a member in this house for that information. So does he plan on providing it to me and the other members in this House or just to the Standing Committee? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the end of the week, I stated that I would give them at the end of the week and we delivered them in an envelope to the member's office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on that date, on April 25th, I specifically asked for the results of the consultations and a list of changes and the minister had indicated that they will provide them to the members for this House and to the committee.

I'd like to ask the minister if that's the information that he provided to the members or was it just that very brief overview of some of the major changes that he had tabled earlier in this House, that he delivered to the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The information that I provided was a list, a short summarized list. As well, the special committee that is going to be travelling throughout Nunavut, I just want to make it clear that we don't want any confusion.

I have given my department further direction and there's somebody that's doing some work on gathering information that would be provided to the Standing Committee. The individual that is going to be working for us will be compiling the information and which communities they consulted with and what kinds of discussions happened in the communities. I said yesterday again, when I told the members of this House that there's about, over three thousand information items or questions that have been dealt with so far.

So, I will be providing some information to the Standing Committees so they will know what to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Just for the record I've indicated that Mr. Anawak would not be in the House today. Mr. Anawak is in the House. For the record. Oral Questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 170 – 1(6): Clarification of New Immunization for Infants

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when I made my member's statement, I said that I would ask the question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

I'm not intentionally trying to pick on the minister but as an elected member I have to represent my constituency. The Inuit are a very curious people and they try to find out what is causing the problems, and whereby the babies when immunized with too much of a dose, they encounter problems later on in their lives, such as having lung problems and some of them have developed mental problems.

Health and social services told us that the babies would be immunized again, with a new kind of a serum or medication that has been approved for use in Nunavut. We would like to know exactly what kind of serum or medication is going to be used to immunize children if it's something new. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, immunization programs by departments of health, not only the Department of Health in Nunavut, have been carried out over the last 50 or 60 years going back to I guess the major one would have been the Polio vaccination.

Mr. Speaker, before any vaccination is delivered by a community health nurse in this jurisdiction or any jurisdiction, it goes through several different trials and tests to make sure that the complications from such a vaccination would be negated and mitigated and would be not so severe and very minor to say the least.

So all the vaccinations that are delivered in Nunavut are legally tested and then approved by the Canadian Drug Administration by the Health Canada for delivery. In this case, Prevnar, which is the vaccination that we will be introducing, this vaccination is for the, to try to help the prevention of invasive pneumococcal disease.

A pneumococcal disease is a type of streptococcus pneumonia or influenza which is the leading cause of meningitis as well as bacteremia, pneumonia, acute otitis media which is ear infections.

So these types of things would be prevented by the usage of the Prevnar vaccination and I want to make it perfectly clear Mr. Speaker, these vaccinations have all been tested and cleared by the proper authorities and are very important for the well being of our young children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary question. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have heard that people immunized in the 1970s or before the 70s, that people that first were immunized, and there's still immunization going on. There was a doctor that gave us information that there are further complications to people that were immunized, if they are too young or if the dose is too high.

Have there been any complications that the health minister knows about that come from immunizing children? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have not been made aware of any serious complications that come from the immunization. Immunization of people, children, and elders with the influenza vaccination that we put in place for example, far outweighs any small complication that the member brings up.

I can't comment on what happened in the 70s. But Mr. Speaker, I can say with some authority that all the vaccinations that are delivered and given in Nunavut meet the certification of the federal authorities, of our health officials and are recommended because of some of the invasive diseases that we encounter.

There may have been something with vaccinations across Canada, given in the 50s, 60s or 70s, but Mr. Speaker, I'm not in the position to comment on those. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I know about his response but I can't really answer him either whether the immunization is good or bad. We are both not knowledgeable enough about the vaccinations to offer an educated opinion.

My question is can there be some studies done that the immunizations that were used in the 70s for the children, are not being used today? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what I can do for the members is to speak with the Chief Medical Health Officer for Nunavut, Dr. Roberts to find out if there has been any concerns raised from any vaccination that may have been delivered in

the 70's in the Northwest Territories, which is now the Nunavut area of the Northwest Territories and to see if there's any complications that have arisen from those vaccinations.

That's the question from the member. I believe we'll be able to look at that. There are records and so on kept on those types of statistics. So, that's something that I could follow up for the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the minister for the response but I would like to also ask a question. My last supplementary question.

The minister stated that there would be a very important vaccine called Prozenol. How long has it been used outside of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Prozenol has just been licensed for use in Canada. It follows on a series of very complex testing and so on and from my understanding, it's been based on data that has in surveillance in Canada from the Northwest Territories, from the Yukon, from Nunavut itself, as well as Nunavik.

Mr. Speaker, I think it's very important to make it clear that the immunization, especially for our young people, people with weak immune systems, our elderly, it's very important, to have been proven to help them in their quality of life, protecting against the invasive diseases. Whether it be diphtheria, polio, influenza, and so on. And Mr. Speaker, as a parent I would make no hesitation in having my children vaccinated. I think that we have to be perfectly clear on that.

The member's earlier question on what occurred in the 70s. I am not again aware of anything there but that's something that I can speak to our expert, Dr. Roberts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 171 – 1(6): Assistance for Bullets to Scare Off Problem Bears

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Sustainable Development. It's in regards to polar bear situation, because I come from a heavily populated polar bear area. Not my colleague's riding, just a largely populated bear area.

My question is, when we go out hunting in the summer time, especially in the summer time, there's a lot of polar bears when you go by canoe. Even though we go out to hunt belugas or caribou hunting, the shells that we use to hunt are used to scare off polar bears.

I just wondered what kinds of assistance the department could provide to us because we use up the bullets, which are now quite expensive, that we should be using to scare off the polar bears when we should be using it to kill our game.

I wonder if the minister's department could look into this, to see whether we can get some kind of assistance for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have any funding available for that or any bullets to scare off polar bears because this is a part of life when you go hunting, when you're trying to scare off wild game. You have to protect yourself. We don't have that kind of money or any money to provide those bullets that scare off polar bears. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, if there is nothing then that is true if the department does not have any funds available for that, but I would say to the minister that you are representing the people of Nunavut in this matter as we are dealing with it and you should be putting yourself in their place, for if there is no policy in place and Inuit started to request compensation for their damages, are you saying that you would tell them we can't do anything about it and we do not want to be bothered or would you try to help the people or the community in their stated needs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't have any problem with people asking wildlife officers to scare off polar bears and we have them in each community. If the people could phone or radio up the wildlife officers in the communities when they have problems with bears while out hunting the officers have the kind of equipment to scare off polar bears. If they are worried about using up their bullets trying to scare the polar bears instead of for killing food for their tables they could contact the wildlife officers in each community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's unfortunate that the department does not realize the urgency of this situation. In the summer it's very difficult as you cannot act freely especially when travelling. If the department does not see the urgency of this, I guess it's up to the individuals that go out hunting to protect themselves. That is how we are up there.

Sometimes when we are sleeping they go and tear up tents that are occupied by people along with their equipment and every summer they rob our prepared food sources. Like

this summer, my wife and I were out on the land camping, I was trying to make some line out of bearded sealskin and the polar bear snatched it when we were asleep even though it was right next to us. So these are the types of emergency situations that I am describing. Our community experiences this without fail every summer and that's why the hunters lose out with wasted shells used for scaring off polar bears in my community.

I wonder if the department could have a plan in place whereby they could help out the people of Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River with some type of subsidy because they are really in need of this and none of you are being affected by this personally. Could the department do whatever they can to help us out in this situation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question and his request. Mr. Iqaqrialu, there are polar bears everywhere not only in his communities. There are other communities experiencing this phenomenon but more so in the member's community I suppose.

The reason why there are wildlife officers is because they are there to help the people in the communities. I know that the people want assistance, but from the wildlife officers guarding their tent all night long? There are a lot of people that go out on the land and it's their choice to go out and hunt. So we could provide wildlife officers if there is an emergency but they can't be available all night long and they also have bullets to scare off polar bears.

If we were to buy some bullets for the individual hunters that go out on the land, we would spend a lot of money obviously. Our wildlife officers are salary paid employees and they can be called in case of an emergency by the people and we want all Nunavummiut to know this information.

Also, there are dogs that could go along with the hunters, especially if out for a long period, to warn the people out camping to make sure that they don't get their tents and equipment destroyed. The dogs know when there's a polar bear approaching or if there's a polar bear around. They can warn the people in advance at night. This is another example of self help practices that can be used, as they are good guard dogs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since this is my last supplementary, I'll ask two questions as I will have my quota for the day.

I would like to inform the member that the dogs are now as ignorant as we Inuit are and timid these days. I think everyone knows that and should know it now. We have done all

kinds of studies on polar bears in my area. My question is in regards to the Uqsuqtuq area or Gjoa Haven.

There was a moratorium immediately imposed on polar bears in that region not too long ago. The reason stated was that the polar bear population had crashed and there was no more available. The people of Gjoa Haven knew how many polar bears there were in that area. The government chose to believe the scientists even though their information was erroneous.

This moratorium was set without using the local traditional knowledge. Perhaps this will also apply in other areas where the government sloughs off the Inuit knowledge as being second rate. Perhaps this will apply when only the scientists are believed and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is belittled. Can we Inuit, who are citizens in this country, be included in resolving some of the problems we face every day? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't agree with the member in some parts. Some of the dogs are very smart and I know that they make excellent guard dogs. They know as much as we do about the animals.

In regards to the polar bear studies, it's an ongoing project that is being done by our department. We have stated from day one, that as the Nunavut Government, we are going to be using the local knowledge and expertise in conducting these studies.

We have made that commitment and we're going to use it. We will work closer together with the local communities. I have also worked with the member representing Gjoa Haven area. We have done the studies using the local expertise and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

We as the Nunavut Government are listening to the people of Nunavut. We're looking for ideas in managing wildlife cooperatively. It's very obvious that we have a closer working relationship with the people of Nunavut than did the previous government. As well, this proposed new wildlife act will detail other ways we are trying to help the people.

It's an ongoing commitment that we will hold up to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 172 – 1(6): Scavenging Birds Re: Piksi or Nikku

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the minister of the wildlife division, Sustainable Development.

The member for Uqqummiut, it's very true because of course some dogs are timid, they don't even know how to guard us from polar bears and it has always been that way with dogs. Some dogs do not even want to see or sniff a polar bear. My question is these days the communities make dried meat and dried fish and other ways of preserving wildlife.

My question to the minister is are we going to do anything about the gulls and ravens that raid our caches of meat? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. I do go out on the land a lot myself and we make dried meat and fish and so on. It's okay during the day when there are people moving around but we usually put away the meat in the evening so that they don't get eaten by scavengers.

I think proper precautions such as taking care of the food, putting a tarp over it in the evening, or putting it in a cardboard box so that they don't get raided by the seagulls and ravens is the easy answer. So there are ways to prevent the scavengers from raiding your meat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand your response and I do know there are ways to prevent scavengers from raiding your caches. You cannot put a tarp or put food in a cardboard box if you are going to be drying it or treating it. Would the minister know if meat can get contaminated from the droppings or saliva of these scavengers or have they looked into ways of resolving this problem? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the people that go out on the land know a little more than we do about preserving and preventing raids of their meats. There have been scavengers on the land since day one and for those of us who live around the bird sanctuaries or nesting areas we tend to have a little more problem than the other communities.

If the member is concerned about raiding and contaminating of meat I think I would suggest that you talk to the people that frequently go out on the land so that we can prevent such things. I would suggest that you talk to the frequent campers and talk to them about prevention and to prevent contaminants. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly the ravens and the seagulls are protected species Mr. Speaker. Are they not protected species?

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The federal government legislation is superior so we have to apply the federal government regulations. We could look into their legislation because of course, we as a Nunavut Government can't revise legislation enacted by the federal government. We can look into the pieces of legislation and make suggestions for recommended changes. This applies to the Migratory Birds Act.

But we do not want to break the legislations that have been enacted by the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is my last question.

We as the Nunavut Government are dealing with the issue and have made a commitment to use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Would Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit be used if we're going to pass new legislation in regards to protected species? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have made a commitment to use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and implement them within the government.

In regards to his question, we can use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in conservation and protection of wildlife species in Nunavut insofar as we are capable of doing so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 173 – 1(6): Negotiated Block Funding for Iqaluit - Update

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister Responsible for Finance. I'm not sure if it's in his capacity as the house leader or chair of the Financial Management Board but he can determine that.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Minister Responsible for Community Government and Transportation had indicated that an agreement that was being put forward by her department with the City of Iqaluit towards a negotiated block funding agreement for capital has gone, or is basically waiting to be addressed at the Financial Management Board.

I'd like to ask the Minister of Finance, that's the chair of the board, you know, when the Financial Management Board will be taking a look at that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't believe it's appropriate for me to say when and what is on agendas for the Financial Management Board but I will say that the submission has been received and there will be a series of Financial Management Board meetings in dealing with regular business as well as the capital issue that's upcoming for the 2003 budget year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm not just asking. The Minister of Community Government and Transportation had indicated yesterday that it has gone to Financial Management Board for review. As a result of that, I'm just wondering when, and I also asked yesterday, the city would really like to and wants to come to an agreement on this as soon as possible because they would like to implement some of those projects this year for this construction year.

Does the minister think that's something that could be possible, if this could be discussed and approved, I can't say approved but looked at by the Financial Management Board in order for the city to be able to look at moving forward with some of those projects that they'd like to do this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes I know that the Department of Community Government and Transportation, her officials from that department have been speaking with the town administration in trying to work on their cash flow in respect to capital projects to allow things to happen for this current construction season and fiscal year.

But having said that, even if there were, or when it does go before the Financial Management Board and if and when it is approved, there is an issue about timing given that Supplementary Appropriations have to come back to the Legislative Assembly for final approval. The timing of that of course, this House isn't expected to sit again until some time in the fall, October, November, September.

There is that issue about timing. But we are going to look at options on how we can work around those issues to address the needs of the City of Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the minister's response in acknowledging that they will look at ways in which they can accommodate it and get it approved.

I would also like to ask the minister if one of the factors that they deal with in so far as prioritizing what's being looked at, if the timing of this issue, just in the way that it's dealt with would also be a factor in which they address the timing wise in when it is reviewed and decided upon by the FMB? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, Mr. Speaker, timing is always a factor in consideration of submissions from departments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Members will note that question period is now over. Orders of the Day. 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. Do we have any Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills? Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Haviyak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 025 – 1(6): Inuinnaqtun-English Dictionary

Mr. Haviyak: Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. I would like to table a copy of the Inuinnaqtun Dictionary that I spoke about earlier. Just to inform the members and the Nunavut people that they are available through the Nunavut Arctic College. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Thank you. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to go back to Item 12.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 12. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed Mr. McLean.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

Report 02 – 1(6): Bill 8 - An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development and that the bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive rule 68(5) and have Bill 8 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. McLean has requested to waive rule 68(5) so that Standing Committee Report Bill 8 can be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration. Are there any

nays? There are no nays. Standing Committee Report Bill 8 is referred to Committee of the Whole. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. McLean.

Report 03 – 1(6): Bill 9 - An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act

Mr. McLean: Ma'na, Uqaqti. I wish to report that Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development and that the Bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive rule 68(5) and have Bill 9 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Ma'na, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Ma'na, Mr. McLean. There is a request to waive rule 68(5) so Standing Committee Report Bill 9 can be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Standing Committee Report Bill 9 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 07 – 1(6): Empowering Our District Education Authorities - Notice

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on May 16, 2002, I will move the following motion:

I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Qamanittuaq, that the Department of Education move forward in coming to agreements with each and every DEA that expresses its desire to take on these responsibilities;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that the Department of Education continue to provide training and support to DEAs on an ongoing basis to assist them to carry out these important functions.

At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will be seeking consent to deal with my motion today.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive rule 45(1) so that my motion can be introduced today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member's seeking unanimous consent so that he can deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed Mr. Tootoo.

Motion 07 – 1(6): Empowering Our District Education Authorities

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker,

WHEREAS the Act to amend the Divisional Education Councils Dissolution Act was passed in this House on April 28, 2000;

AND WHEREAS section 7 of this Act states that, "A District Education Authority and the Minister shall enter into an agreement dealing with how the District Education Authority will carry out its duties and responsibilities and exercise its powers to ensure that the District Education Authority, to the extent it is willing and able, carries out as many duties, takes as much responsibility and exercises as many powers as possible";

AND WHEREAS it has been a stated goal of the Department of Education to allow communities to assume more responsibilities over time;

AND WHEREAS it has been a stated goal of this Government to increase accountability and responsibility at the community level across Nunavut;

AND WHEREAS many communities have expressed their interest in taking on such District Education Authority responsibilities as budgeting, accounting and management functions;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baker Lake, that the Department of Education move forward in coming to agreements with each and every DEA that expresses its desire to take on these responsibilities;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that the Department of Education continue to provide training and support to DEAs on an ongoing basis to assist them to carry out these important functions.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in bringing forward this motion, I know that as I indicated since April 1, 1999 and prior to that, there has been a desire of all of our communities to take on more responsibilities and control over matters regarding delivery of programs and services in the communities. This particular case Mr. Speaker, deals with the administration and running of the educational system within the communities and I've heard many times in this House or members have said it that our communities know themselves best and that they should be given the authority and the

responsibility and the power to carry out those duties and that's one of the reasons I'm bringing this motion forward.

I think that, also Mr. Speaker, I think that devolution is something that we need to look at as a government not only in education but in other areas in order to become more effective and efficient. Also the fact that the high turnover rates within the government sometimes leads to confusion and misunderstandings between these community based elected bodies that have responsibilities and the departments.

Mr. Speaker, I am not saying that's the case in this particular case but that there is a potential for that happening and what this will do is allow for more continuity in the delivery of those programs and services in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. To the motion. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly, to the motion, the District Education Authorities in just about every community in Nunavut are elected by their community, just like us. They have power to run the programs in their community and they are given responsibilities to run the programs and they should have more responsibilities to run more programs in our communities.

They understand the communities and they visit their schools and they know what's going on in their communities. I think we should recognise them and give them more power so they can run their own programs in the communities.

If I can use one example, Mr. Speaker, in the smaller communities such as my community for example, they make plans for one year and they make the school year calendars in their communities. This way the communities are taking more responsibilities in terms of what they want to do in their own communities and this is a recognition of their roles.

The Nunavut Association of Municipalities, just like them, they have power like that organisation. They're not less than the NAM program, so they should be given more power to run their own programs, due to their abilities and their due election by their people. For this reason I support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Williams. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll make it very brief. Old bureaucratic systems and thinking die hard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: To the motion. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm in support of this motion. I just want to make a brief comment on the District Education Authority in the communities. I know that they want more powers within their organizations for further

flexibility. So they can help a lot of students out there and help the teachers as well. I'm in support of this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. 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, Bill 8 and Bill 9. Minister's Statement 20 - 1 (6), Tabled Document 16-1 (6).

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. Irqittuq in the chair.

Before we proceed to committee, we'll take a short break. We'll be back in the chamber by 1 p.m. I would also like to inform regular members that there is a meeting with officials from First Air at 12:00 in the Nanuk Room. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 11.55 p.m. and resumed at 1.04 p.m.*

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

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you for coming back to the House. I hope you had a good lunch. We can now begin the Committee of the Whole. During Committee of the Whole, we have to deal with Bill 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and Minister's Statements 20 - 1(6) and Tabled Document 16 - 1(6), Gjoa Haven Gasoline Study.

What's the wish of the committee? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was a Minister's Statements 20-1(6) as well as tabled document 16 - 1(6), Gjoa Haven Gasoline Study. After that we can continue to with Bill 6, Appropriation Act No. 2, starting with the Department of Public Works and Services and after we finish Public Works and Services we would like to do Bill 8, Revolving Funds Act. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Does the Minister for Public Works and Services have any opening comments? Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be speaking in English.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to talk about the gasoline situation in Nunavut. Before I begin, I would like to say that I was very troubled to learn of the gasoline quality in our territory. I recognize that this problem affects the daily activities of Nunavut and I wanted to assure everyone that we are working very hard to fix this situation.

Mr. Chairman, the Petroleum Product Division of the Department of Public Works and Services reacted immediately to all voiced concerns on gasoline quality from our customers, delivery contractors and the media.

The quality of our fuel supply is very important. Gasoline samples were sent to the Alberta Research Council, the leading research laboratory in Canada for analysis. Samples were also sent to a lab in the United Kingdom for additional testing. Most recently PTT along with IRT conducted two sets of tests on snowmobiles.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister's Statement I made on May 3, 2002, was for the results of snowmobile testing. These tests indicated that the current gasoline supply in Baffin and Kivalliq caused engine damage. The gasoline meets the specifications of Canadian General Standard Board except for the deposit control additives. The problem is high concentration of some of normally occurring elements. The high concentration can only be found and measured through lab testing. The Albert Research Council has tested fuel from across Canada and has never seen concentrations as high as these recently identified in the Baffin and Kivalliq gasoline supplies.

Mr. Chairman, a preliminary assessment suggests there are two possible solutions. One, to dispose of the remaining gasoline supply and two, blending remaining gasoline supplies with the new re-supplies. PWS had hired a consultant to lead this process. A letter of notice was sent to our supplier the Northern Transportation Company Limited. Public Works and Services is currently exploring all legal options with the Department of Justice and we will be consulting the appropriate people to find an approach that will work for Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, our work at this point is directly related to concerns and the testing of the 2001 re-supply. The report by Advanced Technology Limited was very specific addressing concerns raised by residents of Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I welcome any questions that members might have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Perhaps the Minister can go to the witness table. Minister. Go ahead Mr. Minister. Sergeant-At-Arms, would you assist the witnesses to the table with the Minister? Thank you.

Thank you for coming before the committee. Mr. Kattuk can you please introduce your officials?

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The person on my right is Ross Mrazek, my Deputy Minister, and this individual is from the Alberta Research Council, Don Wispinski. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps the Standing Committee's Chairman has some opening comments to make. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to make any opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee. I would like to suggest that we leave the opening comments to every MLA on their own, but I think that it is the wish of everybody that they have some opening comments and I would like to go first if it is possible.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Under 77(1), I will have the members of the Assembly make up to ten minutes of general comments. Does anyone have a comment? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to make it very clear before I start that I don't blame the current minister for this situation. And what I mean by situation, I think the gravity of the situation is that we are into a mess here with our gasoline situation in Baffin and the Kivalliq.

We can all agree that the situation we have to clean up in the fastest possible way. When we get into situations like this, the first thing that happens is we are talking about suing so and so and suing so and so back and forth.

But the immediate situation that I would like to see dealt with is a solution: a solution to the problem of bad gasoline. It is not up to us as MLA's to decide the factor on the end of who is responsible for this low grade petroleum product that was purchased by the government, whether it is NTCL's fault, or the Government of Nunavut's fault, or the quality control people that should be keeping an eye on this thing.

There is a world out there. And I know that it is buyer beware. But there has to be a standard set.

I heard what you said in your statement that it was Canadian...CG...whatever controlled and bought under. The fact of the matter is, we have got a petroleum product that is causing a lot of havoc in our communities, yours included. Like I said, I don't blame you for this problem.

They did a study on the Gjoa Haven gas three years ago and it is not the same type of petroleum but it is very close to it. I am wondering why that situation was not rectified back then, so it didn't overflow into this, where we are today where we have this type of product in every community.

I have been fielding calls from my constituents dealing with this issue. I am saying be patient, I am sure as a government we will come up with a solution. That is what I want to accomplish here today.

I think all the members want to accomplish today to come out with some kind of solution to fixing this problem. Like I say, law suits in the courts can go on for years on who's responsible.

I'd like to see everybody sit down at the table and say okay, this is the issue we have, let's solve it for the better of all residents of Nunavut. I find it difficult that an organisation like ours, the government, and yes, governments make mistakes and so does private sector.

In talking with some experts of our own, the olefins are around 36.9 which is six times the national average, or the average in the petroleum products. It says that this can cause the types of problems in engines that we're starting to experience. We've got to deal with this situation as a solution and that's all I'm going to say. I'm keeping my comments very brief and I will ask questions later in the House.

But I want to emphasise to you as minister, solution, a solution as quickly as possible. The law suits can come later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Did you want to respond, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I would like to suggest that every member make their opening comments first of all before I respond.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister and your officials. I just wanted to comment a little bit in regards to the concern. There's really no problem from my constituency in terms of the gasoline right now but there is a concern because the gasoline that was dealt with in Gjoa Haven was a concern in the region.

Perhaps, you never know, the same supply of gasoline that was in Gjoa Haven might be brought up to Kugluktuk. There are always concerns about gasoline. I know it's a problem that we have to try to rectify as soon as possible to make sure that this doesn't happen again.

Because if we don't rectify this problem, our problems will lead to other concerns. Because as we know, the bad gasoline deteriorates in skidoo motors, outboard motors and leads to damage and eventually loss of equipment. I'm just wondering if perhaps the bad gasoline could be in the tank farms. That's just a concern, a comment. I will have a question in regards to how the communities are keeping an eye on the quality of the gasoline because without knowing, it's kind of hard to understand what kind of gasoline we have.

We should keep an eye on all the supplies that we have so that this problem doesn't happen again. Residents of Kugluktuk, perhaps Kitikmeot will have to have an idea as to how to tackle this problem if it comes to our region again. Those are just my comments.

Just a caution as to keep an eye on the gasoline, what the quality of the gasoline is like and to try and rectify the problem that we have now as soon as possible so that we can get on with other issues.

But at the present time we need to rectify this problem that we have. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would first like to say that even though there are impurities in the gas, I am glad that we are able to work together to resolve this issue. We will do the best that we can to resolve the problem and we will work with your department to find some solutions.

In regards to the problems that first arose in Gjoa Haven, the department at that time told us that it was good gasoline. Then there started to be complaints in the Baffin and the Kitikmeot areas after that incident. Why is it that we were told in the first place that there was bad gasoline in Nunavut?

The people of Nunavut were trying to tell the government that there was bad gasoline and only after our persistence and more problems coming out of the Baffin and the Kitikmeot did the government start admitting that there were problems with the gas.

I think that the government should be up front about problems like that. The government was persistent in trying to tell the people of Nunavut that the gasoline was good and then we had to get a study done to confirm our suspicions. It makes me wonder if the Nunavut Government is truly representing the people of Nunavut if they are going to truly represent us then they are going to have to be up front and tell the truth.

They are representing our people, they are providing services to the people of Nunavut and they have to listen to the people. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that the two communities that I represent are going to tell me what they want to see and it will be up to me to tell the government about their needs. I was elected to represent my communities and I have to be their voice in the Legislative Assembly not only today but for the life of this Legislative Assembly.

Because of that today the people of Nunavut are very disappointed in the quality of gasoline that they have received and because of course the boating season is almost here I am sure there are going to be quite a number of outboard motors that are going to be breaking down this summer. It's quite obvious the quality of the gasoline is breaking down the machinery and there is residue and deposits accumulating in the guts of these engines. The residue dries up and it seizes the motors and it's quite obvious they will have to get new machinery.

Some of the equipment that was bought was brand new but broke down due to the accumulation of the residue or deposits. We have problems in the winter and now that it's spring time and the weather is warming up, I'm sure that might lessen the problem but if

you use that bad gasoline on any of the motors, it might work good during the warmer seasons but if it gets cold out there, they'll freeze up and they'll dry up and it won't start up again next year.

Who's the one to blame, the Government of Nunavut or who should be the ones responsible? Is it NTCL or is it the suppliers out there that we bought the gasoline from? We have to look into all of these issues and find out who brought this bad gasoline or low grade petroleum product to Nunavut.

We have to find out who distributed this product to the Nunavut communities. And I want them to be up front about what they find out. There are services and products that we will need all the time and we have to be provided good quality products.

If it wasn't for this bad gasoline, we wouldn't have to have a meeting specifically to deal with petroleum products. There are times when the people we're not truly representing them. As people of Nunavut and the north, it's a day to day existence. We use these machineries on a daily basis. If we have suspicions about any qualities of any of these products, it's probably true because we live day to day.

There are some of us who have not learned about fixing up small engines in a formal school but because of our life long experience working on these machineries, we learn how to fix them and it's the same thing.

There are some hunters out there who will probably have to be compensated because of this problem. It's their sole means of survival. They have lost a lot because their machines broke down. They have not been able to go hunting to provide food for their family and friends.

The majority of the town, we eat country foods and much less so on the products that are sold at the retail outlets. So we have to look at all the effects that this low grade gasoline has caused the communities and the individuals out there.

We know we have also noticed the odour of the gasoline. I'm sure if we can smell it, the animals out there, I'm sure has a lot more effect on the animals out there. I can now say that it might even be causing environmental concerns because of course our wildlife eat from the land and this gasoline, or some of the residue is going out on the environment and probably causing damage and we in turn eat the wildlife.

So, are we going to resolve this problem? Can we not do anything about reducing the price at the retail outlets? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. You have 10 minutes.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to make a brief comment on the quality of our gasoline. It has been a number of years but it first surfaced

in 1999 then there was a slow down in 2000. We had that problem in my area in 1999 and it resurfaced again over here in the Baffin and Keewatin this year.

In 1999, the community of Gjoa Haven especially started experiencing numerous break-downs in their machinery and when you idle a machine or snowmobile outside of your house, usually what used to happen was that the snow where the exhaust touched would turn a particular colour and there was smoke coming out of the exhaust at that time when we first started experiencing the bad gasoline.

We spoke about it on more than one occasion to the government, thinking that the government in turn would help us out but that wasn't the case.

The government kept insisting that it was good gasoline. It was quite hard to try and convince the government about the quality of gasoline. We were insisting that it was bad gasoline and the government in turn told us that it was good gasoline.

The communities do the best they can and as Inuit we don't lie very often. That was the way we were brought up by our parents. We were told to tell the truth and not to tell lies in life. That was part of the up bringing that we got from our parents and we still live by it today.

And because of that, we were trying to tell the government that our machinery was breaking, that the gasoline was bad and that we needed help from our government. I don't know why the department kept insisting that it was good gasoline.

At that time we found it hard because you couldn't get the support from your government and it seemed like I was the one who was creating all the problems. At that time, we found that we couldn't rely on or ask for support from our government.

Even though that was the case, we are still in support of our Nunavut Government. We still try to believe in our government and when you look at it from a global sense we do have a good government.

We have a good country and we have an agreement and we also thank the government for providing shelter and food to the residents. But on the other hand it becomes quite hard. We have a good government that doesn't cause wars and we have to keep it like that by helping one and other.

At that time that we wanted help from our government but if they tell us the gasoline is good and won't budge, it becomes hard. There was one member that said they didn't want to blame the department or the minister. The member also said that they will work with that department so they can find solutions to the problem. That's what we would like to see. The diesel is fine, the heating fuel is fine, but the gasoline we have a problem with and we have to find solutions to the problem. I will ask questions afterwards. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Very briefly Mr. Chairman. In regards to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit that we keep mentioning in the House. We as Inuit kept insisting that the quality of gasoline was bad, especially from the full time hunters and it originated from Kugaaruk at that time. The government started out by saying that it was good gasoline then after some studies were done we did find that our suspicions were true, especially in the Baffin and Keewatin areas.

There were some public statements coming out at that time and that suspicion was confirmed when we did the studies with snow machines up here which is part of using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. I will be asking some questions afterwards but I would like to urge the government to at least listen to the people of Nunavut and that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is relevant in determining some of these matters. Thank you.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister and his officials. We are trying to work together and we are all representing our communities, our Nunavut. We are representing our communities and we should work for them and try to do their wishes since we wouldn't be sitting here if we weren't representing our communities.

In Repulse Bay they are experiencing the bad gasoline and not just there but in other communities as well. We have to look for ways to correct this problem because a lot of people are using snowmobiles and experiencing problems with the gasoline.

We have to find solutions for this problem. Up to today, we hear this problem from different communities all the time. I would like to say something from Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Some of us grew up in an igloo. We used to survive on the sealskin and qulliq.

We didn't have any skidoos and snowmobiles in those days. In the spring time, people used to try to get enough seal oil. In the spring time, the seal oil would not be good because of the heat of the sun outside. This is Inuit knowledge because some of the seal oil, some of it is not good and Inuit can tell which one is good oil and which one is not.

So we have to think about this bad gasoline in the same way and look for good gasoline to find out where we can get that. Up to today, our way of life today involves money all the time. We buy gasoline with money and other things. Therefore, we should look for solutions so we can get better gasoline for communities in Nunavut.

Because I'm representing my people, not just for myself but for other people in the communities, in Repulse Bay, they have been getting gasoline from Kugaaruk. Ever since

they started getting gasoline from Kugaaruk, the gasoline has been okay. And we're thinking about summer time supplies coming in.

We hope to see the improvements of the gasoline because we will have to deal with the outboard motors and skidoos that use this gasoline. We have to look for solutions right away so that it will be used for communities in a respectful way.

Especially this summer, there will be problems for the hunters because they'll be using their boats. Sometimes they go a long ways. There are all kinds of boats that will travel, hunting and there is danger out there. So we have to think about this and try to help our people in any way we can. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome. You were here two months ago.

Today, we are representing all of Nunavut, different communities, whether you are a minister or not. We are all representing the communities and we have big problems dealing with this issue. I'm happy to be where we are today because we're getting somewhere.

Mr. McLean mentioned today that we have to look for solutions in the future right away instead of waiting for something else to happen.

If we knew the problem ahead of time we would have done something differently and a lot of snow machines would have been usable instead of breaking down. Yesterday I received some information in a booklet about the breakage to the snowmobiles and what damages are caused. At this time a lot of people in our communities are getting ready to go out because of the good weather and they will need good snowmobiles to go out.

I believe in my government that it can do something to help our communities. The people that we represent will then respect us. I don't have much to say but we all know the gasoline is bad and we have to do something about it. At the moment our communities are using this bad gasoline and now that we know the gasoline is bad we have to do something about it. I will have further questions later on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: My comments will also be short because we will probably want to ask more questions instead of just comments, which will not make all that much sense to argue. There are some questions we will have and before that I think it would be fair to say that Public Works or the GN was unwary of possible deposit control additive problems because it never happened before as far as we know about the history.

When the consumers, especially the hunters, started suspecting about possible problems with the gas, the government did not react right away to find out as quickly as possible what might be the problem, because they were not suspecting it because it had never happened before. Of course, the question arises, do we have engineers at the loading point and the dumping point from Public Works that may have had a suspicion of the weird odour of the gasoline and the colour.

I myself this fall, when we started skidooing after the snow started covering the ground, on the first trip I went out with my brother. At our usual time after we cut up the caribou and make some tea, we would refill our tanks for our return trip. I saw the colour and the odour and said who did this, I wonder if somebody did this in the middle of the night? So I did not put it into my skidoo.

When I got back I left it out in the shack and went to get a new one and in this case it was the same colour and the same odour directly from the gas station. I wonder if Public Works did not suspect that kind of difference when they were loading and unloading at the tanks.

Because they know very well that the section 5.1.2 required agreement between government and NTCL that they require specifications for unleaded automatic gasoline with the Canadian General Standards Board on section 3.5 with 94 wintergreen type 2. Did they not suspect it might not be the case?

Minister's statement on the second page, third paragraph, states that the gasoline meets the specifications of the Canadian General Standards Board, CGSB except for the deposit control additive DCA.

However, there was some independent tests being done, one of them was in Coral Harbour that was sent down to Edmonton, I think it was Edmonton, and it was not 94 like the agreement states. In fact, I think they say it was 87 or lowest 87. Then again I don't have the papers with me to prove that.

My point Mr. Chairman, is that somewhere along the line with professional engineers from Public Works and Petroleum Products Division and NTCL a specific requirement in the agreement that they should have suspected something before the hunters did.

Mr. Chairman, my comments are not going to be long but we have some news releases here. The Minister's Statements here and some reports from this, from Gjoa Haven gas supplies having similar problems will make us think that somebody was not doing their work.

We have, we spend millions and millions of dollars on professional employees of the government for the purpose of serving the citizens of Nunavut whether it's in the health services or education or supplies, petroleum supplies to the consumer.

I am surprised that we missed somewhere that we could have probably suspected something without actually finding out but suspected enough to check it out again to make sure that it was okay. I will have some questions later. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Yes, as we move on to the questions, questioning of the Department of Public Works and Services let's be careful when we talk about that. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of comments to make and I know that we'll be getting into questions after and just comments like identify some of the areas where we want to look at some questions later.

I think it is quite evident that at least two regions in Nunavut are suffering from a case of bad gas and you know, when anyone has any discomfort from bad gas, the first thing they try to do is take something to fix it.

You know, I think it's important we try to find, the most important thing is to try and find something a way of solving the problem with the gasoline that we're stuck with. I think that, as the minister had indicated in his comments, disposing of the remaining gas and blending it with a new re-supply, those things aren't going to happen until later into the summer.

The fact is that, in the meantime, we're forced to use this bad gasoline that's out there. And I think that the first priority should be to find something, if there is something we can do to add to the gasoline to make it safer to use for people that are using it out there.

I think the last thing that we want is someone to be going out on the land, whether it is by snowmobile or by boat and have motor related problems with gasoline and then be stuck out there. I think the first priority should be to try and find a solution to what we have already other than what the minister indicated in his comments if that exists.

We have a fair bit of gasoline out there, I would say with this problem. I think another thing that we need to look at is developing, I don't know if we have to adapt our standards, or expand them to the existing ones to look for more specific things that we need to find that are missing or that we're finding in this gasoline that does cause these problems.

We have to specify a more specific kind of fuel that suits the needs and the circumstances here in Nunavut. I understand that basically the bottom line for the Gjoa Haven study was that it was a summer grade gasoline and not a winter grade gasoline and that was causing the problems.

I don't know if there were issues or things that were identified in that report that would have raised some flags of things that we should have done as a government or changed in our future processes for fuel. I don't know if those were done and I'll be asking questions on that later. Are there any specific recommendations that we saw in that report that

could have impacted and changed the situation that we're in today? I think it's an important thing that we also have to look at.

Another thing that we need to look at as well is the fact that everything in here so far, just refers to snowmobile testing. We can all assume outboard motors will be the same thing and I'm not a mechanic at all but I know that outboard motors are much more temperamental than snowmobile motors when it comes to their operations and what they can handle. So I think that's something that we have to look at as well.

Also the fact that it's all motorized vehicles. What is the impact going to be on automobiles? In Iqaluit, here, there are taxi drivers coming to me and saying they've been going through fuel pumps like crazy as a result of the bad gasoline. I think we need to take a look and figure out what the extent of the damage is that this gasoline is causing to all motorized vehicles and not just snowmobiles and outboard motors.

There are ATVS. All automobiles. I talked to an individual in one of the two regions in question and he had told me that he had purchased a vehicle from Dodge and he sent a sample of the gasoline to them and was told that if he put that gasoline in his vehicle, his new truck and used it, that his warranty would be null and void.

So I think if we are getting concerns like that raised, we really have to take a look at the impact that this gasoline has not only on snowmobiles but all cars and trucks and all the other vehicles, all motorized vehicles that use this gasoline.

Not only that, the question goes even further. I've got a generator and if I'm using it out at my camp or something like that and I'm using this gasoline in it, it can affect that as well.

So, I think it's not just snowmobiles and outboard motors that we have to think about; it's every single piece of machinery that uses this gasoline. We have to determine the impact that it has on it.

I think that's something that has to be done because again, because we live in a very unforgiving environment and the potential for disaster is there as a result of the breakdown of any kind of this equipment under certain conditions. So that has to be looked at as well.

The other thing is what we have to do to make sure something like this doesn't happen again. I think that regardless of whether we like it or not, the fact is that it did happen. We have to deal with it now and what are we going to learn from this and how are we going to make sure that this kind of thing doesn't happen to us again in the future.

I hate to put a price tag on what this lesson is going to cost us or whoever it is as a result of this. I think that is not something that we should just deal with here, and okay, we're going to figure out who's responsible and look after those people that have blown engines

in their snowmobiles. I think that's something that we have to look a lot deeper into and a lot more carefully.

The last thing we need to do is one, two things I guess. One, where things went wrong, to determine where things went wrong. And I'm sure that there are some busy lawyers out there trying to figure that out right now. But I think that's important that we have to identify exactly where in the process things went wrong and we ended up with this gasoline that isn't good.

Also, the other thing that we have to look at and determine is, if there is going to be any type of compensation, regardless of where it's coming from, what kind of a process are we going to use and what kind of time frames are we going to use to look at setting up to facilitate that process.

This gasoline, if we mix it, if we blend it with the existing gasoline, does it contaminate next year's gasoline? And does this lead to an ongoing problem that we're going to be facing not only this year but possibly next year and the year after. If there's any little bit of it left in the tanks, which there always is, every year, is it going to dilute and mix into, does it have the potential of contaminating future re-supplies of fuel?

So it's not an easy thing that we have to look at. I won't pretend to have all the questions and I probably won't even think of half the questions we need to know right now and I'm sure there are many answers that haven't even been looked for, haven't been found and we won't realize what things to look for until after.

I think that it's important, that, some of my colleagues as we take a look at this collectively, and try and resolve it and come up with the solution that will be the best for all the people across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. According to rule 77 (1), we have ten minutes for general comments. Rule 77 (2), at the discretion of the chair, members can make their comments to the same issue for 10 minutes, but if there were any options, members may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken.

I'm sure the Nunavut residents are very interested in hearing about this in regards to the bad gasoline.

So, I open the floor for questions. So, any members may ask questions, for 10 minutes. Even if you use up those 10 minutes, after the members have made their questions, I will allow every member to speak. So, I will open the floor for questions.

Minister for Public Works and Services, you have the floor, Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your comments are very interesting. Today, we're deliberating on the quality of gasoline and the government is

very seriously considering this issue and also our Petroleum Products Division, our officials are here and our new employee.

So, I would like to introduce my officials and an individual from there and also our new employees. He's analysing and testing the gasoline and he'll be coordinating that and also the comments that were made by the regular members and he knows, as I have stated in my Opening Notes, when I heard that there was bad gasoline and when I heard the concerns on the gasoline from our customers it was very important to me.

So we're going to work very diligently to correct the situation of mediocre gasoline at the community level but we know that we live in the north, we know that we can't change the gas overnight because we're from the north.

We'll have to utilize huge sums of money to correct the situation but we will consult with the people of the communities and I'm sure they will work very hard to work on behalf of them also.

If it's not in the whole world or nationally, we're the first territory or country to experience that kind of gasoline problem and we're not aware if there were similar situations occurring in the other provinces but we have wanted to resolve this situation in the communities as soon as possible.

We have to resolve this bad gasoline issue or the quality of gasoline at the community level and we don't have any, we have to look for ways how to resolve this and we have to test the gas out first in order to find out what the real problem is and only after that can we look for solutions.

The government is very concerned about the quality of gasoline and our department is working well with the government in finding solutions to the bad gasoline. So this is my response to the general comments of the members.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk, Minister responsible for Public Works and Services. As we are all aware that the ministers at the cabinet level are representing their communities too in regards to the quality of gasoline and they have been elected at the community level to represent them. We understand that so the floor is open for questioning. You have ten minutes to ask your questions. We will wait until all of the general comments are completed. If there are no further general comments. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were full of questions but were unable to raise our hands. My first question is...(interpretation ends)...what recommendations were contained in the preliminary report from the Alberta Research Council on the state of gasoline in the Baffin and the Kivalliq? What were the recommendations on the preliminary report? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The report from the Alberta Research Council said that the gasoline is missing some additives but in spite of that the Council had to do further testing on the gasoline when they found that additives were missing. So we initiated the testing at that time.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When will the complete report be tabled in the House? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The report can be tabled at any time in the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps we have two more days of sitting for this session. Can the minister tell me when he will be able to table that report? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before the session is over, I will try to table the report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has it been determined if any specific communities have been more heavily impacted than others in terms of the number of breakdowns or other gasoline related incidents? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In some communities they have not reported any impacts, but the communities that have reported I can respond to your question by saying that last fall when the tank farms were filled, for the communities that had left over good gas they had fewer problems. But with the communities that had less good gas left over they experienced more impact than the other communities. So that is according to my understanding.

So for the communities that had better left over gasoline in their tank farms experienced less impact than the communities that had less good gas when the fuel was distributed. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the Minister explain how many engines...what is the total number of reports of damaged engines and other gas related incidents to date? And also did you ask the communities for reports about the damaged engines? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some communities had written me correspondence in regards to bad gas. And during the Question Period in the House, I have heard from various members in regards to the bad gas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to get some information as to the gas in the Kitikmeot.

As we know it is okay to use, but in some cases sometimes there is minor problems. For example in Gjoa Haven, in Kugluktuk and in Cambridge Bay, the sealift...when NTCL brings in the gas, is that all the same source of gas that is re-supplied into the communities or is that from the Alberta refinery?

Is that all the same supply of gas that is being brought into those three communities?
Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that the member is asking about the Kitikmeot region. The Kitikmeot people get some gas from Alberta. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you. The re-supply of gas and fuel. For example, as we know there are already problems in Gjoa Haven.

The same supply of gas that is brought in from Ottawa, if that was a problem in Gjoa Haven and it was alright, the same supply was okay in Kugluktuk. Why is that, how did that come about? I mean, one community has a batch of good gas and another community had problems with their gas supply because if it is from the same supply, we will have concerns in Kugluktuk as well. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I could get my Deputy Minister to respond to that question. Ross Mrazek.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ross.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The gas which was bought in '99 for the Kitikmeot. I don't have the details with me; I believe it came from Alberta as well. It was an isolated incident in Gjoa Haven when the gas was found to be basically a two level stage gas, one for summer and one for winter with very little difference in the octane numbers and a few other characteristics.

Summer gas, winter gas. It was a very isolated incident at that point and it was separated so that there would be no more problems from that point. I hope that answers the member's question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand your response as you were saying you have summer gas and you have winter gas. I just wanted to get a clarification as to where the gas came from as you were saying that you had summer and winter grade gas.

Using Kugluktuk for example, do you bring in the same quality of gas? You have summer gas, winter gas. My question is, NTCL brings supplies of gas into Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak, and Kugaaruk. These communities get the same supply of gas. As I was stating the supply goes into each of the communities in the Kitikmeot and it seems that when you go from one community to the next and you get into...(interpretation ends)... I am just trying to get a picture of why this happened.

I said earlier that this gas was so bad, although I didn't like the sound of it, small amount of it, but it seems that as you go east it gets worse. I am trying to get a picture of this year so that it won't happen again in the future. Koanaqtit, Itsivautaq.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have to understand that there are two different types of gas that we are talking about in the Kitikmeot region. Because the Kitikmeot gets their gasoline from Alberta and the Baffin and Kivalliq get their gasoline from New York presently. That's what we are talking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak: Koanaqtit, Itsivautaq. I know that we are talking about two different supplies of gas here, and you purchase some from the States and some from Alberta. That's what I was saying earlier about getting the gas from the Kitikmeot, that's one.

When you are using the petroleum from that region you go from Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay, Taloyoak, and Kugaaruk. Correct me if I am wrong but I think that's how it works.

But you can correct me on that. And the same barge carries the same gas and Gjoa Haven is getting the bad gas. Where in that same barge, did that same gas get bad as it went further east? That's all I am trying to say. I know we are talking about two different supplies of gas here. The only one that I am talking about is the gas from the Kitikmeot. Koanaqtit, Itsivautaq.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Dan to perhaps answer the question for the gasoline that is in Gjoa Haven and the other Kitikmeot communities. Thank you.

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

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 1999, the Alberta Research Council did make some comments on the report that came out of Gjoa Haven, the report that you have tabled, there is another Research Council response to that.

From our point of view we couldn't understand that same point that you are making. Why would Gjoa Haven have a problem, when the same fuel was supplied to other communities nearby? Theoretically it was the same fuel.

One of the questions that remain unanswered perhaps is at re-supply what was left in the Gjoa Haven tank. When the new fuel came in and it was blended with what was left in the Gjoa Haven tank, the laboratory analysis afterwards looked like it was a mixture of winter gasoline and summer gasoline and it could be because the fuel that was left in the tank was old and it had lost some light and imparting the characteristics of both winter and summer gasoline to that fuel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak: Koanaqtit, Itsivautaq. Yes I understand that, his response. Okay, let's try another way. I know during this Gjoa Haven study I wanted to do a study on some numbers on the type of gasoline and the levels that we had in different communities in that region. Let's say Kugluktuk for example.

I know on the study there are some numbers that were used the type of levels that you had in Gjoa Haven and it was the same type that you were getting when you were doing the testing in Kugluktuk. Was it the same levels? I know it might not be already in the study but if not, are there plans to do some numbers for all the communities in Nunavut? Koanaqtit, Itsivautaq.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We know now that there is bad gasoline so what we have done is prepared options that we can follow to correct the situation. We would not want to be in the same state in the future and we will consider our options to correct it in a proper way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. Is that it? Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: So okay all that is underway and I would suggest that you get all these different tests in all the communities and have it recorded so you know the numbers for each community and what level they are at. So we know today these are the numbers, how they would change in the future if that is to be? Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't have the list of the gas delivery routes for the communities, so for the member's question we don't have the list for which route they have travelled to the communities to deliver gasoline. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Minister Kattuk. Anything else? Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: I don't know how to make myself clear so maybe I'll just try again. I wasn't talking about the route when I said we need to have all the gasoline and fuel tested in all communities so you have some numbers on hand regarding how it is today and how it will be in the future.

Try to test this. You did in Gjoa Haven, with all the numbers. Not as detailed but at least test all the gasoline in all the Nunavut communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) the fuel is being tested from the pumps, when it's coming out from the pump, it's been tested. That's how far we've gone at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. I have on my list, Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a very lengthy question, but I just want to make my questions very clear.

I have had some questions starting in 1999, when we experienced bad gasoline in Gjoa Haven. As well, we get gasoline from Alberta, the people that live in Kitikmeot. We understand that.

But it's been two years that even after our problem was solved, now it's happening, there's been bad gasoline delivered from the United States here to the Baffin and Kivalliq Regions, two years after the bad gasoline in Gjoa Haven.

My question is, Nunavummiut, is it because there's bad gasoline all over the world? I'm not sure what the problem is. Before 1999, we didn't really hear about bad gasoline and starting in 1999, we've been experiencing bad gasoline.

Starting in Kitikmeot, the gasoline that came from Alberta was bad. And about a year later, from the States it's now bad again. Perhaps we can get some information world wide, from the gasoline companies world wide, whether the experience is getting worse all the time, the gasoline.

Have you had any information from the world that those people that, gasoline exploration companies or whatever, have they been telling you that they're starting to experience bad gas in this world?

I don't know what the problem is. You haven't been giving any information on that or if you've heard anything like that, can we have the privilege to hear it too, because we've been getting bad gas recently, starting in 1999. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to your question about the quality of gasoline at the international level, I can't respond to it at this time but in the Baffin and the Keewatin areas the quality of gasoline deteriorated after we received the shipment for the Baffin and the Keewatin.

The hunters especially are the ones who are experiencing this problem and because of that we had two snowmobiles that we used as testers in the Keewatin Region to find out whether in fact the gasoline was of inferior quality.

There is an additive that is missing from the gasoline that was shipped to the Baffin and Keewatin Region. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 2001 – 2002 that gasoline that was shipped to Nunavut affected both the Baffin and Keewatin and they all store their re-supply into huge tanks. We have now heard that there is an additive missing in that gasoline. And now that we have determined that there is an additive missing and again, going back to question period this morning, I mentioned this morning that we buy bulk fuel that will be used all year round.

As you said earlier, you say that we can't drain out those tanks and put in new fuel. Is it possible to put in the missing additives into those storage tanks in order to get it up to par? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you didn't understand me correctly, in response to Ms. Williams' question, Ms. Williams was asking which of the communities, what the total number of reports were for damaged engines and other gas related incidents to date.

The communities with the highest reports and the communities most affected were the ones that weren't reported. Some of the communities have not made any submissions in regards to the number of damaged engines. The gasoline last year was fine. That was just for your information.

But, in regards to your other comments, we're currently looking at ways of resolving this problem. We don't know exactly what we're going to do to resolve the problem but we'll do it as soon as we can.

That's what our staff are currently doing at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that it would be best if we don't send the gasoline out to the communities and we're looking forward to finding the solutions as soon as possible.

We'd be very thankful. My last question is in regards to the low grade quality petroleum products that are currently in the tanks. Who are you working with to find solutions on how to dispose of or use this product? Are you going to be making a decision prior to the resupply ships coming in?

Before the new supply comes in, how long is it going to take to rectify the problem? Which do you work with, the Alberta company or with the New York company?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): We work with the Alberta company. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Where to start. The first question, earlier in your comments you mentioned a couple of things, the first one, this report that was done by the Alberta Research Council and you said that you were going to table this report. When was that report completed and when did you receive it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a question that was brought up earlier.

Chairperson (interpretation): Are you asking the same question again Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: No Mr. Chairman, I'll try and make it very clear so that the minister can understand. He had indicated that they have a final report or a report from the Alberta Research Council and that he would be tabling it. He was going to try and table it prior to the end of the sitting.

I was asking him exactly when was that report completed and when did he receive it?
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a question that was brought up earlier by another member and as I stated earlier, I'll be able to table the report prior to the end of this session. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, when did the department and the Minister receive the report from the Alberta Research Council? If I can get a date out of that? That is what I am looking for. How long ago did you receive this report? That is not a question that was asked before.

You just told us that you had a report that was done and that you would provide it to the House. I am asking when it was received. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We received the report this past week on Friday. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just last Friday? Today is what Tuesday today? How come something like that as soon as you found out the other report indicating that it was bad gas that was causing a problem, you informed the House right away. I am just wondering how come right away once you got that report that you did not make it available to the members of this House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all I will apologize to the member. We do know that this is a big concern of all the members. We knew that we were going to be making an appearance in the Committee of the Whole, and since we had our research people here, we have had numerous meetings to resolve this bad gas problem.

We have had meetings with the staff and the research people and because of that we didn't table the report right away into the House. I can assure the member that we will be tabling the report prior to the end of the session. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If that report was available, I would not mind having the opportunity, and I am sure that I am not the only one in here that would like to have a look at that prior to dealing with this in the Committee of the Whole.

Who knows after we are done with it and we get the report it could raise a lot of other questions that is information that we won't be privy to until after this opportunity to have you and your people here in the Committee of the Whole.

I think that is a little bit of an oversight, I hope that it is an oversight, on behalf of the department. I will be looking at it very carefully when we do get it, and maybe we will have to have your people back to answer some questions about that.

One of the other things that you mentioned in your report is that you are trying to figure out the problem. Are you telling us that you still don't know what the problem is with the gasoline? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can tell my colleague we are very concerned about the quality of the gasoline. We are not trying to hide anything. We are looking for solutions. It is going to be very expensive but we will keep working on it.

We do know now that the quality of the gasoline is bad. The only thing that we can do now at this point is to look for some solutions. We are still looking at options today.

I can use an example of a terminally ill patient or one who has a disease. You have to diagnose the problem in order to find a cure for it. It's something along that line.

We are looking for solutions and if we determine the problem then we can find a cure but I can't tell the member when, but we are working on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can deduct from the minister's response that they don't know what the problems are right now, other than the fact that we have bad gas because that's simply what I asked and I'm sure he'll correct me if I'm wrong.

Another question I have is in his Opening Comments, Mr. Chairman, he indicated that the gasoline meets the specifications of the Canadian General Standards Board except for the deposit control additive.

My question I guess is, you know, plain simple yes or no. Does the gasoline that was supplied to us meet the specifications of the General Standards Board? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you. Yes.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. I'm sorry, thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, even in, I'm a little confused I guess. In the press release and information that has been put out by the department it says that the requirements of the Canadian General Standards Board was to have that DCA in the gasoline so, I'd like to ask the minister, if it doesn't have that in there, how does it meet those standards? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once we determined that it did not contain a deposit control additive, we didn't know that it was missing an additive because it's not one of the requirements that are identified in testing the gasoline. Looking for that additive is not one of the requirements outlined in there.

That's why it took a long time for us to find out that the quality of gasoline was inferior. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm still confused I guess. It does meet these except for this. It is something that is a standard that is tested; it's supposed to be in there as an additive.

And if it's not in there I don't understand, even though I know it may not be tested for but it should according to the Canadian General Standards Board should be something that's in the gasoline and you know, I'm having a little bit of trouble trying to understand where the minister's coming from when he says it does, even though this isn't in there, this is,

they said in the past, the department that this is something that is supposed to be in the fuel.

If it's not in there how can it meet those standards in which the minister's saying? Either it does or it doesn't. Never mind whether it's supposed to be there, therefore maybe we don't test for it. It's not supposed to show up missing in a test or not. But the fact is it's supposed to be in there according to the Canadian General Standards Board.

It's supposed to be in the fuel. If it's not in there, then it doesn't meet the specifications set by the Canadian General Standards Board. Is that basically the bottom line aside from weaving in and out and dodging and looking at whether it was tested for or not?

I think we all understand that that's something that's not tested for because it's supposed to be there. But the fact of the matter is it wasn't there so as a result of that, does it meet the Canadian General Standards Board's specifications for fuel to be supplied throughout, that they have for fuel?

It does or it doesn't. I don't understand where you're coming from when you say it does but it didn't have this and according to some of the media releases and stuff that you've put out in the past that says that it is something that is supposed to be there according to those rules and it's not.

So maybe if I can get a straight answer on that. It would be nice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The gasoline has many additives. I think there are approximately 700 additives in the gasoline and those are tested to see if they have been added into the gasoline. We're talking approximately 700 additives.

I'll have my deputy minister respond to your question. I can only say that I'll have my deputy make supplementary comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try to answer this question with my best knowledge. The gasoline which has been unloaded has been provided with a certificate that the gasoline is fully complying with the Canadian Standards Board.

However, through the testing, which was initiated much later on, and which is not usually done in the federal industry in Canada or States, show that deposit control additives was not in the gasoline.

That came up later when the Alberta Research Council concluded through additional testing which is usually not done anywhere in the industry from that point to detect the DCA or not. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mrazek. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess based on that, after delivery, when we have a certificate saying it was okay, we discovered that it wasn't. Is that basically what you're saying, that after further testing, that usually isn't done, we found out that it didn't meet those standards. Is that what the Deputy Minister is saying? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: What I'm saying is that we have the proof that the gasoline is complying with the standards except the deposit control additive. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mrazek. Mr. Tootoo,

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Here we go dancing again. Maybe just ask the deputy minister, I guess, as a result of this further testing that they've done, yes or no, does this meet the standards with the results that they found from the further testing. Yes or no, does this gasoline meet those standards? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk. Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: I think I will have to say the same thing, the gasoline is conforming the Canadian Standards Board except this deposit control additive. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mrazek. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Chairman, I guess that's something I've learned in the last three years in this House, is it's pretty difficult to get this government to say no to something. I don't know how or why, I guess, maybe it's something that the minister wants to provide to us after. And not in public as to why they can't say it doesn't meet those standards.

It's pretty obvious that it doesn't. By the sounds of it, it's a very carefully worded, it does except. Well basically it doesn't. I look forward to an explanation as to why the department and the minister won't say no that it doesn't. To me, I'm not going to beat that horse anymore because I don't think that I'm going to get any answer.

I'm just disappointed I guess. Another thing I wanted to ask, now that they know what the problem is and they're looking at solutions, and maybe Mr. Wispinski can answer this better, I'm not sure, but are there things that we can add or put into the gasoline that will solve the problem of the missing DCA. Can you just add something to the gasoline?

Is there some kind of additive that you can put in there to lessen the negative impact on the motors as a result of burning this gasoline? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: The testing that we did with the snowmobiles was designed to see if the deposit control additive would help. And that's what we did; we added the deposit control additive to the gasoline.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Wispinski. Mr. Tootoo. We'll take a brief break after you're complete. Thank you.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I could go on for a long time but I'm sure you won't let me. Did it help? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Anyone? Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: The deposit control additive helped a little bit but not enough to recommend the wholesale addition of it to the entire gasoline pool. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Wispinski. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, like I said in my opening comments, I think one of the things we need to do is try to find a way to fix it. Maybe I can ask Mr. Wispinski if he could identify or let us know of some of the things that we could look at doing to try and fix the gasoline.

Are there other additives that we can put into it? Is there something else that we can put into it so that we can fix it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. This was the last question. Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have done extensive studies on what additives we may or may not add. We have done a snowmobile experiment with additives. We have exhausted all other avenues of trying to immediately solve the problem and this is where we have come to the conclusion with the two alternatives that Mr. Kattuk has previously presented. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. To get to everyone we will probably have a long discussion on this. I will allow everyone to have a say. So we will have a fifteen minute break, and then we will come back.

>> *Committee recessed at 3.06 p.m. and resumed at 3.28 p.m.*

Chairperson (interpretation): We can start again. Minister and your officials please return to the witness table.

I have written names. We will give you 10 minutes if we can. Any more questions? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. I want to ask the minister about the bad gas. He was reading in his Speaking Notes, he mentioned that to add to it or drain it. I would just like a clarification on this. What it would be like to drain it or add it. Can you clarify that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you drain it, anywhere, can you clarify when you say drain it where? Can you clarify that?

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): If it's the bad gas and you mentioned that it's bad gas, I thought it was good gas. To remove it or drain it. To dispose of it or add to it by blending the remaining gasoline supply with new re-supply. Is that what we can do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Disposing of this gas will have to drain all the gas from the tank.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): If we drain it how can we get new gas?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I can't really answer that one. Like I said, we can't fix it up overnight. We will drain the bad gas but we will have to wait until the good gas comes in and put it in the tank.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I have something else here. Like when you said add it what exactly do you mean?

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said, this will be worked on. We will look for ways how to supply good gas to the communities but I can't answer this question at the moment but we will do something about the gas in the communities and look for ways to supply a better gas, good gas.

But I don't know the date when that will happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): A few minutes ago you mentioned that for the gas left over, as you have mentioned earlier on the communities with the good gasoline left over that had fewer complaints. So therefore my question is whether we should blend it with the good gasoline.

According to your statement the communities that have good gasoline left over from the previous year had fewer problems. So is it good to blend the two gasolines together? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we can probably blend them but to date we still haven't resolved whether we should blend it or not with the gasoline that we had used previously.

I know that when this quality of gas that's been distributed to the communities we now know that gasoline is mediocre and whether we should put additives or how we should be putting additives. We're working on that. The officials are working on that and as a government we will be giving them support because we have to resolve the bad gasoline situation in the communities. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm asking about what the minister mentioned in his speech. You mentioned that for those who have leftovers on that, I'm asking if you blend the gasoline, would it be better?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the member understood clearly that last fall for the communities that had good gasoline leftover in their fuel tank farms were complaining less and the ones with less good gasoline leftover in their tanks have more complaints. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Would you like to continue Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The communities with good gasoline leftover in their fuel tanks are not complaining as much. So my question is, would it make the gasoline better or good if you mixed it with the good and bad gasoline together? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The research officials will be analysing the gasoline to see if the bad gasoline can be blended with good gasoline. They'll be doing that testing to see if it would be useable as good gasoline. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The communities of Nunavut with good gasoline left over, he has stated that they complained less. I was wondering if the minister is willing to give me a list of communities that have fewer complaints and fewer reports. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me look through my information Mr. Chairman.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that information in front of me. I am requesting one of my officials to come down with the information. I'm sure the official is listening to the proceedings about the list of the communities that had reported impacts, so while my official is coming down with the document, Mr. Nutarak can ask another question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While one of the members was asking questions, because they purchased the gasoline thinking it was good gasoline and they told us that they finally found out later on that the gasoline was missing an additive.

When the complaints were being received, then they did their testing. So I'm asking that question with that in mind. When we mix the two types of gasoline together, I was wondering if it would be useable.

While we're waiting for the document, Pond Inlet was one of the communities that was mentioned with less problems but I have a list of names of the hunters with snowmobiles that broke down. I'm sure if he states in his reports that they received fewer impact reports, because I have a list of over 100 names.

Once you've found out that the gasoline was missing additives, so my real question is if we can mix good gasoline with bad gasoline together, he stated that they were going to be doing some testing on that. I'm sure the results will come in later on.

The mediocre gasoline or bad gasoline that I have asked about the members are concerned because this spring like for example if we ship in fuel by airlines it's going to become very expensive and I'm sure it's going to take a long to use the gasoline and this spring and summer the hunters will be going out hunting before the good gas arrives in the fall time because we're quite concerned about it.

So, if you can find remedies and getting new good gasoline and I know that this is going to be urgent. I was wondering if your department, while we're waiting for the document to come down, I will be asking another question.

For snowmobile or if any motor vehicle, if I put additives to my snowmobile engine or any other engine, has your department done any studies whether it could help the engine? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, to date, as my official to my left when he responded with one of the snowmobiles that they have tested that they had put in an additive to one of the snowmobiles, once they did that study, we didn't really notice any difference but to your question.

To date, about adding something to the gasoline, we don't know if it can improve the gasoline if we put in the additives. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The minister for petroleum products had stated that, without actually knowing the results that it would be better to mix the two and he didn't know the actual results. What would come out?

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't remember saying that blending the two types of gasoline would improve the situation. I don't remember saying that myself but the officials will be testing out how to improve the gasoline whether to put an additive because we've never actually done any testing to improve the gasoline but it's in the process. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): My timer has stopped ticking so I'll probably be asking questions for a long time.

In regards to the bad gasoline, when it was tested we complained that it's very bad gasoline and the minister stated that they would do more testing. But it's evident now that it's not good; the gasoline at the community level is not good.

So, I was wondering if the department can clarify. They said that 36.9% of that additive is insufficient or is it too huge. I was wondering if you can clarify that 36.9%. Where is it at? Is it too much or too little? Is it too high, and that's what makes it bad? Or is it too low that makes it bad? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. It's too high. 36.9% is too high. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): During the testing, when the results came, they found out this was too high, the additive, perhaps, which was forgotten to put into the fuel, I was wondering if they can deliver additive by airlines to the communities.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To date, we haven't done any testing whether we can fly it into the communities but according to the testing we've done on snowmobiles, the other snowmobile had additives and one snowmobile used this gasoline that we're dealing with.

We did two tests on two snowmobiles. Although the gasoline had the additive, we couldn't really find the difference that we're looking for. To date, the member is asking if we can do something about it. Therefore I cannot respond to you.

At this time I have no answers but the testing we've done with the additive to the gasoline, it was quite hard to tell the difference between the two. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is it understandable and clear now that even though we put in that additive, that it would not improve the quality of fuel? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, the two options I stated, whether to dispose or to blend the gasoline with another gasoline, we still don't know which option we'd be using. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): According to the member's responses, I keep asking questions. He talked about the two snowmobiles that they did the testing on. One with the additive. They could not tell the difference, so therefore I had asked the minister if we have to dispose of the gasoline that is in the communities of Nunavut.

Now I'm a bit confused. It was clearer earlier on. In his response it's the other way around again. When will we know how the bad gasoline can be remedied? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe not too long from now, that this situation is still being worked and the process, we're still testing and I'm sure that we'll come with the results not too long from now. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the two snowmobiles that you tested, you didn't get an actual result. Once that's finished are you going to be testing again to make sure the quality of the gasoline is improved?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first tests we did for the gasoline had an additive that was missing and the second tests using the gasoline that was purchased from the Kitikmeot gasoline, we had two different testings and later on we found out that the Kitikmeot gasoline, which we used on the other snowmobile, and Baffin Region gasoline, we used Baffin gasoline on the latter part of the test.

We found out that the Baffin gasoline is inadequate and when we found out on the latter part of our tests, but the first time we did the testing with the gasoline that had the additive that was missing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although I don't want to keep asking the same question that I was asking the Minister once you come up with the results. As the Minister stated that they have not come to finalize the results, and he spoke about two snowmobiles that they did testing on. They still haven't found out the exact results on how to improve the quality of gasoline so I ask the Minister for the last time, when can you find out how we can improve the quality of gasoline to an acceptable level?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): When the member was asking perhaps I did not quite understand your first question. Can you rephrase your question?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I thought that we understood each other because we are speaking the same language. Now I understand that at times we have a language barrier, even though we both speak Inuktitut. In regards to your statement that the two snowmobiles that you did testing on. The first one had an additive. I had asked the Minister if it would improve the quality of the gasoline if we bring in the additive to the communities.

He stated that they did testing on two snowmobiles with one of them containing additives. They still haven't come to concrete conclusions so I was asking him when are you going to conclude this testing and when are you going to find out how to improve the quality? I am just asking that same question again. I am sure that it is clearer now.

Chairperson (interpretation): Perhaps that is clearer, Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to my understanding, I heard two questions in regards to snowmobile testing. When it will be completed? If he is asking about that or one with additives, if we put in some kind of additive and do the testing so I need that clarification. Snowmobile testing, when it will be completed and when we expect to see the results and also and he is also asking if we are going to be testing by blending the two types of gasoline. I just wanted him to be clear on his question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I first started asking questions I initially asked whether to dispose of or blend the bad gasoline with the good gasoline. I am still there. In your opening notes, you stated the two options whether to dispose or blend the bad gasoline. I still haven't moved away from the bad gasoline. How can we improve the bad gasoline that is out there in the Nunavut communities? That has been my question.

I am not asking about the two snowmobiles now, I just used them as an example. I am trying to find out how we can improve the quality of gasoline. My question is how can our Nunavut communities improve the quality of gasoline in the regions? How can we improve the quality of gasoline because we have heard that the quality of gasoline is very poor in the Kitikmeot and especially the Baffin region? I was trying to ask the question of how we can improve the quality of gasoline.

We purchased the gasoline, and after purchasing the gasoline, we later found out that it was missing an additive. Perhaps by adding that additive perhaps it could be improved.

My question is how can we improve the quality of gasoline? I must be speaking confusingly right now as I cannot be understood. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, I can understand you. What you said is when we blend the remaining gasoline with the new supply, would that improve it? That's what the member's question is. Minister

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): The member stated that the Kitikmeot and the Baffin, when in fact it is the Kivalliq and the Baffin people who are experiencing bad gasoline. What we're trying to do is find out about his question about whether, if we blend the remaining gasoline supply with the new supply, whether that would improve it or not.

So we can't really answer that at this time because that's what we're going to do next. I don't know whether we're going to mix them together if that's going to improve it or whether we are going to dispose of the gasoline supply. Those are the two options that we have at this time. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I'm sorry Mr. Chairman, but I keep asking the same question. In his opening remarks, the minister stated that the two options that they have is the disposal of the remaining gasoline supply, blending the remaining gasoline supply with a new supply.

That's what he stated. But I guess he really doesn't know which option that he's going to be implementing so that's just what I'm asking. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In my opening remarks, all I said was that our preliminary assessment suggests there are two possible solutions. That's what I said. I didn't say they were the solution. I just said it was a preliminary assessment suggesting that these may be two possible options that we can follow.

That's just what I said. I didn't say that it would improve anything. We don't know that yet. So that's just the two options that we have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I'm tired. Thank you, that's good enough. Like, there are two strokes and four strokes. Those are two different motors. Have these been tested as well, a four stroke motor and a two stroke motor as to which would be better? Or would it be okay to use a four stroke and a two stroke?

They might be bad for those different engines four stroke and two stroke and in the opening remarks there were some questions of that kind. I just wondered if there had been some testing on a four stroke engine and two stroke engines. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, I'm not trying to play with the member. We did some testing on a two stroke motor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): He stated that they did some testing on the two stroke ones. Have you found out the results, whether it is good or not. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the results of the testing that we did as far as I know, there was no damage. The only thing that we found out was a deposit or the residue that built up in the engine for the ones that we tested using bad gasoline and there was no real damage to the engine on the two stroke pistons.

But, we're not exactly sure what conclusion we came to but we just know that there was a residue or deposits in the engine. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've got a few questions. I'll try to stick within the allocated time. I'm looking at the document here the Gjoa Haven Gas Study.

And there are a couple of sentences there that I want to read. "The deposit appears to be a form of corrosive reaction with the sealing cast iron component. There was no similar deposit in the new gas and that the engine was assessed over the longer period. The deposits appear to be negating the effect of the lubricant. It is anticipated that this could lead to premature wear and potential seizure." So, that was the Gjoa Haven gas thing.

At the back of the book, it said in terms of the fuel specifications analyst the Gjoa Haven gasoline met the current CGSB specification. So, that gasoline caused a lot grief in Gjoa Haven and it met the current Canadian General Standards Board and it says, in the press release here, "Report identifies gasoline as cause of engine damage," and I think the gasoline, on the minister's statement, the gasoline meets the specifications of the Canadian General Standards Board except for the deposit control additive DCA.

So, I know why you can't answer the question, it's because there is probably a massive legal implication by saying something in this House. If somebody picks it up.

But, my question, the issue is the gas is causing engine seizures. We all know that. And like I said earlier in my statements, we got to come to a solution on this. And we've been talking and talking and talking. Now, I'm sure the government has quality control people and I'm sure NTCL has but like I know gas isn't tested on a regular basis or you know, the reason our gas was tested because the hunters were finding some problems.

My question is has the government determined whether the bad gasoline that was purchased from NTCL met all the government technical specifications at the time or were the specifications themselves inadequate in some way? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I will get my Deputy Minister to respond to Mr. McLean's question. Mr. Mrazek.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. NTCL and the supplier provided lab test report complying with this Canadian General Standards Board. That was in the past. That was in the last year. Now having learning that experience I would like to add that for time now on the government will impose a little bit more testing in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Mr. Chairman, I'm going to ask the question again. Did the gas meet our government specifications according to the RFP? Did the gas meet the specifications yes, or no? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The specification has been followed-up by NTCL. Thank you.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the Gjoa Haven issue became a major issue for my colleague from Gjoa Haven and it was in fact proved that the gasoline was a major problem in the engine feed and I remember my colleague being very vocal about it and he since has told me that they don't use that gasoline in the warmer months. So to me it appears like it is a summer grade gasoline.

I know it's not the same gasoline that we currently have in the Kivalliq, and the Qikiqtani. He seems to have told me that they use it in the summertime and they don't experience any problems. After that's all said and done was there ever any compensation ever paid out to the Gjoa Haven residents over that issue or did the community just accept

it? Did the Gjoa Haven residents receive any compensation for that product? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As far as we know the people of Gjoa Haven were never compensated. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any more Mr. McLean?

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So that is leading us down the path of compensation for the rest of Nunavut if the Gjoa Haven people weren't compensated then that sets a precedent for the rest of the people in Nunavut not being compensated.

In the GN, the Minister's Statement on May 3, that the GN is considering its legal options. That to me tells me that the GN is not going to compensate the people of Nunavut for the inferior product that we got. So if they are considering their legal options, that must mean that they feel, and I am not putting words in your mouth minister, the GN must feel that NTCL is at fault for this product.

Like I said earlier in my statement I am not hear trying to blame you or trying to blame NTCL I am looking for a solution as there have been a lot of hardship placed on people in Nunavut with this inferior product. Have you guys taken into consideration yet any kind of plan. I know you have hired a consultant, but it seems that this government hires a consultant for the time of day. You know a consultant's report, by the time we break and we come back in the fall, we could come back here as mad as hornets because we will end up with hundreds or literally thousands of outboard motors being seized, more snow machines and things like that.

It is going to come to a point where it could be so critical to this government that it may cause us undue harm and I don't want to start to talk about specifics about where this could go.

Is the government thinking of getting together with NTCL and coming up with some kind of plan to fix this situation and compensate the people that have been effected by it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are presently working with NTCL in regards to the compensation that the member talked about, perhaps the Minister of Finance could respond to the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister of Finance, would you care to respond to that question about compensation? Thank you.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, our government does recognize that we have a responsibility in one form or another to lead the development of a program to try to compensate individuals that have been adversely impacted by the quality of the gas.

Now whether or not, who ends up paying the final ticket on that program, once it is finalized and once it is implemented is another matter. As Minister Kattuk had indicated we have had some preliminary discussions with NTCL as early as this morning when the representatives of the government met with representatives of NTCL. We both haven't had an opportunity to be debriefed on some of those discussions.

But they are, I can tell you that NTCL is interested in working with the Government of Nunavut in trying to reach a solution that is acceptable obviously to all parties. As well, the insurer of the Government of Nunavut has been advised and is aware of ongoing discussions and has been fully briefed on developments to date in respect to this issue.

Although they haven't committed to this day, obviously in a formal position, whether or not they will be stepping in, as our insurer or not but again the fact that they are involved. Everybody is at the table we want to try to reach a practical solution to the whole issue, in respect of fairly dealing with individuals have been impacted in respect to Public Works, as Minister Kattuk is dealing with as far as remedying the existing inventory. And most important, ensuring that this doesn't happen again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Anything else Mr. McLean?

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's nice to hear that NTCL and the Government are at the table, looking at solutions to this, I think that's what we're looking for now, immediately or immediate action. And I think the citizens of Nunavut see that we are looking at the solution.

NTCL and the Government of Nunavut are looking at a solution for this major, major issue, I think we're heading in the right direction on this one. My question is, it might be an unfair question to the minister, but will the government insurance costs cover the situation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman as I indicated earlier, they have been advised of the situation, and they are being briefed and are at the table right now, although there is no acknowledgement as indicated or any commitment right now on how much interest, how much liability, I guess if you prefer that word they perceive as their responsibility.

I guess the further we get into this, the more you have, the more discussion from the stakeholders and obviously there's more of an opportunity to reach a solution, and that's what we're working towards. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a short question and I have one more after that. What's the approximate cost of this situation, it may be possibly cost the citizens or the insurance company. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman that's the information I think it's critical over the next days or weeks that we have to try to put together from the couple of perspectives. First of all, once it is identified by the Minister responsible on how to rectify this situation with the existing inventory, I mean that will obviously have an impact and the most significant impact, in respect of how you handle the existing inventory, if we get a total replacement you know and the plan around that and how you do that. Or is he going to blend in new gas, and again the cost and the ongoing cost on dealing with that.

As well I guess in trying to compile information about the machines out there right now, in every community that have been impacted and what are the numbers out there as far as damaged machines, what are the repairs that have been undertaken, for those that have had damage and also there are others that are out there they may not be damaged that we know that may be problems in the future if we have to use the gas supply that we have right now.

So trying to get some, I guess the quality of information around that is probably pretty important right now in trying to put together on how to plan on dealing with and also in measuring the financial impact to all those involved. Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be a long debate in the fall in our fall session, in Pangnirtung.

But my question to the minister is, is that the magnitude of this issue is it's not going to go away until we deal with it in a, like I don't want to say quick manner, but a really direct manner that the people of Nunavut see that we are dealing with it.

So you hired a consultant and I am hoping, I am hoping that this consultant isn't from southern Ontario or Ottawa or something like that that has never been in the north before and I am hoping the consultant that you have hired has had a large degree of northern experience in dealing with issues in the north and that he is going to have a group of people around him that are going to be able to come up with a solution for the situation.

And like I say sometimes we hire consultants from the south that haven't got a clue, it's the first time they have been up here is on a midnight excursion trip or something like that for 499. So I am hoping and I want the minister to commit to this House that the

consultant that they hire has northern experience and they know what they are doing.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk: The consultant has been north and he is sitting right behind me, Mr. McLean.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. McLean. I have another name on my list, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not sure exactly where to start but I do have some additional questions about the opening remarks that were made by the minister. There are only two pages on it and in English...(interpretation ends)...A letter of notice was sent to our supplier the Northern Transportation Company Ltd.

What do you mean by a letter of notice? Can you explain to me a little more what the letter of notice means in this case? What message did you give NTCL with this notice?
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have my deputy minister respond because he has been the main person dealing with NTCL. Since we started these discussions with NTCL he has been the main contact. It was a letter of notice making a statement about the gasoline and the steps required. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: So it was a letter of information rather than notice? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have my deputy respond to your question.

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

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A letter has been sent to NTCL, the contracted northern supplier basically acknowledging that we have experienced and are concerned with problems with abnormal engine deposits on the snow machines. Also that the lab tests confirmed that the DCA is missing from the gasoline. We are asking them for co-operation in a way to resolve this situation and the problem and we expecting that they will contact us by May 15, in order to find out the common ground how to resolve the whole situation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Koanaqtit. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: I am going to go back. Okay I will drop that one but I am going to go back to what everybody else seems to be talking about and the opening remarks too on the third paragraph on the second page.

I think we are going to need an answer. For example, right now the consumers, the Nunavummiut, especially the hunters that we respect, have completely lost confidence in our ability to get a good supply for them. Just imagine what would happen if we do a similar disaster with Health and Social Services or any other programs that we have.

They had complete trust in us to carry out good education, health and social services, supply them with good gas. I don't think, I guess I should say, I know from our other colleagues here that we are not meeting here today in...*inaudible*...sometimes we do.

I think this is more of a critical situation where we will require good information, honest feedback and try to resolve it like the minister and the deputy minister is saying. We will need to very quickly assure them that this will not happen again and we will do everything we can to rectify the situation. Otherwise, when we have advertisements for jobs, we ask for qualifications, experience. Mr. Chairman, can I ask that, is this kind of incident where DCA is missing ever happened in Canada let alone in Nunavut?

Is there anything that puzzles the Canadian Standards Council or the Canadian Research Council or anybody who is in authority or body that inspects the Canadian Standards, the Canadian General Standards Board? Is Canada involved with our Nunavut concern about our bad gas? Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister. Okay, Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: I know that the Government of Nunavut does have a representative that goes to the Canadian General Standards Board meetings. In addition the Alberta Research Council is a member of this board as well. We both brought the concerns of the Government of Nunavut to that committee and the committee is listening to those concerns and is working also to improve and make things better in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister also stated earlier that there are approximately 770 some additives added to the gasoline in the refinery when the diesel is being turned into gasoline and there are a whole lot of additives in there, but the DCA is missing.

Is that a common experience with other refineries in Canada or outside of Canada? How is it anyway? What I'm saying is that in the refineries there is a standard; it's not small

drops that they put in the refineries. It's a huge part of the recipe. How do you think they happen to have over sighted that additive that's supposed to be in there as part of the refinery process to turn that diesel into gas? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Every refinery adds deposit control additives in relatively small amounts in parts per million levels to the gasoline and the gasoline is a mixture of several hundred different components but the additive is a small part of that.

Each refinery uses their own additive and as we stated before that additive, the refinery doesn't even test for that additive. They rely on their records of how much they've purchased, the calibration of the metres that were used to add that additive to the fuel.

From my understanding, every, and the requirement of the Canadian General Standards Board every refinery adds their additive to their fuel and why it's not here I can't speculate on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: In this House of Commons or people's House we use, I have no clue. We have no clue; instead of I can't speculate at that.

Mr. Chairman, when the Nunatsiak News who put the advertisement out, this Mr. Kattuk did, not too long ago, and the commencement is April 15 for the supply of bulk refined petroleum products in Nunavut.

It says in there that the GN's preference is that all fuel required shall come from Canadian refineries. Do you do that every year, every time you have advertisements for tenders like this and you put GN preference, is that all fuel required shall come from Canadian refineries. Is that the normal thing that you put in your advertisements and year by year? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you. That's the usual case. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: So, if it's done every year then is this bad gas that we're talking about, came from Canadian refineries? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to your first question, this is for next year, but in response to your last question the concern causing gasoline does not come from a Canadian refinery. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else Mr. Arvaluk?

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope there is a miscommunication here. My first question was in your advertisement do you always put, previous years, in the last 10 years or let's say last 3 years, before Gjoa Haven bad gas situation. Did you always put in the GN's preference is that all fuel required shall come from Canadian Refineries?

That was my first question and when he said yes, my second question was, did this particular fuel that we experienced come from Canadian refineries? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the first question, this advertisement that went through Nunatsiaq News is a request for proposals for next year's supply of bulk refined petroleum products. And the gasoline that we did get does not come from a Canadian refinery.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Oh, I understand then that this clause here that's requiring the GN purchase of gas for Nunavut requirement that it comes from Canadian refineries is first time that is in the advertisement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, this is the first time that we have that in there.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Can I ask the minister then why this was not done after April 1, 1999 and thereafter. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): We used the same system that was used by the previous government and we have been using the same procedures that the previous government used to use.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Mr. Chairman, when we have a contract with someone over the course of the 3 years or 5 years or even 10 years, sometimes there is a requirement to make

amendments. Usually acceptable amendment in the contracts. Why was this not done in 1999, after April 1, 1999. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well we did a review when we became a Nunavut Government but there were no changes until this year. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: I understand then that this requirement now is in there because we are experiencing the bad gas this winter I presume. My next question Mr. Chairman, is that in your agreement with the NTCL under the present contract, that specifically requested and agreed that both of you agreed, I assume that agreement that you both signed an agreement, what kind of fuel or different kind of fuel automatically goes for diesel etc.

Including section 5-.1.2 that you agreed to have Nunavut gas to be unleaded, automatic gasoline, Canada CGSB 3.5 and you specifically stated 94 winter grade type 2. Is that type used by for example PetroCanada or Esso who is considered Canadian, winter gas? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anyone? Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The type 2 gas that specification would refer to a winter gasoline and that would be the same one used by other Canadian refineries such as Imperial or PetroCanada. Thank you

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else Mr. Arvaluk?

Mr. Arvaluk: How did NTCL or petroleum products division certified tested and certified that this fuel that we use now was that type, exactly that type? Thank you

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you Mr. Chairman The standard the CGSB standard has a table of specified limiting values that's tested against to ensure that it meets volatility requirements for the area of Canada that Nunavut is in and that's the yardstick that they use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Mr Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: So this gas we are using now, would it be exactly 94 winter grade type 2, if DCA was included before it was delivered? Thank you.

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

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe it would be. I don't have that specification in front of me but I think it would be. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it would meet your agreement to have a winter grade type 2, with DCA in it why we are not able to purchase DCA and in Jerry can form or in a barrel form, just add it into gas.

Does that require a certain temperature to mix it in or certain stirring components or mechanisms like in a refinery? It cannot be done by simply shaking it in a Jerry can like a premix, premix oil and gas that we would normally do, for the older models or the new ones in injection form. Why can't this be done if that was the only thing stopping it from being qualified under winter gas type 2? Thank you.

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

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The addition of the DCA was in fact tested in the snowmobiles and the results of that test were that there was no significant difference in the deposits using the DCA compared to the gasoline that wasn't using the DCA.

This was a plan ahead of time to see if we can add the DCA, not to Jerry cans but to the shore tanks and the entire fuel supply. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Your last question, you're out of time and we do have to deal with other things and some of the people want to ask questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not realize that I was not watching that. So, what you are saying is that even with the DCA included then if it doesn't make a significant difference in Rankin Inlet testing, then something else was wrong with it.

Something missing, or something added too much or something that was not in there or the recipe. What do you mean by variation of vapour pressure, minimum 90, antiknock index, minimum 89? Are you saying that these were also missing that's supposed to be in the contract? Qujannamiik.

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

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All those things you referred to the antiknock index and all those are the specified limiting values and those have been meeting the standard of the CGSB and the fuel itself is probably a cumulative effect of many of the properties that have been discussed before, the DCA, the octens and other things that have maybe combined to this propensity for deposits in the two stroke engines that we found. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I still have names. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. I will ask, just a brief question, it's a very short one. I would like to ask the minister, last Fall in 2001, in December 19, the testing has been done since that time and we have not found any solution since that time and we heard that the bad gas is still around, first we heard that there was bad gas, that the gas was okay and then it goes back to the bad gas.

It took a long time to study the gas, when was it that you finally found out it was bad gas? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we sent out samples to England, that's when we realized that there was an additive missing in the gasoline of Nunavut but we've never found out, when we did our own testing; it was at the end of April that we finally got the results that the gasoline in Nunavut was inferior. So, that's the time we found out. Thank you.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You said it was tested in England, that test in England, how expensive was it to send a sample out to England. How much did it cost to send it out, altogether, how much did it cost to have it tested in England? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. NTCL paid for the cost. I don't have the information in front of me right now but NTCL paid for the cost for that testing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Any more? Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You mentioned that you don't have that information at the moment. When you have that information ready, would you be able to let us know about that information. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I can't say when that will be available and we have to review and find out the results first. Once we find out the results, we will inform you, but at the moment I can't tell you when that will happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any more. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't get the answer yet and I know you can't tell us when that will happen. Once you find out the cost, can you let us know how much it cost to send it overseas?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, once we find out the testing results, we will let you know. But, I can't say when that will happen. We will find out how much it cost to have a test in England and once we do that we will let you know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is, I am representing Repulse Bay, there are people with a skidoo who broke down, and there are more breakdowns in other communities as well and we would like to know if you have any plans to help those people in communities with the broken machines?

Chairperson (interpretation): I will let the Finance Minister answer this question.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Earlier I indicated that the government would be looking at developing some form of program to assist individuals that have been adversely impacted; those that have had their machine break down, in trying to resolve that situation in a satisfactory manner. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And the other question I have is, the springtime is coming. We will need gasoline more and more and the bad gasoline is still in the tanks. To my understanding in Repulse Bay, there is one empty gasoline tank in Repulse Bay and there are 45 gallon drums as well. If they need the gasoline, if this is in case of emergency, how can we help those people in the communities with bad gas?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are lots of communities with gas problems and spring time is just arriving and there will be more and more people going out on the land. In the communities in Nunavut, Baffin and Kivalliq, I can't answer what our plans are at the moment to help the people in the communities about the bad gas. I can't say exactly what we will do at the moment and with what level of urgency. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have more questions, I can go on and on but it would take time. Correct me if I'm wrong. I think it would be better to make a motion to do something about the bad gas issue; otherwise we'll just go on and on. I'm happy we're working with you well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to express my welcome to our witnesses to this chamber. I don't have anymore questions as most have been already posed, but first of all, there are the snowmobiles we are using today and we will continue to use the water cooled machinery. Using bad gasoline, I wonder if it will be something to clean up the machinery, money to help clean up the machinery that we're breaking down the residue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I will let my official answer, Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like the question restated please.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu would you rephrase your questions please.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since we're using the bad gasoline today, even though we're deliberating on it, and we're saying that it's not good gasoline, because there's no other good gasoline we can use.

Perhaps if you can provide some funding to clean the residue on some engines and some motors if I'm not coming across to you I can make it clearer by saying, in the month of March I went fishing using the bad gasoline. I was afraid my engine would seize up so I used naphtha instead so my engine could be cleaned out so I was looking for ways how to clean up the engines. So I was wondering if there's a chemical or something to clean up the engines from the residue.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not aware of any chemical that would effectively clean out the engine deposits and I guess as far as the funding is, I believe the Finance Minister has said what the government plans to do with funding and repairs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister of Finance stated that there was money available to do something about the bad gas that we wouldn't

keep asking for money in the coming years. Can we have money to clean up the gasoline?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not in a position to answer questions about the financial position of this government. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): I'm not talking about finances, I'm not asking questions in regards to the funding but I just mentioned Mr. Minister's response. What I'm trying to say, I don't know if I'm coming across clearly, I was wondering if there's some chemical to clean, perhaps use another type of gas or some kind of oil to clean the engines.

So I was wondering, my question is, is there something to clean the engines, to clean the residues or deposits from the bad gas? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): I'm sure it's clear now. Mr. Wispinski.

Mr. Wispinski: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not aware of any chemical that would effectively clean the engine after it's been used and I'm in no position to recommend any chemical that would be effective in cleaning that, in cleaning the engine. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. I'll personally try and find out some solutions to clean the engines, but if he can't respond to me my other question is that we have stated that NTCL purchased the bulk fuel.

We don't know how they had purchased the fuel. But I would like to say they had mentioned that you had purchased the gasoline from United States, why did you purchase gasoline out of Canada? So I was wondering if you could look into this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Today, the company that purchased the bulk fuel, why they had purchased their fuel from the States. We still haven't understood them so we're reviewing it and we're also looking into it and NTCL is working with us in regards to this concern. I will ask them to focus on your question. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Would you like to continue Mr. Iqaqrialu?

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Yes, Thank you. I'm saying that NTCL and the Nunavut Government and your department, since you purchased bulk fuel from this company, I was wondering why you bought that gas from that company who was selling bad gasoline. So are you going to look for that answer or clarification from them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the company where we purchased the fuel, we still don't know what we're going to be doing about it to date. We still haven't come to conclusions about it yet, but we are working closely with NTCL in regards to the bad gasoline. To date we still haven't made a decision as to what we're going to be doing with the company that we purchased the bad fuel from. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. Why haven't you considered this? They're the ones that we bought our bad fuel from, after all. Perhaps they are the ones that should be blamed. Perhaps it was just NTCL's fault, when they purchased the bad fuel. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I have been stating that they do testing before the fuel is dispersed to the fuel tankers and also when they deliver the gasoline to the communities, they also test it again. The company that we purchased our bad gasoline from, I don't know if they were aware of selling inferior fuel when it was being deposited into the fuel tankers. Once we meet with NTCL, we'll go into details about those things but the company that we have purchased the bad gasoline from, we haven't really consulted with them, but we will. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, we know that there's bad gasoline. It came from the place where we purchased it from. We all know that we purchased inferior gasoline from the company. We now know they sold us bad gasoline. Starting from today, would you be willing to work closely with the company that sold us bad gasoline? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The process in regards to dealing with bad gasoline, we will follow the proper procedure. We keep hearing the results that are coming out, as they come out. We will investigate and talk about how this situation progresses and where it actually started from. We will also consider that part

once we meet with the officials. And we'll start from the beginning to the end. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps the company we purchased the bad gasoline from, perhaps they are very intimidating. Are we intimidated by them because they issued us bad gasoline? Companies that sell gasoline worldwide have to sell good products because that's their business and it's already out there. We are already aware that businesses, private businesses have to meet certain standards. If I purchase something from the store, for example, a bad piece of meat, I would have to return it because it's bad. Likewise with gasoline because we have purchased bad gasoline it should be the same process. Since we purchased bad gasoline we need to consult with the company that we purchased the bad gasoline from. This is just a comment and I'm sure it's clear.

So, my question will be, in the communities, if a community was requesting compensation would you be giving them support by agreeing to their requests? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not been told by anyone in the communities but as a government we have stated that there has been some engines impacted by bad gasoline and we are now in the process of working on it and to rectify it but we have not heard any requests from the communities at this time. While we are trying to resolve the bad gasoline situation to date we don't know how the communities will be requesting but according to the requests that are being made we will come to solutions with individual communities but to date we have not seen or received any compensation requests. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, for responding. I don't know, I think it was in Alberta, for 3 or 4 years now, they were experiencing contaminated water. Water with e - coli. It's the same thing with our gasoline because the gasoline is deteriorating and breaking down our engines. Since, they had done testing, and their water in Alberta and they tried to rectify the situation perhaps if your department is willing to look for all the solutions to this bad gasoline experience perhaps your department can work closely with us so that we can give you support. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we've already appointed an individual to work to resolve this situation and we know that he's very enthusiastic in working this out but we'll have to work, once we have new information

we'll use the media to release the public information as we go through this process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Would you like to continue? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two questions. Just to get further clarification. In part of the minister's open comments, rather, first of all, on March 26, 2002, you had a press release. I'll read it. (interpretation ends) In addition, gasoline in two regions does not contain a deposit control additive. DCA, the additive which helps keep engines clean is a requirement set by the Canadian General Standards Board. (interpretation) I seem to understand that the Canadian General Standards Board states that that additive should be in there to keep the engines clean. (interpretation ends) That the gasoline meets specifications of the Canadian General Standards Board except for the deposit control additive.

(interpretation) Now I understand this. Can the minister elaborate to me on the news release and also his opening comments? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The news release that was released on March 26, 2002, was in regards to testing of the bad gasoline. The deposit control additive which was missing, although it contained a lot of additives, the deposit control additive was not added. That was just a news release to state that deposit control additive was not in the gasoline.

I don't have that detailed information in front of me. Even though, after that, the researchers found out that there was the deposit control additive missing, so we released a news release but the Canadian General Standards Board. I apologise, the Canadian General Standards Board had stated that it has all the additives but in the requirement set by the Canadian Standards Board, they had told us that the deposit control additive was missing. That's what the news release was about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll go onto my second question. But I didn't understand and I don't think I got the response that I needed to have. But I'll go onto my next question. When the minister and his department asked the Alberta Research Council, when they asked them, did they asked them here's the gasoline from Nunavut, check to see if it will meet the requirements.

Or did they ask here's gasoline from Nunavut; find out what's wrong with it? These are two very different questions. Can the minister tell this House what kinds of questions or what kinds of things he requested from the Alberta Research Council? Did they ask them find something, there's something wrong with this gasoline, find out what's wrong with it. Can the minister tell me this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the communities started reporting bad gasoline, we had to send a sample out to the researchers and to the testing labs. But I will ask my deputy minister to respond to the question as to what kind of request we sent out along with the sample. I'll have my deputy minister respond. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understand correctly the question was what the government was asking Alberta Research Council to provide on the test of the gas. Is that correct?

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is did the Minister and his department ask the Alberta Research Council to see if this gas meets the requirements? That's one question. Did they ask that question or did they say here's gas from Nunavut there's something wrong with it, tell me what's wrong with this gas. These are two different questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we were receiving complaints and becoming suspicious that the gas is not performing the way it should be, and the government contacted the Alberta Research Council and the message was very simple, samples have been sent and we ask you to provide the testing, providing that the gas will or not conform to the Canadian Standard Board. Further testing was done later to expand on that testing. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's probably why we just keep getting this it meets the standards but there's something wrong with it. And when we are saying this is good gas you can use it but at the same time hunters are telling us there's a problem we're telling the public we don't believe you. That's what we are saying to the public. My next question is can the minister explain why Nunavummiut in the Baffin and Kivalliq regions are still being charged the same price for a product that the government admits is causing engine damage? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not really talked about it as a Cabinet so, to the member's question I would have to say that it would be, I

cannot by myself decide to lower the gas prices for those two regions without consulting the members of the Cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else Ms. Williams?

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is that the Minister has urged Nunavummiut to be careful when they are going on the land or going boating. What can they do to be safe? Should they stop boating, should they stop ski-doing because the government or the Minister is not telling the public this is how you can be safe you are just basically telling them be careful but still using the same gas. What does he mean by urging the Nunavummiut to be careful about going on the land and boating by snowmobiling backwards or what does he mean by that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I mean by wanting hunters to be cautious is that they should provide themselves with more survival gear when they go out on the land. I guess that's what I meant for them to watch where they're at and to have more survival gear when they go out hunting. That's what I mean when I say for them to be cautious because sometimes the men they go out hunting along with the women.

They usually bring along survival gear, so the caution that I'm saying people out there is that they please be cautious when you go out on the land, make sure that you bring along more survival gear because the gas is not good, and you might be stuck out there because of the bad gas. So make sure that you bring more survival gear and better survival gear and expect to stay a lot longer but it doesn't mean that we're going to be, that I'm telling them to go backwards. Drive backwards. And that's what I mean by cautioning them to make sure that they bring themselves more survival gear and be expected to be out longer than they expected. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question we can understand today in some parts that the public here in Nunavut, communities and whether you're a non native or native that uses gas, the government is not going to say anything what they are having planned in place yet, to remedy this problem the bad gas because they have nothing to specific to tell the public in regards to the bad gas and what kinds of remedies they will be doing. So we are in the same state the public is not being informed of any remedies that might be coming, I don't think the public has any faith in us anymore. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, the member's comments are very good; I didn't really hear a question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Couple more that I'd like to address. First off in the minister's opening comments, it stated that a letter of notice was sent to the supplier NTCL. Could he explain what he meant, what does he mean by that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Kattuk

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was also a question that one of the members asked earlier and what I did was I had my deputy respond as he corresponded with NTCL and I would like him to answer that question.

Chairperson: Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The letter has been sent to NTCL to advise them officially that the testing of the gas confirmed that there were no control additives. We also told them that we are doing the testing of the snow machines, and the last thing we basically asked for was their co-operation in how to resolve the problem. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman to date, I think we looked at testing to deal with specifically with snowmobiles and they said earlier this extends to all motorised vehicles that use this gasoline. Can the minister commit to looking at setting up some kind of process by which vehicles, whether they are outboard motors, snowmobiles, ATVs or cars or trucks, anything that uses this gasoline, can be checked to determine whether or not they have damage that has been caused by the use of this gasoline? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we have been concentrating on is mostly snowmobiles. But this advisor that we have hired or the consultant is in Iqaluit and I met with him this morning and he advised me that he would be going to the garages that fix motors to see how many vehicles have been damaged by this bad gasoline. We can't really say today, I know we'll be working on this, but to see whether this bad gasoline has affected numerous vehicles, I'm sure it has but we have a consultant who's going to be visiting the garages in Iqaluit to see how many vehicles have been damaged by the bad gasoline. That's what the consultant is going to be doing because I talked to him this morning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I can concur with the minister when he says we probably will have problems with that but what I'd like to hear from the minister is that they will come up with a plan and a method by which to inspect and check vehicles that are out there. Those of us in here that have vehicles, we've been driving around using this gasoline all year. Our vehicles may or may not be on the verge of something happening to them as a result of the use of this gasoline.

We don't know that. Unless we test vehicles, all vehicles get some kind of a test that they pass, or have to get something done, where do we draw the line and say that, down the road next year, or the year after, that the damage was as a result of an issue that started off with the use of this gasoline.

I think there needs to be some way to have some kind of inspection, whether, and I think maybe the government should, maybe the department should hire some, a couple of mechanics that specialize in checking out these areas or something and have a travelling inspection team go around and, to the different communities and check those vehicles and if there's something in there could potentially cause problems to the vehicle as a result of the use of the gasoline, that that happens. I'm looking for some kind of a commitment from the minister to establish something like that to deal with that problem, because if we don't there's no end to the liability part down the road.

Someone a few years from now can say it was the result of the use of that gasoline three years ago and it finally ended up wrecking my motor. I'd like to ask if the minister would he commit to doing something, or setting up something like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member has suggested a very good idea in regards to the bad gasoline. Vehicles might have been affected. We will consider the member's request and question and to have a plan in place as suggested by the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One last little line of questioning I have on here. I couldn't agree more with my colleague Ms. Williams who mentioned that fact that we're still paying full price for a product that isn't full quality so I think that's something that the minister should take back to his cabinet colleagues and look at reducing the price of gas, because we're not paying for good gas.

Anywhere else it would probably just get thrown away and people have that choice anywhere else. We don't have that choice here. So I think that, that's something this government should look at. Reducing the price of gasoline in the effected regions because we're paying for what we're not getting. The other question I have, I guess, is I know here in Iqaluit you have private contractors companies that distribute the gasoline and in

the communities contractors/distributors. Is the contractor in each community that distributes the gasoline, and I know if you look at, you know if we continue and we've admitted, we realize that the produce isn't up to snuff. It's something wrong with it. And we're continuing to sell that product. You know, where does the liability go? As far as I know if I was selling cars and they are Fords and they recall cars because there was something faulty with it, they're liable for that and they fix that.

Where does the liability go on this? Does it go, you know you worry about the small suppliers and the contractors in the communities who are selling this product that isn't to standard you know, that could potentially lead to something tragic happening, or they ended up, who's going to be liable for that? And I'm not talking about for responsibility for the guy but the fact that we are selling a product that doesn't meet the standards.

And, as a result of that, I'm sure that most of those suppliers out there are kind of wondering whether their insurance could cover them because they are knowingly selling a product that doesn't meet the qualification as where their liability goes. So, I'd like to ask the minister if he could respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Mrazek to answer that question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During our working discussions, how to resolve this situation with the gasoline there's a number of legal issues associated with just about any other question. It is being categorized and it's being explored but it's still in very preliminary stages and I cannot make any comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the Deputy Minister confirm that given the fact that that these contractors that are selling the fuel in the communities and the private distributors and areas that are private distributors that are knowingly and they got no choice selling the faulty products will not be held liable for any actions that it will fall back to whoever it is that's responsible. I won't say where it's going to fall back but that those individuals and usually those are the small business people in our communities won't be held liable for their actions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Mr. Chairman as I said there are a number of the legal issues associated which is currently worked out and I'm not in the position to comment on preliminary situation. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's very frustrating when you can't get answers and I think that that's the question if I was selling gas in any of the communities in any of the affected communities I'd want an answer to pretty darn fast. And maybe get a commitment from the Minister of the department to contact those distributors in the affected communities and deal with that as quickly as possible. You know, because for a lot of those people if something happens, it could be their business and their livelihood, you know, and their whole life's work could go down the drain in one lawsuit. So I think that that's something that should be a priority of the department to let those business people in the communities know that they are not going to be held responsible because they are selling a sub-standard product. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): We will consider the members request to see because they are selling bad gas that we have provided to them because they have to sell bad gasoline in the communities it's not their fault. And we will consider very carefully the member's questions and his comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. McLean.

Committee Motion 01 – 1(6): Call for Action to Address the Gasoline Situation

Mr. McLean: This is a. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a motion from the Committee of the Whole.

WHEREAS the quality of gasoline in our communities is of great importance to the Members of the Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it is in the public interest that a solution be found to address the quality of the present supply of gasoline in our communities, and to ensure that a repetition of this situation does not occur;

AND WHEREAS there has been damage to the property of Nunavut residents as a result of the quality of gasoline;

AND WHEREAS appropriate levels of compensation to Nunavummiut whose property has been damaged as a result of the gasoline supply must be provided;

AND WHEREAS the safety of the public on the land, sea ice and water is of concern;

AND WHEREAS any disposal of the current gasoline supply must take place in as environmentally responsible manner as possible;

AND WHEREAS public confidence in the Government can only be strong if actions and decisions are taken in a transparent and accountable manner;

AND WHEREAS there is no clarity as to where the accountability for this situation rests;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut, along with other stakeholders, work in an expeditious manner to achieve a solution to the quality of the present gasoline supply;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut, beginning the week of June 3, 2002, make announcements on a regular basis concerning the status of its actions regarding this situation; including the issue of compensation for Nunavummiut whose property has been damaged as a result of the quality of the gasoline supply;

AND FURTHER, I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut prepare and table in the House during the fall 2002 Session of the Legislative Assembly a comprehensive report on the situation, including the Government's conclusions as to where the accountability for the situation rests.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): To the motion. All in favour of the motion? Opposed? Carried. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Williams stated that public works should be next and we would like to deal with public works. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Do we agree that we deal with the Department of Public Works? Agreed. Thank you, minister. Perhaps the minister can start with his opening remarks for the Department of Public Works. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to acknowledge and thank my officials. I know that the bad gasoline situation is not going to get any better overnight but we will do as much as we can in the meantime and I'd like to assure the members that we will be working on this diligently. We will consider all the remarks that were made by the members of this House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Yes we understand your final comments on the bad gas situation. I was supposed to say thank you to your officials. I think there's going to be another official coming in. Can you begin with your opening comments Mr. Minister?

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I don't have my opening comments so, I will have to go and get them first. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): I think our clerk is getting very good at giving the opening remarks to the ministers. Go ahead Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of pages for my speaking notes. I will be reading in English.

(interpretation ends) Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2002/2003 main estimates for the Department of Public Works. For fiscal 2002/2003, Department of Public Works and Services has a total budget of 65.2 million dollars which consists of 58.9 million dollars for operations and maintenance and 6.3 million dollars for capital projects.

To give a brief overview of the budget details, I will highlight the distribution of the operations and maintenance budget.

The combined salaries and operations budget includes 8.5 for the directorate. The directorate, including the deputy minister's office and corporate services division at headquarters is responsible for senior management of the department as well as for advice, assistance, planning and administration of human resources, finance and policy functions of the department. In addition it provides government wide leadership in records management policy and procedures development and implementation.

In the regions the directorate includes the regional director and finance and administration services section.

Five million 700 thousand dollars has been dedicated to technical services in order to:

- provide planning, design and management services for government projects carried out on behalf of client departments;
- assist clients in identifying their long term capital requirements and operational guidelines;
- develop government wide technical standards for infrastructure.

Thirty million 900 thousand is slated for operations to meet the responsibilities of:

- managing the GN's inventory of owned and leased office program facilities and the allocation of space;
- conducting inspections and reviews of existing and planned facilities to ensure compliance with mechanical/electrical codes and standards;
- purchasing goods and administers the Eastern Arctic sealift on behalf of the Government of Nunavut;
- in consultation with clients developing, implementing and monitoring contracting policy and procedures, including the Nunavummi Nangminiqaqtunik Ikajuuti policy;
- developing contracting guidelines and procedures.

Twelve million 600 thousand of the O and M budget has been allocated to our informatics operations division for operations and maintenance of the Government of Nunavut data and voice networks. This includes Network operations centres in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay, support centres in six secondary communities and office systems in over 50 buildings throughout Nunavut.

In support of decentralization, my department has been allocated 1.2 million for Phase 3. This is to ensure that requirements for office furnishings as well as information technology systems are met.

Mr. Chairman I would like to mention that Public Works and Services is embarking on a new environmental assessment initiative for clean up of the Petroleum Products Division's Tank farms. In 2002-2003, PPD has been allocated 5.7 million in capital funds for the maintenance and enhancement of bulk fuel storage facilities across Nunavut.

In addition Mr. Chairman, Public Works and Services has been allocated another 580 thousand dollars in capital funds for upgrades to Government of Nunavut facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Committee chair do you have opening comments?

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chairman of the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development, I am pleased to be able to provide opening comments as we begin the review of the 2002-2003 main estimates for the Department of Public Works and Services.

Mr. Chairman, over the past month, the Standing Committee has had the opportunity to meet with the new Minister of Public Works and Services and has carefully reviewed the Department's main estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee is generally satisfied with the work of the Department to date. However, a number of issues related to the main estimates require further clarification.

Mr. Chairman, the decentralization branch appears to have allocated \$1,035,000 for a study on community bandwidth needs. The Standing Committee urges the Department of Public Works to work closely with the Department of Sustainable Development - the lead department with respect to the Nunavut Broadband Taskforce. It is important to reduce overlap between government departments and this study by Public Works needs to be coordinated to avoid redundancies.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee recognizes that federal priorities have changed as a result of the events of September 11. However, it should be pointed out that federal investment in bandwidth is an investment in infrastructure. The Standing Committee urges the Department to pursue funding from the federal government for this project.

Mr. Chairman, since the first year of the GN's operation, the issue of expenditures in the area of information technology has been a concern. Members have previously expressed concern with the large supplementary appropriations that have come forward in this area. The Standing Committee is concerned that this branch stays within its budget.

Mr. Chairman, the Auditor General of Canada, in her 2001 Report to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, expressed concern with respect to the financial reporting practices of the Petroleum Products Division. This underlines concerns with respect to hidden subsidies that were highlighted in the Ikuma I report that was tabled in this House on February 18, 2000. The Ikuma I report investigates the option of merging the Petroleum Products Division and the Nunavut Power Corporation to reduce the amount of overlap that currently exists.

To this end, Mr. Chairman, it will be important that accurate accounting indicate the real cost of the division including the amortization of tank farm equipment, capital costs and GN-wide blanket insurance, as well as legal services and support services provided by other Government of Nunavut departments. Accurate financial statements are essential in helping to determine whether the Petroleum Products Division should be a crown corporation.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee is also concerned about how the Program Review exercise will affect the work of such bodies as the Ikuma group. It is important that work continues to progress in streamlining the provision of energy to Nunavummiut.

Mr. Chairman, the Committee is also concerned about vehicles purchased through the petroleum products revolving fund during the 2001-2002 fiscal year. Because of the nature of the revolving fund, the real costs associated with purchasing those vehicles and shipping them to the communities is not readily apparent. The Standing Committee requests that the Department provide a community-by-community cost breakdown on the purchase of any new vehicles during the fiscal year 2001-2002 and the cost of shipping them to communities.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee has noted that the GN/NTI NNI Policy 2000-2001 Annual Review was tabled in the House on May 1. The Committee looks forward to reviewing this document in detail. However, the Committee is concerned that the contracting appeals board has still not been formed to hear appeals. In recommendation #14, the Annual Review specifically points to problems of interpretation that should be clarified. Since the policy is open to such interpretation, it is clear that decisions will be appealed.

Mr. Chairman, more than a year ago the Canadian Coast Guard devolved the eastern arctic sealift to the Government of Nunavut. In last year's Joint Standing Committee Report, the Standing Committee recommended that the Department undertake a review of the eastern arctic sealift to determine the costs and outcomes associated with the devolution. The Standing Committee looks forward to a report being tabled in the fall

Session that outlines the costs and benefits related to GN control of the eastern arctic sealift.

Mr. Chairman that concludes my comments on the main estimates of the Department of Public Works and Services. Individual Members may wish to raise questions or make comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Before we break for our supper, I would like to ask the minister to introduce his witnesses.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I forgot the name of the individual on my left, Patrick Galbraith and Ross Mrazek, our deputy minister.

Chairperson (interpretation): I believe meals are ready upstairs. We'll take a 35 minute break. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 5.55 p.m. and resumed at 6.33 p.m.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We can start again. Members have ten minutes to speak. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say that I would like to welcome the Minister of the Department of Public Works and Services for coming to this meeting. Public Works and Services plays a vital part for the communities in the services that they provide.

So we have been thinking that Public Works and Services should be providing some better service for the communities in Nunavut for things such as equipment and for them to be able to grow along with the other communities that have been decentralized. They have to be more receptive to the needs of the communities and work with the communities. I know that Department of Public Works and Services for quite some time now just like the other departments of the government have a lot of employees stationed and aboriginal people that are stationed in the communities and it's good to see that.

The department employs a lot of Inuit people in the communities. But besides employing Inuit people in the communities sometimes when the people need something they don't seem to respond to the needs of the people and the communities. So that this why I would encourage the department to work with the communities not just be receptive to the Members of the Legislative Assembly but be more receptive to the communities' needs. We would also hope to be able to work with the Department of Public Works and Services a lot more as MLAs.

So for that reason when the minister made his opening comments I would, there could be more that the department could be doing in the communities to help the people out. The 65.2 million dollars, in there 58 point something million should be given out to the people in the communities more so. I'm not exactly sure what they do in the larger

communities in the decentralized communities but I know they do have employees in the smaller communities. I would just like to encourage the department to be able to work with the communities and to be more responsive to the needs of the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): If there are no more comments we'll go to the budget of the Department of Public Works and Services. Program Summary. Are there any questions on 6-5? If not then page 6-6. Department of Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance 8 million 467 thousand. Questions. Agreed. Are you agreed on that page? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): I'm sorry Mr. Chairman. Under other expenses in the amount of 98 thousand there was nothing on the revised estimates and the 2001-2002 estimates but it's now showing up in 2002-2003. If somebody could explain to me what other expenses is used for? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It wasn't in the revised estimates or the 2001-2002 estimates. It's to do with computers and materials for office use for this year. It's to do with software and hardware. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to ask about the total expenditures. It was 6.3 but now it's 8.4. What is the total increase for the total expenditures from the previous year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason for the increase from 6.3 to 8.4 is because of the growth of the department and in that page under directorate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Well, what's being done now that wasn't done before?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my finance person to answer that question. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Galbraith.

Mr. Galbraith: The increase in directorate is mainly due to the increase in salaries due to the collective agreement signed just recently, last year, as well as an increase in the telephone charges. We expect an increase in the budget there for the increased telephone long distance charges. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Galbraith. Anything else? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have an increase in your PYs? Or is that just for the collective agreement increase or do you have more staff in your department now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There have been four PYs increased under the directorate here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. But I may as well in this area. If it's not here, would it pass on to the other pages. I know the department has long term service employees in different communities. One example is in my community, I know you've been there for quite some time and I'm not sure, how much more time or when he's going to retire. I guess in the planning part, to make sure we employ local people, do you have something along the lines of training on the job for this and for that position in case or a plan in place where you can have such training on the job type of position. When a person, say, I may be thinking a little ahead of myself, but it's good though because we need to have the training positions anyways, so you can hire someone locally instead of trying to hire from south or other provinces. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the member's question I will get Ross Mrazek to answer that.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Public Works always follow the basically very simple process wherever we can we will incorporate Inuit employees, number one. Number two, in some positions where it's possible we incorporate trainees in different jobs and different positions and that's basically what we have been doing for the last number of several years.

I cannot really give a straight answer regarding that community position but I can follow up and let you know it will be later on if there is any plan with that. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance 8 million 467 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Page 6-7. Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Technical Services. Total operations and maintenance 5 million 724 thousand. Questions? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Under technical services, under 6-7, there's an increase as well under, there was also an increase in a previous page after the union negotiations is that compensation and benefits the same as the previous page because of the negotiations?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, that's right Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The very last description under other expenses, what is that going to be used for, 693 thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's to do with, to clean up tank farms and other things such as computers and software, mostly to the software. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else Mr. Iqaqrialu. Technical Services. Total operations and maintenance 5 million 724 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 6-8 Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Total operations and maintenance 30 million 959 thousand. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under operations it states that the operations and maintenance of Government of Nunavut inventory owned and leased facilities and the allocation of space, it conducts inspections for reuse of existing plans, is this done by contractors? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): We will get the person from finance to answer the question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Galbraith.

Mr. Galbraith: In some cases we do employ contractors for these services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): For that reason, during my opening comments that there should be employees for Public Works to do more of what the contractors are doing. So, 2001 – 2002 it was 19 million dollars for contract services but now it's only 16 million dollars. I just wondered by that has been a decrease in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I will get my financial person to answer that question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Galbraith.

Mr. Galbraith: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The decrease in the contract services is due to through several tenders that came in lower than expected, as well as, we also transferred to the Legislative Assembly the janitorial and security contract and as well as the PY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Correct me if I make a mistake. He stated that it's something to do with clean up. What was cleaned? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Galbraith.

Mr. Galbraith: I meant to say cleaning contract that we have with the Legislative Assembly. We took care of the Legislative Assembly in the past but we transferred that responsibility to the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What about the communities. Do they have any cleaning services in the communities as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Galbraith.

Mr. Galbraith: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we hire janitorial services for all Government of Nunavut buildings, as well as lease to own facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I wanted to find that out because I received a letter from the department about janitorial services. In the communities in some communities there have been a lot of, there are janitorial services employed by Public Works and it's a lot of work for those cleaners. If I understand this properly, I just wondered if they're kind of loaded. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's for the whole of Nunavut. It's 16 million 843 dollars. Like if we, I awarded the contract, then they have to provide the cleaning, janitorial services, for the buildings.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under contract services. Who usually gets the contracts? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): What we do is we contract those janitorial companies. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Say for instance if you have the hospital or a school that needs cleaning or do they do schools and hospitals as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The schools and the others, we don't deal with the schools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this stage in the year 2001-2002 there was 640 thousand and there has been a decrease ever since and when we finally go to 2002-2003 it's very, very small, is it under travel and transportation, because there's a decrease in the amount of travel and transportation, in your department.

Chairperson (interpretation): Please go through the chair so our technical people will know when to turn off your mike. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a decrease in the travel and transportation because there's less travel among the staff. I don't have the detailed information in front of me, but there is less travel within my department. In past two years there has been less travel, that's why there's a decrease in that line item. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you Mr. Minister for your response. Under contract services, 2001-2002 it was 19 million and 2002-2003 it's 16 million, that's a lot of money if it was my own but there is a decrease in the amount is that because there are fewer contracts? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This was a question that was posed earlier by one of the members and the response was that we have a smaller amount in the contracts. That was the response that was given earlier.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the smaller communities also in the mid sized communities there are development corporations that are starting to get established in those communities and smaller businesses and small businesses.

Does your department contract to the private companies or small businesses in development corporations in the communities for example in Gjoa Haven? If the development corporation there wanted to build houses or if the co-op wanted to provide services for the government, do you award the contracts and do you also pay for the contracts? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do the contracts but there is a limit to the amount of the contracts that we can award but we can't say which company is going to be getting. We usually try to award it to the lowest bidder. We usually try to do that. There a lot of companies that answer those RFPs, but we usually try to award it to the lowest bidder. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When using for example, if we're going to be building, the government is going to be building houses for example in Taloyoak, there's usually a call for proposals. Is it possible for your department to tell us, or give us a list of contractors that were awarded?

Chairperson (interpretation): We'll try and stick to the page that we're referring to. We're on page 6-8. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): I can't respond to your question at this time. But I will look into it and inform the member. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. That's it. Anything else? Any other questions? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Under Operations, Contract Services, where are we with the NNI policy to date? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my deputy minister respond to your question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the clarity, could the member please repeat the question? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I apologise. I am sure they can't write that down in the Hansard. In regards to the NNI policy, I believe that there was going to be a review of the NNI policy by both the Government of Nunavut and NTI. What is the status with the NNI policy today? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): I think our technician is getting a little tired. Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: The first year review of the policy has been completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Now that it has been completed, you're going to be tabling a report or status report to the House?

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it was in March that we tabled the report or the status report. It's already been tabled at the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just following on Jobie's question on the NNI policy I noted the report has been tabled and recommendations have gone on this. But one of them that the department and NTI have been negotiating is on the NNI, especially on the part of appeals court. Is there appeals court today or are there ongoing negotiations with NTI? Koanaqutit, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our Deputy Minister has been having meetings with NTI on the NNI policy review; he could give you a full update on the NNI policy review if you would wish.

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

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No the terms of reference for the appeal board has not been finalized within the Government of Nunavut and NTI. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Any sign of agreeing on the appeal board because it's been an issue in my community not having an appeals board. So, is there any sign you can agree to this issue? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish I can be a little bit more specific but I can't and there have been number of meetings with NTI but resolution of that has never been done yet.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak. Anything else? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. To the same issue and just for further clarification there was a time in Clyde River, there was the Clyde River Protocol, can you give us an update on what's been happening with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): I would like to ask the member which specific issues he's asking questions to. Thank you. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. I'm talking about the NNI policy.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As was stated earlier the appeals board's terms of reference are not completed yet, but everything else is done except the terms of reference. In response to your question we are almost completed except for that portion.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Just for further information in regards to the NNI policy, did you say that there was going to be another review on that policy? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): It is in place. But there are some small details that we still have to work on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): You said that it's in place but there are little details that still have to be ironed out. Which specifically are those? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The contractors and the terms of reference that are used for the NNI policy, there are little things to iron out in there yet. As Mr. Havioyak, it's the same response as I gave to Mr. Havioyak. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else Mr. Nutarak?

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I was just waiting for the little light to go on. I guess we're getting a little tired here. I wanted to know what parts of it were in place. Is the NNI policy being used in the smaller communities? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I responded earlier, the NNI policy is used when we do a call for proposals and in regards to the appeals board, the only outstanding issue that we still have to deal with are the terms of reference. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): This policy is in place at the smaller communities and it's not being used in the larger communities?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I responded, it's in place except the one that Mr. Havioyak referred to. It's used by our communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: I am getting tired and grumpy to but I'm going to ask a question and I don't know if anybody can answer it. All members understand the scope of contracts in any government, whether it's the Government of Nunavut, provincial government or the British Government.

Sure, there are talks about a contracts appeals board and I'm a little hesitant on what the appeals board is for. If we've got a contract appeals board and if somebody appeals the contract, and it's given to them, you know.

For instance, you've got six companies, six Inuit companies bidding on a contract in a certain community. Say it's a janitorial contract for 30 thousand dollars. And six Inuit firms bid on it and one Inuit firm gets it and then the other five appeal it. How do you settle something like that? If you're going to start doing that and set up groups of people to have a contracts appeals board, or a group, we'll never get a contract let in this country.

So, I know you have to have it because it's in the Land Claims. Is there an easier solution to it or I'm just being a little, it's like how do you come to some kind of solution on the economy, you know, if you're going to have a contract appeals board does that mean that every contract that's given out, if somebody decides they're going to appeal it, it's not going to be awarded. Or it's going to be awarded and half way through the contract to doing these, the contract that was awarded to, the appellant gets it, it's like where is this going?

Can somebody answer that question for me? Like it's okay to award contracts but it's holding everything up. It'll hold housing contracts up. It'll hold school contracts up. It'll hold everything up. So, if there is an appeals board and the Government of Nunavut and NTI agree to it, is there ramifications on contracts even ever getting awarded because everybody want to appeal them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk, oh Mr. Mrazek.

Mr. Mrazek: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This may sound complicated but it's actually not. The stuff which we are not be able to resolve with NTI is that appeal board will be set up and will hear company who may have a problem that they didn't get the award

okay and the reason for the appeal board is to review if the government awarded the contract properly according to the evaluation criteria and also, taking into the consideration, NNI bonuses and they're all the things we should do, giving them potential benefits, local Inuit company and everything else. Those two items only. And this is the problem which we are not able to resolve yet. So, it will not open the door for everything else as you potentially thought. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well I was getting e-mails from various parts of Nunavut and the e-mails that I was getting from various parts of Nunavut on certain contracts, that was the understanding that they had. That the appeals process would hold up the awarding of the contract to somebody else and that's the e-mail that I got and I got quite a few of them on that issue. So, you're saying that's not what the contract appeals are all about. So, there are a lot of misinformed people out there about this. That's more a statement than anything. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): On what Mr. McLean saying, he just making comments about that misunderstanding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Reading on in the middle, I'm starting from the middle, in Inuktitut. The branch in consultation with clients developments, implements, and monitors contracting policies and procedure including the Nunavummi Nangminiqqtunik Ikajuuti Policy, as well to develop contracting guidelines and procedures. Can you clarify this a little bit more please?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to let my finance person answer this question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Galbraith.

Mr. Galbraith: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure if I fully understand the question, if he's referring to specifically the contracting guidelines and procedures Public Works administers, we do administer those contracts on procedures and guidelines; we put on workshops for the rest the Government Departments to attend and get information on those guidelines and procedures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm still on this Mr. Chairman maybe I can ask the question directly to you. Because if we approve this one, we won't be able to amend it, and we need to get going with the contracts, would it be possible to come back tomorrow if we can delay this until tomorrow.

Chairperson (interpretation): Members listen carefully please, what is the wish of the committee? Mr. Iqaqrialu would like to table this for tomorrow. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): The reason there are contractors and those who will be contracting, the question why I ask is this to the members, maybe we can review this further and we will get more ideas after we review this. This is why I want to table this, tomorrow. We can go back to this page, if we agree on this we'll go ahead but even so we won't be able to amend it.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turn to the next page 6-9. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Correct me if I'm wrong, the items we, this issue we are discussing are we going to go back to next year. Starting from now, we can keep going, and we will be working on this every day, throughout the year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the contracting policies I'm sure we can table contracting policies of the Government of Nunavut and take that into the Committee of the whole. That's my suggestion.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): In order to continue these are the operations and maintenance estimates, because they are contracting funding, it is still way over there. Like the contract services for Department of Education is this just for operations and maintenance even though if we just passed it on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not like that, it's not the case yes if we can go ahead and once we approve it the contract will also go ahead, once we approve this page, on these contracting services, it's 16 million.

They will use 16 million for contracting services if we approve it. Will we be making sense? They will be talking about Nunavummi Nangminiqatunik Ikajuuti policy. I was wondering if this correlates or if that means contract services, really means the NNI policy.

Chairperson (interpretation): I would like to caution the members. I think someone would like to respond. I will allow Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you speak English and Inuktitut, both languages, yes we can understand it as a bilingual speaking person. But in regards to Mr. Iqaqrialu's concern, it can be dealt with in other ways. Because the NNI policy is in review now I'm sure that Mr. Iqaqrialu doesn't like the contract services. We can deal with that outside of these main estimates.

It just states that the Department of Public Works and Services operates the contract policy. In English it just states, it's just the same in Inuktitut, the translation. But in regards to the member's concern, how the contracts are awarded, perhaps, I'm sure he would like to talk about the awarding of the contracts.

They're not contained in this page. Once we get that NNI policy to the Committee of the Whole, it can be dealt with at that level. So, I'm just making that statement. Hopefully it will be meaningful but they are just talking about the operations of the department and they deal with the contracts once they deal with the RFPs. I'm just giving my support. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): If we're going to have another level of dealing with NNI policy, I will agree to it as long as, or providing we'll have the opportunity to discuss the NNI policy. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Yes the NNI policy has been on hold and they have extended it to one year for those companies who have no Inuit status. (interpretation ends) It's funny I know. (interpretation) Total Operations and Maintenance 30 million 959 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Page 6-9. Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Informatics Services. Total operations and maintenance 12 million 570 thousand dollars. Question? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Purchased Services 3 million 208 thousand dollars to purchase for various communities for Public Works, I was wondering what that's for? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is an increase on that because of the increase to the contract services and also for Information Technology Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Mr. Iqaqrialu. To the same topic. Informatics Services. Total operations and maintenance 12 million 570 thousand. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 6-10. Decentralization. Total operations and maintenance, 1.2. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Contract services 1.35 million. What will this be used for? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government offices for the informatics services and the information technology services have to be in place Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you understand? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Like in the communities in the decentralized communities, do you need to set up the informatics services in all the decentralized communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): In some communities yes, we still need to put the informatics services and some of them have to be renewed, information technology have to be renewed and some of them need maintenance and some of them have to be renewed. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Decentralization. Total operations and maintenance 1.2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Going on to the next page, information item page 6-11. Questions? Going on to the second page 6-12, information item. Petroleum Products Revolving Fund. Going on to page 6-13, Public Storage, Revolving Fund. Maybe we can stop the revolving. Information item. There are no questions. Page 6-14. Detail of Work Performed on behalf of Third Parties. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Are we on page 6-14?

Chairperson (interpretation): We are on page 6-14. Are you okay?

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Nunavut Arctic College through a memorandum of agreement, yes, we had a lot of discussions about this in regards to the students, this 900 thousand for 2001-2002 has not changed since then. So I would like to get clarification that Nunavut Arctic College, which Nunavut Arctic College are we talking about for this line item?

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For all the communities of Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. For all the communities of Nunavut for what parts? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): If I understood his question for Nunavut Arctic College for all the communities to maintain their facilities and for water services and for maintenance services and for the utilities. That was an information item.

Chairperson (interpretation): Is it clear now Mr. Iqaqrialu? Going on to the next page. Page 6-15. Distribution of Operations and Maintenance budget. Headquarters, Qikiqtaaluk, Kivalliq, Kitikmeot, that's an information item. Going back to page 6-5, the page with a pie chart, questions. For page 6-5. Total Operations and Maintenance. Details of Expenditures 58 million 920 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Thank you. I would like to thank the minister and his officials for the Department of Public Works and Services. Perhaps, Minister Kattuk has concluding remarks.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm starting to lose my voice and I would just like to thank the members for asking questions of my department today. Thank you. I would like thank my officials for giving me assistance. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk and your officials. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to deal with Bill 8.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister, do you have opening comments? Nothing. Mr. McLean, do you have any opening comments from your committee?

Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act – Consideration in Committee

Mr. McLean: The minister has only been sitting there almost eight hours. I'll do my opening comments.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development reviewed Bill 8, an Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act with Minister Kattuk and his officials on May 11, 2002.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is quite straight forward. The standing committee recognises that its intent is to ensure that adequate funds exist for the bulk purchase and transportation of fuels to Nunavut communities.

However the standing committee is concerned that amendments do not address some broader issues. Mr. Chairman, the Auditor General of Canada, in her 2001 Report to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut expressed concern with respect to the financial reporting practices of the Petroleum Products Division. What else is new?

This reinforces concerns with respect to hidden subsidies that were highlighted in the Ikuma 1 report that was tabled in this house on February 18, 2000. The Ikuma 1 Report investigated creating a new crown corporation to replace the present Petroleum Products Division structure.

To this end, Mr. Chairman, it will be important that accurate accounting indicates a real cost of the division including the amortization of tank farms, equipment, capital costs, government-wide blanket insurance as well as legal services and support services provided by other Government of Nunavut departments.

The standing committee therefore urges the department to work towards amendments that address this issue and look forward to receiving a legislative proposal in the near future. The standing committee supported the bill at the clause by clause stage of standing committee review and recommends its passage to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. If there are no questions. Bill 8, an Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act. Clause 1, agreed.

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Does the committee agree that bill 8 is ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. What is the wish of the committee?
Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to report progress.

Chairperson (interpretation): There's a motion on the floor to report progress. Agreed? All in favour of the motion? Opposed? There's a tie. So as the chairman of the committee of the whole, I would like Mr. Ng to proceed with his opening comments.

Bill 6, Appropriation Act 2002-2003 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Good evening Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the Committee of the Whole to discuss the 2002-2003 Main Estimates for the Department of Finance. I'll begin with a brief overview of the department's budget for 2002-2003.

The Department of Finance has been allocated 47.4 million dollars in maintenance and operations expenditures compared to 38.9 million in the 2001-2002 main estimates. The major components of the department's budget are:

- 17.3 million dollars for compensation and benefits;
- 4.8 million dollars for power support program;
- 9.3 million dollars for the lease costs of the Legislative Assembly building and other commercial properties constructed by Nunavut Construction Corporation, prior to April 1st 1999;
- 13.5 million dollars for government wide employee programs, such as dental premiums, Workers' Compensation Board premiums, and employee medical travel; and
- 2.5 million for other operations and maintenance costs.

Compared to the 2001-2002 main estimates, the major changes are as follows:

- 5.8 million dollar increase for the impact of the collective agreement with the Nunavut Employees' Union;
- 1 million dollars to establish ten training and development positions for Inuit beneficiaries;
- 800 thousand dollar increase to create six departmental financial advisor positions to improve Government of Nunavut capacities in the area of financial management;

- 500 thousand dollar increase to provide support for the operations of the Government of Nunavut financial systems and to improve the financial controls' capabilities within the office of the Comptroller General;
- 200 thousand dollars for continuation of the program review exercise.

The department has four branches: Directorate, Fiscal Management, Informatics Policy and Planning and the Comptrollership and Regional Financial Services.

The department currently has 143 positions comprised of 99 in headquarters, 17 in the Qikiqtaaluk Region, 14 in the Kivalliq Region and 13 in the Kitikmeot Region. In addition there are 7 positions funded under the Liquor Commission Revolving Fund.

The department's focus for 2002-2003 will be to continue to provide central agency services in areas that include support for the Financial Management Board, managing the government's overall fiscal position, overseeing our financial framework and accounting processes and the development of information technology policies and plans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. Does the Chairperson of the committee have any opening comments? What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I move that Minister Kattuk go home. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Report progress.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress. All in favour? Opposed? Carried. We can get the speaker to return to the chambers. Thank you.

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Minister's Statement 20 - 1(6) along with tabled document 16-1(6). I would like to report that these matters have been concluded with the adoption of committee motion 1 - 1(6).

Your committee has also been considering Bill 6 and the main estimates and would like to report progress. Your committee also reviewed Bill 8 and is pleased to inform you that

Bill 8 is now ready for third reading. And Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder for the motion? Mr. Nutarak. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Premier.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act – Third Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung that Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 10 has passed third reading. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act – Third Reading

Hon. Kelvin Ng: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, be read for the third time. Thank you.

Speaker: The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 11 has passed third reading. Item 21. 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. Tomorrow morning a meeting of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services at 8.45 in the Tuktu Room.

Orders of the Day for Wednesday, May 15th;

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions

7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 2
 - Bill 3
 - Bill 4
 - Bill 5
 - Bill 6
 - Bill 9
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
 - Bill 8
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Wednesday May 15 at 7 a.m.

>>*Laughter*

Actually that's 10 a.m. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 7.51 p.m.*

