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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
Thursday May 16, 2002

Members Present:

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Honourable Jack Anawak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Haviyok, 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

Speaker (Mr. O'Brien): Ms. Williams could you say the prayer please?

>>*Prayer*

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

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 039 – 1(6): Ikuma II Report: Meeting Nunavut's Energy Needs/Structures and Strategies for Energy Self-Reliance

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ullakktut. Mr. Speaker, I am extremely pleased to announce that, later today, I will be tabling a report titled: Ikuma II: Meeting Nunavut's Energy Needs/Structures and Strategies for Energy Self-Reliance. This is a very important initiative and announcement as you know Mr. Speaker.

As Members will recall, in February 2000 I tabled the original Ikuma Report, which led to the development of our own Nunavut Power Corporation and Nunavummiut gaining control over electrical power services here at home in Nunavut. This Mr. Speaker, was a first and very important step towards the goal of achieving energy self-reliance in Nunavut.

In the fall of 2001 we took a second essential step towards this goal. We commissioned the Ikuma II Working Group to analyze the existing government structures involved in the delivery of energy services to Nunavummiut, and Mr. Speaker, to develop a strategy that will help reduce Nunavut's dependence on fossil fuels. Their work is now complete, and their findings and recommendations are contained within the Ikuma II Report.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's dependence on fossil fuels for heating, power and transportation is a great concern to all Nunavummiut. It is expensive, and it pollutes our pristine environment. One of the issues that the Ikuma II Working Group struggled with was determining exactly how much Mr. Speaker, how much did it cost the Government of

Nunavut to procure, transport and distribute petroleum products within Nunavut, and the impacts that this has had on the cost of generation and Mr. Speaker, the distribution of power. The Working Group identified many areas where there was duplication of similar functions between the Petroleum Products Division and our own Nunavut Power Corporation, and Mr. Speaker, areas where energy delivery services could be more efficient. The Working Group was concerned about the lack of a focused approach as well as towards the development of alternate and renewable energy sources.

Mr. Speaker, the recommendations of the Ikuma II Report, if accepted, will lead to the development of a new approach to the delivery of energy services for all of Nunavut. The new structure will be able to clearly identify the true cost of the energy supply in Nunavut and it will be able to facilitate the development of alternative alternate energy sources leading to increased Nunavut self-reliance.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to thorough discussion of the Ikuma II Report with my colleagues in this Assembly after the tabling. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister Kilabuk.

Minister's Statement 040 – 1(6): School Formula Funding Review

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Good morning Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to make this announcement to my fellow Members of the Legislature and the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, over the past year, the Department of Education has been reviewing the funding for our schools. I would like to bring members up to date on our activities.

(interpretation ends) The School Formula Funding Review is now complete. The task has been a complex one as there were many variables that had to be taken into consideration. The formula goes beyond just the funding of teachers in our classrooms. It provides supports for students with special needs and for Inuit culture and language programs.

Mr. Speaker, this is a discussion paper and a planning document, not a guarantee of funding. I believe it is important that all parties be able to see the results of our study, comment on them, and have a clear idea of where we want to go.

However, I am delighted that the new budget already contains some provisions that address needs identified in the study. Those include additional funding for schools to meet the population growth and increased support for DEAs.

I will be using the school funding review and the responses to it as the base for preparing budget proposals over the next several years. Fiscal realities Mr. Speaker, means that this will likely be a multi-year process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Ministers' Statements. Premier Okalik.

Minister's Statement 041 – 1(6): Provision of Jury Summons in Inuktitut

Hon. Paul Okalik: Ma'na, Uqaqti. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise that the production of the summons to jurors, including instructions, is presently prepared electronically using the voters' list for the community in which the jury trial is being held.

The jury summons is produced in Inuktitut, English, and French except for the community name, court location within the community i.e. Community Hall, and the date and time the trial is to be held. The name of the person summoned is in English.

(interpretation) I will be tabling today at the appropriate time a copy of the present jury summons and instructions for your information. I am also pleased to advise that my department has updated the jury summons to include the Inuktitut translation for the person's name, community, court location within the community i.e. Community Hall, as well as the date and time the trial is to be held.

I would like to thank the Member from Tunnuniq, Mr. Nutarak, for bringing this matter to my attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Minister's Statement 042 – 1(6): Addictions and Mental Health Strategy

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I am pleased to announce that today I will be tabling the Nunavut Addictions and Mental Health Strategy. Mr. Speaker, this 2.295 million dollar strategy will enable my department to take a more active role in addressing the troubling and often tragic burden of addictions and mental health in the Nunavut.

The strategy addresses issues such as mental health, mental illness, addictions, trauma, suicide prevention and violence. It was developed from what we have repeatedly heard from people in the communities along with wide consultation and community studies done over the past decade; especially Mr. Speaker, in the last three years. It speaks to everything from helping perfectly healthy people to learn more about addictions and mental health, to services for people with very serious, very serious mental health and addictions issues.

Mr. Speaker, two key aspects of the strategy concern the development of support to community networks and the enhancement of educational and supervisory support to

Inuit staff. This will ensure that Inuit, with their understanding of cultural and Inuit values, are prominent in the planning and delivery of these essential services.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, even though we have named this the Addictions and Mental Health Strategy, what we will address in this strategy is the people's well-being, with an emphasis on helping people, Mr. Speaker helping people, before their problems become too great. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Ministers' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

Minister's Statement 043 – 1(6): Children First Secretariat

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Mr Speaker, I am pleased to present to my fellow members of the legislature and to the people of Nunavut a newsletter which I will be tabling from the Children First Secretariat. This newsletter highlights the cooperation of the Departments of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Justice, Health and Social Services, and Education focusing on the children of Nunavut.

The newly evolved vision of the Secretariat is that, "The children of Nunavut have the right to live in and contribute to safe, healthy, and supportive communities with hope, purpose and meaning". This is an important milestone in the continuing development of the Government of Nunavut's "Children's Agenda".

Mr. Speaker, the Children First Secretariat is an action oriented, inter-departmental committee designed to facilitate the coordination and development of programs and services for children and their families across Nunavut. This newsletter outlines how important this initiative is in moving forward to benefit the people of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Ministers' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Iqittuq.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 156 – 1(6): Suicide in Nunavut

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give some information to the members in the House since today is our last day. This is about suicide in Nunavut. Something has to be done to resolve this problem, not just by the government departments but by everyone concerned.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to talk about, whenever we have a meeting we try to represent our people. For example, we have been dealing with the bad gasoline in this

House and its impacts on the people of Nunavut. It has an impact on all of the Members of the Legislative Assembly as well.

As well Mr. Speaker, during the session of the Legislative Assembly, we talked about reviewing the main estimates and questioning the ministers. We have been doing that. For instance we dealt with Human Resources but we did not complete it. We question the ministers because we want to make sure that all the things that are done for Nunavummiut are done in the right way.

The hunters out there, wherever they might be, if they have not come back within a few days we all know there may be something wrong with them and we start to worry and someone will have to go out there to search for them. It happens everywhere in Nunavut. There are a lot of people that go out to search for those that are lost. Before something happens to them we try to give them emergency assistance if they are having a problem.

Something tragic could happen to them if we didn't go out there to search for them. Those are just examples Mr. Speaker, that we have to deal with day to day in Nunavut.

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

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Premier. I was using those as an example of why we have to work hard to represent all the people of Nunavut. I also know that in my community there were hunters that were lost out on the land, and we expend millions of dollars to try and search for people that are lost out on the land. There is an agreement between the federal government search and rescue people, or the airforce planes that have to go out and search for lost people.

These are just some examples that we have been working hard towards. But what I have been passionate about in the past few years is the people that commit suicide; because all lives are equal and precious. I rise today to provide information to people.

From 1999 to now there have been over 79 suicides that have occurred and that was just to May 15. Perhaps there are more than 79 since yesterday. Those are the types of things that should be looked into and try to create some programs for people that may have thought about committing suicide.

Mr. Speaker, I will be tabling this information in this House today at an appropriate time. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement 157 – 1(6): Gjoa Haven Co-op Warehouse Burned Down by Children

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This statement is a follow up to one I made last week and to clarify it. I rise today in support of my constituents in Gjoa Haven. Mr. Speaker, on Monday May 13, the warehouse for the Co-op burned down.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to encourage my constituents to work together with one and other during this difficult time. There is no limit to what a community can accomplish when they work together for a common goal.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the Government of Nunavut to provide all possible assistance to ensure that food and other necessities continue to flow into the community and to work with the Co-op in whatever way possible to ensure that a new warehouse or alternate storage facility is in place for the annual sealift.

Mr. Speaker, the RCMP found the people that set the fire and they are children. It is not acceptable that youth crime is on the rise. It is not acceptable that we as parents, as a community, as a government, continue to watch this happen without doing a thing.

Mr. Speaker, it is the responsibility of the entire community to ensure that children are given opportunities to grow into adults that contribute to Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, it is our responsibility to keep children out of trouble that is why the government must take every opportunity to invest in our children. I am not just talking about money, but about our time and commitment. When we spend time with our children we show them how important they are.

Mr. Speaker, I am just about done. I am seeking unanimous consent to conclude. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statements. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, colleagues and Mr. Premier. I stated earlier that we need to spend more quality time with our children and show them how important they are both to our future and our hearts.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that as a government we can show the children and the youth how important they are to the future of Nunavut. We can accomplish this by creating programs that encourage youth to pursue excellence, whether it is academic, sports or art. This includes recreation and outreach programs targeted at the enthusiasm and energy of youth.

Mr. Speaker, our youth are an untapped underutilized resource in our territory and as such I strongly urge all government departments to work together to institute programs

aimed at providing opportunities for youth to play together, work together and to be mentored by all community members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 158 – 1(6): Contamination of Country Food

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the fact that my colleagues here and other Inuit today still eat a lot of country food - marine mammals, fish and land mammals. We all know about how important they are to our diet and that they are affected by the pollution coming into Nunavut and this has an effect on our people's health as well.

Mr. Speaker, there is pollution brought north from vast distances throughout the world through the air and, according to what I have heard, through the marine channels and our wildlife can be affected.

Mr. Speaker, our wildlife can be affected by pollution which we depend on for our sustenance as Nunavummiut. Our wildlife is being polluted to a point where we do not know the consequences. The government has to work together to protect our wildlife and our environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 159 – 1(6): Visit of the Governor General to Kugluktuk

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform members that the Governor General visited Kugluktuk and it was an honour to have accompanied her.

We went to the schools and had a celebratory feast with the people of Kugluktuk at the community hall. The Governor General and her husband were very happy to be in Kugluktuk and they enjoyed the festivities in our community.

I need to stress for those volunteers in Kugluktuk, I thank them very much for putting a big effort into making the Governor General very welcome. We thank them very much. Today may be our last day in session, if all the members are going to be flying, then fly safely. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

Member's Statement 160 – 1(6): Recognition of Student Exchange Trip to Pangnirtung

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize twelve students in Pangnirtung who will be going to Grand Menan Island in New Brunswick on June 7. They will be down there for ten days with their teachers Denisa Dixon and Debra Price.

These students are participating in a student exchange and the students who visited from the south from May 2-10 experienced fishing and dog team rides to the Arctic Circle and they were able to go on numerous skidoo rides. On the student exchange to New Brunswick are; Rosaline Akulujuk, Anita Evic, Annie Nakasuk, Shelley Qarpik, Martha Veevee, Nancy Sokoolaaq, Alex Kilabuk, Dean Qaqasiq, Joshua Kakkik, Janice Kugluguktuk, Paulette Metuq and Debbie Dialla.

I hope they have a great time on their trip. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 161 – 1(6): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Preparation in the GN

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I often struggle to represent my constituents because I want to see economic development in my constituency, especially in communities where departments haven't been decentralized. I strive for economic development which supports our constituents either through outpost camps, sports fisheries or tourism. There are other areas that I would like to see improvements in housing, fuel re-supply, highway development and so on.

These are things the Inuit of Nunavut want to see being developed in their communities. When we are dealing with the budget we have to start thinking about what the communities need, we have to consider the priorities of the communities. Because we often deal with the departments first and their development, but we have to think about what our communities need to meet the challenges they are facing. We have to prioritize our own communities and I believe that they should be first when we are debating future allocations.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say a few things that I want indelibly etched in the bureaucracy's mentality...(interpretation ends)...I would like to make a short statement about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit that the government in its next estimates preparation will have to remember. This was told to me by an elder in Pond Inlet, Elisapee Ootovak, and I quote. "You don't have to be old to be an elder. You just have to earn, and I stress earn, the title." Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Ms. Williams.

Member's Statement 162 – 1(6): Anglican Ministers Conference in Rankin Inlet

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a conference of the synod that will be held in Rankin Inlet. The Anglican Church will be meeting in Rankin Inlet to select a bishop during their conference in Rankin.

I would just like to say that at present, we have two Inuit bishops and how much I respect them for the work that they do helping and assisting their congregation and the other work that they do. Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues to join me in wishing the Anglican ministers a good stay in Rankin and to encourage them since they are going to be electing a new bishop we will have to pray for them to elect an individual who is the most appropriate for the job. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 163 – 1(6): Support Small Businesses

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the main estimates in front of us today. During our session it was good to see the work that is being done. As the Government of Nunavut, I want to state that in the communities there are different job opportunities and I would like the government to support businesses in smaller communities so that these companies and communities can develop and build their capacity.

The contracts that are put out, some of them will be large contracts and we will be aware of who is getting these contracts. So I want to encourage the government to support the smaller businesses and the businesses that are trying to grow in small communities that have not benefited from decentralization by granting them some portion of these contracts. We have to support those communities because private businesses provide jobs to Inuit when contracts are awarded to communities. So I just wanted to point this out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 164 – 1(6): Wearing the Same Clothing

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I live in a community where there is decentralization but we still lack jobs, just to inform my colleague here. Once the positions have been filled, they remain that way.

Since today is the last day we have a dress code and when we come into the House we have to wear a tie or traditional outfits. When we come into the Legislative Assembly we have to change into a suit, so I will be wearing the same clothes tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 165 – 1(6): Baker Lake Art Collection

Mr. McLean: Ma'na, Uqaqti. Uqaqti, I really appreciate my surroundings. Not everyone is so lucky to work in such a beautiful building surrounded by such beautiful works of art. I would like to thank the Inuit Heritage Centre in Baker Lake and the Art Gallery of Ontario for organizing the Baker Lake collection that has been showcased in the Hall during the session.

Mr. Speaker, I ask members to bear with me as I recognize each carver represented by this collection: Silas Aittauq, William Anautalik, Joseph Angatajuak, Mathew Aqigaaq, Yvonne Kanayuk Arnakyuinak, Barnabas Arnasungnaaq, Luke Iksiktaaryuk, David Ikuutaq, Janet Nipi Ikuutaq, Tuna Iqulik, Francis Iyago, Francis Kaluraq, John Kavik, Dominic Kingilik, Rosa Kingilik, Mathew Kunangnat, Marie Kuunnuaq, Vital Makpaaq, Eric Niuqtuq, Josiah Nuilaalik, Thomas Oovayuk, Nancy Pujirngnak, Tomas Qaqimat, Miriam Qiyuk, Peter Sevoga, Norman Singaqti, Tomas Sivuraq, George Tatanniq, Martha Tickiq, David Tiktaalaaq, Paul Toolooktook, Lucy Tikiq Tunguaq and Luke Tunguaq.

Mr. Speaker, I would especially like to thank Samuel and Esther Sarick for donating their collection out in the hallway and thank all those who support of the project to show this collection in our beautiful capital.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank John Quirke, the Clerk of the Assembly for ensuring that local arts and crafts...

>> *Applause*

...are purchased from all of Nunavut. I would like to draw your attention to the beautiful applique behind me. These are from the following Baker Lake artists: Irene Avalaaquaq, Naomie Ityi, Simona Scottie and Nancy Sevoga and they are all for sale. I would like to commend the Legislative Assembly for their support of all Nunavut artists and encourage the Assembly to continue showcasing art from all across this beautiful territory and from all the communities.

Mr. Speaker, this may be our last day and no I do not know Japanese, but Sayonara. Ma'na, Uqaqti.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 166 – 1(6): Keeping Arnaitok Centre Open

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to begin by wishing Mr. McLean a very big sayonara. Mr. Speaker, through the hard work of the youth wing of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and the youth worker Miali Coley, the QIA opened a new youth centre for Iqaluit with a regional, Mr. Speaker, as well as a local focus last week.

This will enhance the youth infrastructure already in place at the Arctic Winter Games facility on Apex Road. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Miali and QIA on this initiative. Mr. Speaker, for youth downtown to go to the Arctic Winter Games Youth Centre, it would cost ten dollars up and back, or return.

If parents had to send two or three kids, it could be thirty, forty, fifty dollars. Mr. Speaker, this is one of the reasons that many parents have requested to keep the old arena or Arnaitok Centre open. Our community is growing and without public transit it is very difficult and costly for residents to be able to commute to community facilities, such as the arena and youth facilities.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I wrote to the City Council about looking at the opportunities presented by the Arnaitok Centre and to reconsider closing the old arena. Mr. Speaker, I hope to meet with the City Council again on this opportunity for the new arena over the coming weeks as well as, Mr. Speaker, the opportunity that presents itself when we looked at the Arctic Winter Games and we had a form of public transit.

I believe Mr. Speaker, there may be an opportunity for public transit to facilitate some of the infrastructure that is lacking right now in the community of Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring that suggestion to the Council and work with them in the opportunity to present a possible public transit system for Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Akesuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to OQ 071 – 1(6): Contribution to Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Good morning. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make this return to an oral question 071 – 1(6) asked by Mr. Arvaluk on May 1, 2002.

The annual muskox hunt in Cambridge Bay has been very successful in the last several years. This project has provided employment opportunities for the harvesters and meat plant workers in Kitikmeot Foods. The product is in demand and shipped to various southern locations and across Nunavut. The handling and transportation of food must be carefully dealt with and certain rules and guidelines must be met. This is to ensure that food is safe for consumption.

The Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization, in consultation with Kitnuna, the equipment supplier, decided that the field camp and abattoir could not be improved to meet the Canadian Food Inspection Agencies' sanitation guidelines. This was a local community decision that I commend and support.

The Department of Sustainable Development, through the Nunavut Development Corporation will work with the Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization this upcoming fiscal year to ensure that the Canadian Food Inspection Agencies' sanitation guidelines are met for the March 2003 harvest. This work will also be conducted with other harvesters in Nunavut.

During fiscal year 2001-2002, Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization approached the department for funding of 15 thousand 495 dollars to purchase equipment for the harvest. With the decision to cancel the harvest the funding request was deferred and will be provided in fiscal year 2002-2003. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Kilabuk.

Return to OQ 058 – 1(6): Nunavut Arctic College Core Programs

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to an oral question asked by the Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo, regarding core funding programs of Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond that the Nunavut Arctic College delivers eight core funded certificate or diploma programs throughout Nunavut. These programs are delivered primarily for students from across Nunavut at the college's three main campuses. Each college campus hosts at least one base funded program as follows:

- Nunatta Campus in Iqaluit delivers Nunavut Teacher Education Program, Environmental Technology, Fine Arts and Language and Culture Programs;
- The Kivalliq Campus in Rankin Inlet delivers the Management Studies and Community Administration Programs;
- The Kitikmeot Campus in Cambridge Bay delivers the Social Work and Drug and Alcohol Counselling Programs

These programs are delivered annually at their host campuses but portions can be delivered periodically at other locations in response to regional and community needs and where third party funding permits. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Premier.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize and acknowledge the students from the RCMP Academy. Joana Jaco from Taloyoak; Alice Kavvik from Sanikiluaq and also from Baker Lake, Christina Nikaksik, Devon Kilulaq they are from Baker Lake. Also from Iqaluit Tyson Kalluk, Roseanne Qakasik. From Pond Inlet Bernard Maktak. From Grise Fiord Paul Akeeagok. From Igloodik Justin Mickie. From Cambridge Bay Robert Maksagak, and from Kugluktuk Leslie Harvey and lastly Daniel Kilabuk. Welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not very often I can stand to recognize people from my home community of Baker Lake, but it gives me great pride to recognize Christina Nikaksik and Devon Kilulaq from Baker Lake. But on the tail end of that Mr. Speaker, I want to applaud the RCMP in Nunavut for bringing young people from all over Nunavut and giving them a taste, not a taste, but giving them the experience of working in their communities to help police and to keep our communities a safer place.

I wish the Government of Nunavut would take note of that and hire some students in all of the communities of Nunavut and give them summer employment opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to recognize someone from Kugluktuk. As you have heard, the soldier that is in Afghanistan, his sister is here, Tommy Harvey is serving in Afghanistan and his sister is here, Leslie Harvey from Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has been recognition already of the cadet from Sanikiluaq. I would like to recognize Alice Kavvik my niece from Sanikiluaq and I would also like to recognize some of the people from Sanikiluaq.

Maybe I will give a little preamble before I introduce them. In the springtime this individual used to get very tanned. But when he was an MLA with the previous government in the spring he would be at the meetings so often that he would be the only one without a tan. I would like to recognize Mosesie Apakak.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have quite a lot of work to do this morning for a change. (interpretation) It is not often Mr. Speaker that we get to stand with such a force to back us up. I would like to recognize a constituent of mine from Pangnirtung who is taking part in this, Mr. Daniel Kilabuk. Welcome to the Gallery.

Also I would like to recognize another member from my riding, Johnny Mike, President of QC. Welcome to the Gallery. Also I wouldn't feel complete if I didn't thank our tireless interpreters that have stuck with us throughout the sitting. So I would like to recognize all of our interpreters and thank them for the wonderful job they have done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. I would also like to recognize an individual from Pond Inlet who is one of the cadets. Bernard Maktak who by the way is my wife's younger sister's son. Also another individual from Pond Inlet one of the elders from my community, Arnadkadlak is an individual that we always use as an advisor. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too would like to join my colleagues in recognizing an individual from Cambridge Bay who is here with the RCMP program, Robert Maksagak. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to welcome to the gallery a guy who has already been introduced. He has been working very diligently on the new hospital construction for the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut, through the auspices of the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation, Mr. Johnny Mike. And Johnny has assured

me that this year, this summer to the naysayers out there; there will be some work on the lot for the new hospital. So I would like to give a very warm welcome to Johnny Mike to the Legislative Assembly.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome to Mr. Kadluk from Iqaluit for the RCMP as well as Roseanne Kakasuk Vachon. Roseanne's father and I are very good friends, Guy Vachon, a well known Arctic Cat dealer and I wish Roseanne all the best in the RCMP. I know it is a tough role and like Mr. McLean said earlier, I think the RCMP deserves not only our support but our recognition for the work that they do in communities and here in Iqaluit.

I think sometimes people see the RCMP as, I wouldn't say the enemy, but someone to be wary of and when I was growing up my parents always told me that the RCMP or the police are always there to help you. That's always something that I have always told my kids and I believe that strongly so I would like to welcome the cadets and if you are successful in your RCMP endeavours and training you couldn't ask for a better career. So good luck and welcome to the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not very often that I recognize individuals because my riding is so far from here, but at this time I would like to recognize the cadet, first of all Paul J. Akeegok from Grise Fiord. If you would stand up please. His big brother is now in Regina at the Academy and I believe his little brother got envious and decided to join the force. He is the grandson of Mike Gardener.

The other one I would also like to recognize in the House is an artisan from Arctic Bay, Tyson Kadluk, from Arctic Bay. He is presently in Iqaluit doing the training. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize an individual from my riding. His father and I are very good friends because we are of the same age, Justin Mickie, who is sitting over there in the gallery. I would also like to recognize a person that used to be on the same board as I before I was elected as an MLA. This is not the first time that I have had a hard job; there were times when people were crying because we were working so hard. Mosesie Apakak and Johnny Mike. I would like to recognize those two, they have extremely hard jobs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize two individuals who are from Taloyoak, I am extremely proud of this individual Danny Jayko, if he would stand up please. Welcome to the Gallery. Also another individual that I would also like to recognize who has been extremely supportive of me and I wouldn't be doing as well if she wasn't around, Nee Porter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Rankin, or actually Jack's constituent, Paul Murphy is sitting over there. I worked with Paul; we were staffed under my husband Tom when we both worked under the Department of Education in the Keewatin Region. He was the Director of Finance around 1993 or 1994. And at this time since I am standing Mr. Speaker, I would like to say happy anniversary to my husband.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual from my community, actually there is nobody here, but I would like to say that we are very proud of the young people who are in the Academy m. When you are a young person everything is a burden when you are trying to get adjusted to life. I would like them to keep their determination and persevere in their goal to become full fledged RCMP.

It is extremely rewarding when you complete something that you are trying to do. So I would like to urge the cadets to keep going and to urge all of the young people of Nunavut and to tell them that they are loved by the people of Nunavut. They will be taking our place when they grow up. We were at that stage at one point when we were youth and if you persevere you can become anything. We didn't think that we would be sitting in the House as Members of the Legislative Assembly, but anything is possible when you have a goal and you achieve it in the best way you can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Is there any further Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery? Item 6. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 184 – 1(6): Subsidy for Hunters and Campers in Nunavut

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After my question to the Minister of Sustainable Development there was a return to my question. But it seems there is no response to the actual question that I raised. It was about the campers and the people that go out camping. It is an ongoing concern especially since September 11. Once again we are going to go out hunting or camping by boat.

My question to the Minister of Sustainable Development is whether there is going to be a subsidy to the people that are going out camping and if they do get subsidies once they become members of the Tourism Association. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you become a member of the Nunavut Tourism Association there would be subsidies because of the blanket insurance policy they are able to attain as an entity.

I would say yes to the member for Nanulik. There is a subsidy if you become a member of the Nunavut Tourism Association. That is for the outfitters out there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Just a reminder to the members that we have agreed to...we still have 30 minutes. Mr. Clerk. Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister didn't say how much the subsidy is. If it is possible I would like the minister to say the amount. Are you and I mean figuratively, as a government going to be informing the communities that there is a subsidy available to the outfitters in Nunavut? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I hope I have the whole 30 minutes of this show. (interpretation) I can't tell you the amount or the percentage of the subsidy but I could inform the member for Nanulik once I have the figures and also once the funding is approved as we have also increased the amount that is given to the Nunavut Tourism Association.

I am sure that it will be beneficial to the outfitters out there, but if it is not, we will review the matter. I could inform the member about the percentage of the subsidy today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How much does it cost to become a member of the Nunavut Tourism Association? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are different scales for the various types of businesses out there; there is a set amount of membership fees for individuals or businesses. There are different rates set and I don't have the figures in front of me, but there is a scale set for businesses or others, based on their ability to pay. There are different scales which I don't happen to have in front of me that outline the different fees if you want to become a member of the Nunavut Tourism Association. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister stated that they have to pay an annual fee following their policies or regulations. For the outfitters and especially the summer outfitting boaters, they only operate this side of their business for three months out of the year.

Can your department review this situation to see if it is possible for these outfitters to pay for only three months instead of an annual fee? Are you able to prorate it so they only pay for three months? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We could look into it, because of course the insurance fees are set by the insurers, but we could talk to the Nunavut Tourism Association about this matter because I think there are different rates set for boat operators.

There is a different fee for little boats and others like Peterheads. So we are looking into it closely and we will determine what we can do so that we can better assist the individuals out there in Nunavut. Thank you.

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

Question 185 – 1(6): Helping Children

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today in my Member's Statement I was talking about assistance for children. There are many children that do wrong things and we want to put a stop to it.

As I said earlier, the RCMP have found the youth who set the fire and I hope that we can put a stop to this type of vandalism. With that in mind, I will direct my question to the Minister responsible for Education.

He said this morning that priority will be given to children through the Children First Secretariat through the cooperation between the departments of Justice, Health and Social Services, Culture, Language, Elders and Youth and your own department.

I would like to ask the minister what his vision is for the communities, for example using Pangnirtung or Gjoa Haven, are you going to be getting employees outside of the DEAs that will be running the secretariat. Are you going to hire employees or how will you involve the children and the people at the community level? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said in my Minister's Statement, there is a person that deals with children and their mandate is children and youth to make sure that their place of residence or their home is safe and healthy.

In regards to the concern about having children prevented from causing vandalism, suicide or other problems for which they require assistance, the secretariat is to deal with children to help them and their families through pilot programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand the minister's response. We feel protective of our children and when they commit vandalism we feel like it's our fault and we start to blame ourselves especially when they are charged. We know that we have to make sure they are in a healthy community and that they are well fed.

My question Mr. Speaker is, that when the minister mentioned the Children First Secretariat, they must have some funding in place. I just wondered if the Secretariat will be travelling to communities or if they communities will be able to access funding for programs and services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In our operations and maintenance that was approved, the secretariat funding levels were identified...the committee that planned the Secretariat for children...will be in place and I would like to assure the member about this program and services although I don't have it with me at the moment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 186 – 1(6): Consultation Process of New Capital Estimates

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation. Mr. Speaker, as we all know in the fall we will be looking at new capital estimates and I would like to ask the minister what process will they use to consult with the City of Iqaluit, and the other communities

over the summer with respect to their capital needs for next year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We communicate with our communities quite often and as a department we are committed to community consultation and we will be beginning another round of capital consultations with our communities again, which will be happening very soon. Even though we are always consulting with our communities we have to start planning for the next capital projects.

So in the fall, before the fall we will be consulting with all the communities again in all the regions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's good to hear that the department is going to be consulting with the communities on their needs. I know over the past couple of years that has been something that all members in this House have raised as a concern.

Could the minister commit to including or letting members of the communities, MLAs of the communities either be given the option to be involved or be aware of when these meetings are going to take place and to attend them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that as a department we should let all members be aware of when our department is visiting their communities, whether it is policy consultations, fire training, whatever it is. So I will make a commitment in this House that MLAs are notified when my staff are going into the communities to consult with the City or the Hamlets in the territory. Yes we will do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister, I know that in the last couple of years the government came up with its five year capital plan as far as its priorities for capital. As a result of these consultations, that the minister and her department are going to be undertaking is there the possibility that any of those priorities or any of those items on the capital plan may change based on the communities priorities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Changes during the consultation process are always something that we try to do. We just have to work within the budget but that's part of the consultation. Where we can have flexibility with the communities within their targeted budget, we try to do that and that certainly is a commitment that we have made as a department; that if we can make changes to reflect their priorities, we will try to do that.

It's just a matter of how much money is going into their capital budgets. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's good to hear that, I think you know I just want to confirm that the minister is saying that basically the five year capital plan that was developed by the government is open to change based on a community deciding that its priorities are different than what is in the existing capital plan and they will have the option, within the resources allocated to the community to vary from the projects that are listed in the plan already. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Was that just a statement Mr. Tootoo? There was no question. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just asking if that was confirming in fact what the minister had indicated that communities will have the option to put forward their priorities and the projects that they would like to see go ahead, that may not be on the government's five year capital plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We do have a list of unfunded capital projects from each community already that don't fall within our targets and because the councils change and the mayors change every year in some cases, the priorities change within that community, and as a department we should be flexible with the communities through the consultation process.

There might be a change in the priorities of the previous council, but that is something as a department that we have committed to, we will try to work with the community and we should be working with the community to see where we can help them within their targeted budget. But we also have to address the regulatory issues such as health and safety in those communities.

But Mr. Speaker, through our consultations we already know what the wish lists are of each community. And with their five year capital plan as a department, we will be committed to consulting with the people in those communities and try to work with them on their priorities.

Sometimes it doesn't always work, but that is a commitment that I have made as a minister, that we will find flexibility where we can within the targeted budget for that community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Before we proceed I would like to recognize a former member of the Northwest Territories Assembly, a good friend of ours from the High Arctic, Mr. Ludy Pudluk. Welcome to the gallery Ludy.

>> *Applause*

Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 187 – 1(6): Employment and Training for Addictions and Mental Health Professions

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you for recognizing the individual from my constituency, Mr. Pudluk. My question Mr. Speaker, is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. This morning he made a Minister's Statement and it was very good to hear for the people of Nunavut in regards to the addictions and mental health strategy.

The minister said that he would be tabling the Nunavut addictions and mental health strategy which is in the amount of 2.995 million dollars and I will welcome the report that the minister will be tabling. I will look forward to reading that tabled document. My question to the minister is whether there would be different mental health workers for the communities and Iqaluit. By that I mean are there going to be Nunavut-wide, regional mental health workers who travel as needed or community workers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the member's question, the mental health strategy has been a long time coming for the Government of Nunavut, and I think it's a very important piece of the budget that was just recently passed for the Department of Health and Social Services.

The member's correct. In the mental health strategy, as the members will have an opportunity to look at, not only does it include infrastructure, the operation of a 24 hours a day, seven days a week psychiatric facility which will help with some of the mental illness problems that we have, but it also includes money to hire wellness counsellors in communities as well as the staffing of extra mental health specialists to deal with some of the issues surrounding suicide and so on.

So the answer to the member's question is yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My second question to the minister is, in regards to one of your stated goals such as networks, I would like to ask again so that a response will be heard as to exactly how the community workers will be trained and how is this strategy going to be placed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the mental health strategy is one of broad detail as well as focusing on several different issues and areas. For example, part of the mental health strategy that we tabled, that I will table later today, includes increases in funding to family violence shelters, increases to PYs, person years of employment, the hiring of new psychiatric nurses, mental health workers, wellness workers and counsellors, as well as Mr. Speaker, looking at the opportunity that presents itself within the strategy of involving more community activities and organizations.

So it deals with issues surrounding mental health, as well as addictions, it looks at the opportunity for the first time since the Parnaisivik closed down in Iqaluit, for the first time the opportunity for a detox program in Nunavut run by Nunavummiut. So the strategy is broad in its interpretation as well as the way to facilitate and bring the strategy forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate his candid reply which is comprehensible. I want to ask the minister, can we expect to see an addiction centre, or a mental health centre developed in Nunavut in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that we have heard across Nunavut in the past three years, since April 1, 1999, is that there are no resources anywhere in Nunavut to help patients with mental illness, especially patients with mental illness that are severe. We have no psychiatric facility in Nunavut and we have to send people south.

In some cases Mr. Speaker, it is a known fact that some people with mental illnesses have been incarcerated. Mr. Speaker, one of the main issues, planks in the platform in the mental health strategy is to develop a 24-7, 24 hours, seven day a week, mental health facility which will be based here in Iqaluit. Also Mr. Speaker, when the members get an opportunity to look at the strategy, next year, depending on how this program goes here, is to open a facility in the Kivalliq, a similar 24-7 psychiatric facility and then Mr. Speaker, in the Kitikmeot.

As well Mr. Speaker, to enhance counselling services at the community level in all communities in Nunavut as well as the extra staffing of psychiatric nurses. I would suggest to you Mr. Speaker, that one of the downfalls, or one of the shortcomings of the Health and Social Services network has been the lack of a coordinated mental health strategy.

I believe Mr. Speaker, that we have made the first step with this strategy. I look forward to suggestions and comments, not only from the members, but from the communities, the community health committees, where the strategy will be released.

Again, Mr. Speaker, this is the work of ten years of studies from communities across Nunavut as well in the last three years input of community health committees as well as comments made in this Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate his response. My last question to the minister is, we talk about prevention and he had stated there is going to be a focus on prevention. This idea to help addicted individuals is a very good idea and I am wondering if the minister has an idea of how much money would be spent on prevention. Does he have any idea? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the mental health strategy there is prevention and promotion as well as community development. That ties into self help programs and services and community based programs and services. So those three specific areas, there are dollar figures attached and it's about 1 million dollars in total that would be dedicated to those services that the member spoke about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 188 – 1(6): Insurance for Students During Land Trips

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Education. Some students during the school year are taken out on the land and in fairly large numbers in the spring especially. If there were an incident where a student got injured, what process would be followed? Let's say that they broke a leg or arm, is there compensation available for students? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Presently when students are taken out on the land, once the principal agrees to a place where the students would be taken out there is compensation available. For example, if a student got injured there is compensation available because there is now insurance available for these situations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister said there is insurance available. How long has this been available? Did this just come out recently or has it been there for a ten or twenty year period? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't really say as to the exact year when it was developed, but what I can say, is that today as long as the principal is in agreement that the students can go out, if a student is injured they can be insured.

This was raised previously in the House and this is something that we worked on for students that are taken out on the land. It was not available until we requested this type of coverage. The students who are taken out on the land have just recently been insured. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the 1970's, around 1971, if there was a student that was injured are they covered under this insurance? If students were taken out in 1971 is this retroactive or what? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the 1970's I am not sure what was in place then. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister stated that he is not aware of what the policy was back then. Can he look into whether the students were covered by insurance in the 1970's? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into this matter for the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 189 – 1(6): Number of Elders that Work for Health and Social Services

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding his statement and I read, two key aspects of the strategy concern the development of supports to community networks and the enhancement of education and supervisory support to Inuit staff. This will ensure that Inuit with their understanding of their cultural and Inuit values are prominent in the planning and delivery of services.

Mr. Speaker, my question today is how many elder Inuit staff do we have working for the Department of Health and Social Services to deal with mental health issues? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think Mr. Arvaluk made a good point this morning when he mentioned what the respected elder from Pond Inlet Elisapee Ootoova said, that you don't have to be old to be an elder.

Mr. Speaker, I don't have the number of people that are working as elders in the Department of Health and Social Services. But what I can suggest to the member is that at the addictions level as well as our wellness people that work for the Department of Health and Social Services in communities, 90% of them in all communities in Nunavut are Inuit.

The mental health workers that we have Mr. Speaker, the same number applies. So I would suggest to you Mr. Speaker, that the member is correct, the majority of the workers right now in the field strategically working especially on wellness as well as mental health issues, are Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's great to hear and I am sure if I asked the minister responsible he will give me a list of the elders that are employed by the Government of Nunavut in the mental health profession in Nunavut? Can the minister confirm that he could give me that list of elders working in the mental health area in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, well Mr. Speaker, again I just refer back to what Mr. Arvaluk said. I mean who defines what an elder is. I would suggest to you Mr. Speaker, that based on life experiences and so on, you are an elder. Is

an elder, does Mr. McLean want me to give him a list of people over the age of 50 who are Inuk?

I don't think that would be appropriate. What I can do for Mr. McLean, is make available a list of community based people that we have working in the area of addictions, of mental health and so on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the minister is making that list up of the 90% of Inuit in this profession in Health and Social Services, could he also include in that a list of the training that his department is going to do in the next few years to show that we are going to train more Inuit in the mental health strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think that Mr. McLean has raised a very important point and that point is that right now in the field, for example we have talked about it here in this House, how the reality therapy training that is going on and continues to go on in Clyde River, where we have trained unilingual Inuit to be counsellors.

Mr. Speaker, the wellness counsellors in every community, the hamlets receive money through community wellness money, they have the opportunity of hiring Inuktitut speaking only people to be counsellors.

Mr. Speaker, we continue with the training, the member is correct. One of the major components of the mental health strategy is training in the area of mental health counselling and so on. Not just for addictions but also for mental health and supporting suicide intervention, post-vention and prevention of suicide. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And could the minister confirm to give me a list of the elders that are volunteering in mental health in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I didn't quite catch that last question. Could the member repeat the question again? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. McLean could you repeat the question please?

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we all know that we have a lot of elders in all of our communities in Nunavut that volunteer many, many hours to help with

mental health issues. I wonder if the minister would make available to me and this House those volunteers that are out in all the communities doing hours of tireless work volunteering to help with the betterment of our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. McLean. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first of all, as the member knows, a lot of the counselling services that are delivered at the community level are done in confidence, in private. People know in the community who to go to for help and counselling services and so on. I don't think and I would have to check with the Minister of Justice, I don't think that under the current legislation that I can release names to Mr. McLean of people who are counselling, informally or formally at the community level.

But I will endeavour to check that the rules and regulations surrounding the request that Mr. McLean has made and I will endeavour to try and provide that information. But it would be quite a momentous task to try to say that I know or that my department knows every person who is providing counselling at the community level, elders or what have you.

And again, once I can define what an elder is, then I would be able to provide that. Maybe an elder could be someone who is 35, 40, 50. As Mr. Arvaluk said earlier who determines who an elder is? So with all that information that Mr. McLean has requested I will endeavour as the minister responsible to try and make it available, logistically, technically as well as administratively and expeditiously as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Question 190 – 1(6): Update on Water Treatment for Kugluktuk

Mr. Havioyak: Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. My question is for the Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation. In the year 2001-2002 there was a capital project underway which was called the water treatment plant for Kugluktuk. Can I get an update on that project? Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is he talking about the water supply line Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Havioyak. Point of clarification.

Mr. Havioyak: Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. There are two projects for the community; the water supply line that is one of the projects, the other project was the water treatment plant. Maybe I will just mention one of the things that they were doing. They were putting in a

water filtration into the plant and they were working on it this winter. I was just wondering when the project should be completed? Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Apparently there were three phases with the water treatment in Kugluktuk. I am not sure what the status is on those phases that were done but there were some consultations. The phase 3 was supposed to conclude the consultations on this issue and I would have to find out more about this project from my department, but I am told that the final completion and commission is anticipated for the summer of 2002.

So I believe that there will be some work happening according to what I have been told by my officials through my briefing notes, this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, but Mr. Speaker, I could get more information for the member through the regional offices and the Hamlet office in Kugluktuk on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Supplementary. Mr. Haviyak.

Mr. Haviyak: Koanaqtit, Uqaqti. They have been working on it all winter long. But as you know the water gets pretty muddy after the ice break up. The community would like to see the project completed before the ice breaks up. Could you work on it as soon as possible, the break up is usually about mid-June. For your information. Koanaqtit, Uqaqti.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The phase 3 activity was supposed to happen where the construction contract was being prepared in the spring which is now. The contract was anticipating the awarding of the contract, so I can only say Mr. Speaker, that there will be some work this summer on this project and that's what my staff has been working on.

So if there have been any changes, my regional staff in Cambridge Bay can contact the Hamlet of Kugluktuk and update them on this project. But yes we were committed to it and we still are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Haviyak.

Mr. Haviyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I appreciate the response from the minister. We would like to hear as soon as possible before the ice break-up in June. As you know the water gets pretty muddy.

When I talked to the mayor yesterday, they want to have this in place before the spring break-up and they would like the work done. But the question would be how soon would

this project be done, as they have been working on it since winter and perhaps before the ice starts to break up? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have already made a commitment that my regional staff will contact the Hamlet in Kugluktuk and they will be able to communicate better if they have the substantiation sheets at their fingers, well, they have the substantiation sheets and the details at their fingertips at the regional office.

So we will get the information to the mayor as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 191 – 1(6): Ruled Out of Order

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, I apologize to you ahead of time if I make a mistake. Correct me if I am wrong. The Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation I apologize ahead of time should I make an error so I apologize to you ahead of time.

In regards to the bad gasoline, the Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation was the previous Minister responsible for Public Works and Services. So therefore, I will be asking the question, since she was a recent Minister for Public Works and Services. When she held that portfolio she used to say that the bad gasoline was up to standards.

I was wondering if she is willing to apologize to the Nunavummiut for stating her position then based on the results now. If I make a mistake Mr. Speaker, I apologize ahead of time. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Iqaqrialu, you were right in the first place to apologize before you made the statement. You cannot question the Minister to a former portfolio. So I rule your question out of order.

Oral Questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 192 – 1(6): Contaminated Country Food: Health Prevention for Nunavummiut

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to a statement that was made earlier, I would like to ask the Premier, for approximately twenty years we have heard that the wildlife and Inuit people have had diseases, especially life threatening diseases.

I believe that the Inuit people and the wildlife are getting sick from the contaminated food that they eat. So I was wondering what the Premier is doing to allay the concerns of the people of Nunavut as it relates to the unknown dangers of this pollution. Thank you.

Speaker: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will pass this on to the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services because he knows more about the health of the people. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member is correct. The people, especially people, seem to be not as well as in the past. Mr. Speaker, there are several factors for that. Over the past couple of years more people have become accustomed to a sedentary lifestyle. What that means is that we are not as active and we are eating more processed foods from stores and so on.

Mr. Speaker, we are seeing increases as the member rightly point out, in diabetes, we are seeing increases in cardiology, heart disease and so on. Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons for this is that the store bought foods that we are buying aren't as healthy as country food. That has been proven and demonstrated over the past several years in Nunavut.

The other issue Mr. Speaker, on animals, I am not aware of the issues around animals, I wouldn't be able to speak to some of the concerns with those areas there. But what I can say Mr. Speaker, with some authority, that airborne contaminants such as POPs have been demonstrated to be in our environment, in our water, on our land and as a result would be found in the food supply.

However, Mr. Speaker, in all regards from the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, from ITC, ITK and so on, everyone has determined that it is better to continue to eat country foods because they are more nutritious for you, even with some of the toxins that we have heard about.

I should also add Mr. Speaker, that there are ongoing tests for toxins in food as well as country food, and I would suggest and recommend that we continue to eat traditional foods. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his response. In regards to the wildlife species we have been noticing greater numbers of wildlife with more cases of illnesses and diseases and the Inuit know that these are not just isolate cases.

I was wondering if the department is looking for options and how we can deal with the illnesses of Inuit people and also the wildlife. I was wondering if he has also looked at the options for that. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A couple things have taken place, as the member is aware, Mr. Speaker, in the member's own home communities, in cooperation with Canada Post, the Government of Nunavut has introduced through the food mail program, a discount so that more healthy foods could go into Kugaaruk. Because of that program we would be able to see after several months if people are having an uptake on more nutritious foods. For example, apples, oranges and so on.

That's one thing that the Government of Nunavut is doing. The second thing that we are doing Mr. Speaker, is through our Nunavut Food Guide, which we just introduced, which outlines healthy food for Inuit, as well as for other residents of Nunavut. That food guide points out the healthy food combinations and that's something that we are doing.

On animals Mr. Speaker, that would be better probably answered by Mr. Akasuk, who is responsible for the environment as well as for wildlife. I believe that under Sustainable Development there may be some issues surrounding some of the diseases that are seen in animals, like brucellosis, and so on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes there are POPs contaminating our communities and also the smoke from the dump is also contaminating our air. Even our small children are breathing this smoke. So how are you reviewing the pollution that is in the air, especially the pollution that is coming from the dumps? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this has been an ongoing debate, especially here in Iqaluit. One of the things that I have just this week, as the Department of Health and Social Services in reviewing the Health Act, to see if there is an opportunity there Mr. Speaker, to look at the ending of open burning at dumps. Now this would bring with it a huge financial implication to communities.

But the idea may be to look at stopping the open burning at dumps in Nunavut and target it at communities over three thousand people or something like that and set a timeframe for it to see if we could bring forward some of those issues. So we are studying the possible legislation, I am hoping to have something probably by the fall, in discussion with my cabinet colleague. But very quickly Mr. Speaker, POPs are evident when you burn plastic in dumps and we are looking into it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 193 – 1(6): Plans for Suicide Prevention

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was a little worried that we were going to run out of time before my turn came. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Premier. We all know that the issue of suicide is extremely huge. Has his department made any plans in regards to suicide prevention? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue of suicide and suicide prevention is the responsibility of Health and Social Services. We are going to increase the funding for suicide prevention and look at how we are going to deal with this issue and try to find out the reasons why people commit suicide.

We will be having inquests to find out the reasons why people commit suicide and I think that's the best way to go about it. We can only do an inquest after we receive permission from the immediate family members. We are starting to look into it, it's very sad but suicides are committed almost on a daily basis and the number is just too huge. We are trying to do something about it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I am asking this question is because, as I said earlier, I will be tabling a document which gives you the statistics on the number of suicides that have been committed since Nunavut was created. They are statistics starting from the 1980's and there has been a huge increase since the 1980's to now. There are a huge number of suicides every year. This is just to give you a figure and it's also a wake up call to the government. The statistics have never been tabled in the House, and I am very well aware that when there is a recent suicide, we tend to try and deal with it only after the fact.

I have lost older brothers who have committed suicide and only after the suicide is completed do we try to do something about it. From that and based on experience I know that I am not the only one who is affected by suicides. I would like to ask the Premier, because completed suicides in Iqaluit are in large numbers, if I table this document would it be a wake up call to the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been dealing with this on an ongoing basis. We do want to completely eradicate suicide, but that's impossible. We will be increasing the amount of money that will be used for suicide and

suicide prevention. Life is very precious as we all know but there are suicides being completed and we do want to eradicate it, and because we want to do something about it we are increasing the funding.

We are trying to look at how we can better prevent suicide. I have lost family members to suicide as well; it has had a personal affect on me also. We do want to do something about it, but we can't do anything about it. We are looking at it, we are asking questions, we are looking at other solutions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am well aware about the Premier's comments and it seems it is something that we can't do anything about. But I can use an example, we are trying to do something about prevention, we have worked together as a government to look at solutions. I can use the example of the bad gasoline, we are all working together to find solutions for it and it's the same thing with suicide, we have to work together to find solutions.

I know that we won't totally eradicate it, but we have to work on it in order to alleviate the problems. Like I said earlier in the House, I suggested that there be a conference of survivors and immediate family members of those who have lost loved ones to suicide to talk about the problem. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been urging the Department of Health and Social Services to work harder on it and that's why we have put more money in there. I can't tell you exactly what is going to be happening this year, but the minister will be available to respond to your questions. We are doing all we can, and we will support this department to work on it. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Final supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased with the responses and the minister saying that they will do something about it. I wish we could find the solution and put as much energy into it as we are putting in to the bad gasoline issue.

At our October sitting I hope to see some solutions and programs to deal with suicide and suicide prevention. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, and we have approved the estimates, there is an increase in the figure and we will be working on

it. I am sure we can give more details in the October sitting. We are working on it and we would more than welcome additional support from out there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Premier. Members will note that question period is now over. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to extend question period for another half hour as today is our last day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to extend the question period for one half hour. Are there any nays? There were nays. Mr. Iqaqrialu, there were some nays and therefore question period will not be extended.

There were nays Mr. Iqaqrialu, from this side of the House. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to get approval from the members to go back to Item 5. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member is seeking consent to go back to Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Ms. Williams.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for calling you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize, I could say our ally I guess, she works with Correctional Services of Canada and I had a wonderful time working with her when we were doing the agreements for correction services of Canada. Her name is Sandra Lewis Dent-Otter, sitting over there. She works in Ontario region where our inmates currently serve and she works with aboriginal issues for federal inmates.

She is a very good person for our people that are serving down in Ontario, and she has a very good understanding and I would like to welcome Sandra. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Returning to the 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. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 026 – 1(6): Report on Suicide in Nunavut

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a document regarding the statistics on suicide in Nunavut. They start from April 1, 1999 to May 15, 2002. This report came from the Coroner's Office and it states that there have been over 75 suicides in Nunavut since April 1, 1999. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

Tabled Document 027 – 1(6): School Formula Funding Review

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document, School Formula Funding Review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tootoo.

Tabled Document 028 – 1(6): Report of the Public Meeting on the Nunavut Liquor Commissioner's Recommendations on Changes to the Liquor Act

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased today to be able to table a copy of the report on the public hearing on the Nunavut Liquor Commissions recommendations on changes to the Nunavut Liquor Act prepared by Eko Inuit Originals and commissioned by the City's Netsik Committee. Mr. Speaker, it is a report on the public hearing and it is not a position of the City, it is a report on the public hearing. I would like to table it so all members can take it home, have a look at it and maybe use some of the recommendations there in their consulting or some of the ideas in their consulting in their communities on those changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Picco.

Tabled Document 029 – 1(6): Ikuma II Report: Meeting Nunavut's Energy Needs – Structures and Strategies for Energy Self-Reliance

Tabled Document 030 – 1(6): Nunavut's Addiction and Mental Health Strategy

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have two documents to table today. The first document is the Ikuma II Report: Meeting Nunavut's Energy Needs. Now Mr. Speaker, this is on structures as well as strategies for Nunavut's energy self-reliance and it is in Inuktitut and English. That's the first document.

Mr. Speaker, the second document that I would like to table at this time is the Nunavut Addictions and Mental Health Strategy that we discussed earlier in the Minister's Statement from yours truly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Just a second Mr. Picco, we will have one of the pages to pick up one of the documents to record them. Tabling of Documents. Minister Akesuk.

Tabled Document 031 – 1(6): Nunavut Tourism Corporate Business Plans for 2002-2003

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the Nunavut Tourism Corporate Business Plan for 2002-2003. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Tabled Document 032 – 1(6): Provision of Jury Summons in Inuktitut

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to table a document regarding court interpreters and it is in Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Kilabuk.

Tabled Document 033 – 1(6): Children First Secretariat

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been standing up ten times today. I would like to table a document that was questioned by one of the members in regards to the Children First Secretariat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Are there any further tabling of documents? If not we will move on to item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 14: Notices of Motions**Motion 08 – 1(6): Extended Adjournment – Notice**

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): I give notice that on Monday, May 21, I will move the following motion. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that notwithstanding Rule 4, that when the House concludes its sitting in Iqaluit this week it shall be adjourned until October 28, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

Speaker: Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you.

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

Motion 08 – 1(6): Extended Adjournment

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you colleagues. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that notwithstanding Rule 4, that when the House concludes its sitting in Iqaluit this week it shall be adjourned until October 28, 2002, and further, that at any time prior to October 28, 2002, if the Speaker is satisfied, after consultation with the Executive Council and Members of the Legislative Assembly, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, the Speaker may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and shall transact its business as it has been duly adjourned to that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Item 16. Motions. 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, Bill 6, Bill 7, Bill 9.

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. Puqignak in the Chair. Before we proceed to Committee of the Whole we will take a short break and report back to the Chamber at 1.30 p.m. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>House recessed at 12.22 a.m. and resumed at 1.34 p.m.

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

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. What is the wish of the committee? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee wishes to continue with the review of Bill 6 and the main estimates, starting with the Department of Human Resources followed by the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Legislative Assembly.

(interpretation) And if we can complete Legislative Assembly, we would like to move on to Bill 9 as well as Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. Minister Kilabuk. I would like you to go down the witness table and as well as your officials for today. Sergeant-At-Arms.

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Yesterday you introduced the officials who were with you, perhaps if you could, since today's a new day, please introduce your officials again Mr. Minister.

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Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is my Deputy Minister Carmen Levi and Marion Love, who will be with me today. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Welcome. Yesterday we were on page 4-13. Labour Relations. Human Resources. Branch Summary. Total Operations and Maintenance 1 million 251 thousand dollars. Are you agreed? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, just on the contract services on that page and there were a lot of questions asked yesterday. I don't recall if it was asked yesterday or not. But can the minister indicate why there's over a 180 thousand dollar increase in that area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The increase of 180 thousand dollars is for the increased cost of arbitration, legal services, and negotiations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you have any more Mr. Tootoo? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I can also see on here under purchased services, apart from the norm, a significant drop in purchased services. Can the minister indicate what resulted in the over 50% reduction in purchased services? What it was and is it something that the department is now doing instead of purchasing those services from somewhere else? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reduction of 65 thousand dollars is caused by the reduced number of publications of the FNT Agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It says right here the reduced cost or reduced number of publications for FNT or something. That is all that I heard and I would just like to get more of an explanation on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, the reduction of 65 thousand dollars is caused by the reduced number of publications of the FNT Agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, is it significant that they're producing less copies of the Collective Agreement between the government and Federation of Nunavut Teachers? If that is the reason why, how come they're producing less? Are there fewer teachers out there or why do we need to produce fewer copies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not that teachers are declining in numbers but what we are doing now is using more e-mail and websites and the CD-ROM in the computers to give out information. So that's why there's a decrease in number in that portion of the purchased services. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on that page. Human Resources. Branch Summary. Operations and maintenance 1 million 261 thousand dollars. Are you agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation) Opposed? Carried. Page 4-14, Human Resources. Branch Summary. Decentralization. Total Operations and Maintenance, 1 million 799 thousand dollars. Are you agreed? Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you. Last year on page 4-14, they used 500 thousand dollars. Why is it not there anymore under grants and contributions? Last year there was 500 thousand dollars. There's nothing this year. Why is that?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): During decentralization, this 500 thousand, we had some training at that time in 2001/2002 delivered via Arctic College, and this year there won't be any programs because we have already done the training. That is why there is nothing in this area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you. I want to get a clarification on removals and housing. Why is there removal and housing there from last year?

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my Deputy Minister Carmen Levi to respond to the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Deputy Minister, Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The money that we give to the Housing Corporation is for staff housing for the decentralized communities. It is for employees who are moving to the eleven decentralized communities and this applies whether they have their own house or not in the community that they are being moved to. Most of the time these staff members usually have to get government staff housing and they have to be subsidized for the maintenance of their house. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your comments. I just wanted to find out what the situation was. When it says staffing services, removal and housing, you have given it to the Housing Corporation. I just wanted to comment on this, I don't have anything else on this right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): I didn't hear the question. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): I just want to get some clarification on this, what it means exactly. In Inuktitut it states something like...it also provides staffing services, initiation of removal, and housing. What does that mean exactly? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister, can you clarify that for the member?

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, if I understand the member's question correctly, it is for people that have to move from one community to another, for the removal of their personal effects. If it's not clear enough he can ask the question again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Do you understand that Mr. Alakannuark? Do you want more?

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Yes, I didn't really understand the Inuktitut part where it says to remove somebody out of their house. It seems like it is talking about firing staff, instead of moving them. That is the way that I understood it. It seems like you are ousting the individual out of their house, rather than moving them to another community. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps it could be a little bit clearer. I am sorry; I apologize for the translation. It has to do with removal of staff such as moving them to a different location from their place of hire. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, minister. We are on 4-14. Mr. Iqaqialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this has to do with...the one million seven hundred and ninety-nine thousand had to do with equipment or belongings. We are talking about decentralization.

Some decentralized communities when I listen to the radio; as one of the members stated this morning, in some communities there are no jobs. As I said this morning, when we are talking about decentralization, where do you get employees; from the community or from other communities? Because some of them say that there are not enough jobs in the communities even though they are decentralized. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just don't want to...I am sure whoever is hired in a decentralized community, maybe because they are in a most...they understand what is happening in a community.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister inform us where the majority of the staff is coming from? Are they hired from the community, or are you getting more people from other communities?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the vacancies that are out there we advertise throughout Nunavut. In any community that is decentralized, I can get my deputy minister to give more clarification on that process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The job ads that are put out in the papers are put out in all regions of Nunavut and open to all the people of Nunavut. If there are positions that are technical or require specific qualifications they are placed in the southern papers if they are vacant. If there is already staff present, especially if there is no one who's applied within the community, then they are moved from elsewhere. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Levi. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question was made clear by the previous answer, thank you for the response. Another question that I have is that Pond Inlet is a decentralized community as well as Baker Lake.

Who advertises for positions that are open in those communities? Is it the Baker Lake staff that advertises these positions, the Pond Inlet staff; or is it done centrally via your department? Thank you.

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

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The staff of the Human Resources offices in the regions are the ones responsible for the advertising. There are offices in Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay and Igloolik and they look after the positions in their respective regions.

And also in Iqaluit, we do the advertising for employment positions on behalf of all government departmental headquarters. The Department of Human Resources in the regions assist all departments in the hiring and advertising. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. Do I understand that when there are positions open only for the community of Pond Inlet, it's advertised elsewhere and not just in that community or is it that the selection committee is based elsewhere? I did not quite understand that last part. Thank you.

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

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Human Resources Office in Igloolik would be primarily responsible for advertising the position. If there was a teaching position and job opportunity when a job is going to go out, it's put out into the public in that community as well as other communities in Nunavut. It depends, the government staff are also made aware of positions they may be interested in, so most people everywhere get this information about these positions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the communities that she is mentioning, would that job advertisement be seen in public? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We're on 4-14. Human Resources. Decentralization. Total Operations and Maintenance 1 million 799 thousand dollars. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I'm just wondering if this amount that's budgeted for purchased services and transportation is also for removing people effected by decentralized positions and how many, can the minister indicate how many people again this year, that they plan on using this funding to relocate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Out of this amount EIA is probably better to respond to that question. They're responsible, or decentralization is, and I don't have the details in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Before I go on to Mr. Tootoo, I'd like to recognize the elders visiting in the gallery and their grandchild is getting married and unfortunately I'm not able to be there but I'd like to welcome them to the gallery.

>>Applause

Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there is also another elder sitting back here in the gallery; one of our interpreter's mothers, Ms. Rita Nashook. I'd like to welcome her to the gallery as well.

>>Applause

I apologize. I should have looked around the room but thank you Mr. Tootoo for recognizing her. Mr. Tootoo you can continue.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering how the department comes up with these numbers and if they're not sure, like the numbers of people that they're going to be moving or anything. How do they come up with the numbers and the funds they're going to need to be able to put these numbers in the budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In arriving at these figures, the figures from the previous year were used. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I know in the initial main estimates it is 2.29 million dollars and the revised estimates are 2.3 million dollars and this year it's 1.8 million dollars. Out of that 2.3 in the revised amount, is that actually what was spent last year or were there lapses in there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was informed that last year this amount was fully used. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, just taking a look at the numbers, one would assume that there are going to be less people moved around this year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at the decrease, from 2001/2002; the amount has been decreased about 500 thousand dollars. Essential positions won't be fewer but it's been decreased. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, also I note on here and taking a look at last year's number; the initial amount that was budgeted for compensation and benefits is 250 thousand dollars and it was revised up to 266 thousand dollars and this year they're asking for 250 thousand dollars. I was wondering if there are less PYs there than last year and how come in almost every other instance there's the same amount of PYs?

There have been increases due to changes in the collective agreement and that doesn't seem to be the case in this area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under compensation and benefits, there was an increase in salaries of 60 thousand dollars in the adjustments to any new adjustments it's referred to during that year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Don't those adjustments carry forward to this year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll get my deputy minister to respond. She is more informed about this.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of the staff do not move with the position and we expect that there will be fewer positions that have to be moved. When the position is being moved, not all staff members in those positions agree to move. Then the positions are filled in that community, in that decentralized community. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think I realize that but under the compensation and benefits for distribution, I would assume that those are for the compensation and benefits for the employees in a Human Resources position in that department.

I'm just wondering again why, if there hasn't been a decrease in PYs working in that division, how come the increases that were put in last year of 16 thousand dollars are carried forward into this year's main estimates or compensation and benefits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under decentralization, we're in the last stages of planning. This is just about completed and with that, I'd like to ask my deputy minister to elaborate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The decentralized communities are just about completed and with that fewer positions are being moved so the money that would be set for that line would decrease. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Maybe I'd just like to ask the minister, under the compensation and benefits, the money that's there, does that just cover the employees of the Department of Human Resources in that position? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This money would be used for decentralized positions, not just under Human Resources. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have a difficult time trying to understand that. I think that the positions that are in the decentralized communities would show up under the departments that are being decentralized to as a PY under that particular department. Here, we're supposed to be looking at just the Department of Human Resources and the positions that it has working in the Department of Human Resources. So I just wondered how many PYs that covers within the Department of Human Resources? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The 250 thousand dollars under compensations and benefits is geared towards positions that are being decentralized. For individuals that don't want to leave their positions. It wouldn't come from there.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How many PYs does the department have working in this division of the department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For decentralization, we don't have officials working under decentralization but we support the secretariat in our O and M. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So the minister's saying they don't have anyone in their department, any PYs in their department that this money under compensation and benefits for that division goes towards. Does it actually go to PYs in other departments? Is that what he's indicating? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. For compensation and benefits, it's a benefit that is made available to the employees that don't want to move to other communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So I guess what I'm getting and I still don't know that I understand; because the benefit is given to employees that don't want to move, is the money that is there, that 250 thousand dollars, it's not directed to any PYs that the department has working in that division. It is actually money that is allocated to positions effected by decentralization in other departments? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is correct. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How do they determine how much someone can get under something like that? Because there's just a pot there. How do they determine, how do they come up with that number of 250 thousand dollars? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have my Deputy Minister respond to that question. Ms. Levi.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi: (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Decentralization for 10 communities, if there were some staff that did not want to move into one of the 10 communities that have decentralization then they're given severance pay according to the amount of time they were employed.

So it is used for staff that are leaving and also for the staff that want to further their education, providing that individual wanted to get employment. For employees that are quitting because they don't want to move to another community; according to the length of their employment they're given severance pay. That's how it is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, so basically this 250 thousand dollars is education pay and severance pay. Is that what the minister and the staff are indicating? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to my deputy minister's response to the question, how they set the payment, the majority of this fund is used for the staff that don't want to move to another community and for staff that want to further their education, it is a lot less than what we use from here. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, given that explanation, I was just wondering if it wouldn't be more accurate to actually show those numbers under the department in which they fall under. If this isn't really a compensation and benefits expense to the Department of Human Resources, and it's actually related to PYs within other departments, I'd like to ask why it's not reflected in the department that it belongs to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our department is the contact department for all the other departments. We work on behalf of the other departments. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I can understand that they are the coordinator but what I'm saying is under normal accounting practises you have to show an expense where it's incurred. And this is an expense as a result of a PY in a certain department.

I'm just wondering why it's not being shown accurately so that we can see where that expense is actually coming from. If we wanted to have accurate main estimates, and I'm not blaming the minister on this, maybe it's something you could point out to the Finance Minister, if those expenses are being incurred by PYs from other departments, then that's where the expense should lie. It shouldn't lie within the Department of Human Resources because it's not an accurate reflection of where the money is spent and the expense is being generated from. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is certainly an area of interest that I can have discussions with the office of the Decentralization Secretariat and I will definitely let you know how those discussions go with them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am just wondering if he is going to be checking that out with not only the Decentralization Secretariat but with the Minister of Finance. Are these PYs and other numbers, if they are showing here are they also numbers that are shown in other departments as expenses or do they just show up once in the Human Resources? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In order to have the same level of understanding, under Compensation and Benefits there is nothing, because we are not paying for the other regional employees. Each region operates their own regional offices. Now I am confused. I apologize.

There are employees that are relocating. There are not many more staff that have to be relocated. We take care of the Compensation and Benefits and severance pay that comes from our department for all the other departments. We pay the severance pay from our department for all the other departments. That is why it is in this line item. There is no money paid to the employee. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. The clarification that I was seeking although I understand the answers to the question that I had, but I do have a small question. Last year it was 2 million 299 thousand in 2001/2002 and in the revised estimates 2 million 315 thousand.

There was a slight increase in the revised estimates and there was quite a decrease in the Main Estimates for this fiscal year. So I was wondering if you could clarify that? I do have an idea according to the responses that I heard. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes although I mentioned earlier on, if you could look at from 2001/2002 the figures 2 million 299 thousand, there was a slight increase on the revised estimates by 16 thousand dollars. They revised it with 16 thousand dollars because there was an increase to the salaries according to the collective agreement. And for the Main Estimates 2002/2003, 1 million 799 thousand dollars there is a reduction by 500 thousand dollars. We won't have to photocopy any new agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You were talking about some staff that don't want to move or relocate to another community, they quit their job, and we have to pay their severance pay. I was wondering for the communities that have decentralization, when the staff relocates to a community that is decentralized, when they quit, what would happen at that time? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say the reason for the 500 thousand dollars reduction this year is due to the reasons I gave earlier. It's the training that was provided to the employees who were going to be moving to the decentralized communities but for this year there is no training component for the people

who were moving to those communities. I don't think we have any problems at this time with decentralization.

Chairperson (interpretation): 4-14, Human Resources. Branch Summary. Decentralization. Total Operations and Maintenance 1 million 799 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Going back to 4-5, Human Resources. Program Summary. Details of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance 19 million 958 thousand dollars. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to non-decentralized communities and in order to create employment for the summer students and in order for it to go smoothly, is your department going to be writing a letter to the health centres and to the government offices so that they'll be aware that there's funding available for student summer employment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have already sent the information out to the communities and it is in the communities already. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 4-5, I have a question regarding the increase from the previous year. What new programs have you created with this increase? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To make it brief, there has been an increase in the number of employees and also in providing training for the staff. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else Ms. Williams?

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's going to be a program review done in the department. What new programs are going to be created because of this program review and what is going to be discontinued? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the program review, since we're still reviewing I can't tell the member at this time what is

going to be discontinued or kept. I would only be guessing at this point and I don't want to be guessing, but I can say that they are working on that at the moment. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you. That's understandable and my next question is how many consultants does the department currently have on contract and what is the amount?

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are current contracts that we have but I will have to get the information before I can give you a response.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else Ms. Williams?

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You had 2 million, 483 thousand dollars in the revised estimates for contract services and for this year you're looking at 3 million, 147 thousand dollars. How many consultants does that figure represent? You said there's 718 thousand dollars for fees and payments. How many consultants do you have on contract currently?

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the contracts and the number of consultants and how many there are, I will have our DM respond. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think you heard me. I believe that the largest amount for contracts we have are for the instructors at the Arctic College. For the actual details, I'll have my DM respond.

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

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Arctic College has the majority of this amount. But we do have contracts for other services and when we have to use professionals from universities, we contract them if we cannot find any sources up here in Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I have Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is about the smaller communities, and correct me if my impression of a smaller community is wrong;

the majority of the decentralized communities have a high population level. So if we're talking about a smaller community, what does the population level have to be in order to receive decentralization by government departments? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The government, for those essential services such as for example, the Department of Health and Social Services and the Wildlife Division and Policing, they don't look at the population figures when they are looking at communities to decentralize those positions. I do not think that there are any minimum population levels. I don't believe that we have a policy stating a specific number. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the decentralized communities, for example if a department went up to Pond Inlet, what would be the total removal cost of one employee that has to be moved from point A to point B? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the removal of an employee it would not only be the cost of the airfare, there would be the employee's family, the removal of his personal effects and it might up to a maximum of 50 thousand dollars to move an employee from point A to point B. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. 4-5, Human Resources. Program Summary. Details of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance 19 million 958 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. I would like to thank the Department of Human Resources Minister as we have been dealing with this department since yesterday. I would like to thank the Honourable Peter Kilabuk, his officials and your Deputy Minister, Ms. Levi. If you have any closing remarks, please go ahead. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my staff and our Deputy Minister, Carmen Levi and Marion Love and the employees who have been here. They have worked extremely hard to prepare for this and please feel free to talk to our department even outside of the House if you have any concerns with our department. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. At this time we will be dealing with Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Premier is in charge of this department. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here to present for review the 2002/2003 budget for the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Approval of this budget will allow the department to begin new initiatives as we continue to work as a government towards fulfilling our objectives outlined in the Bathurst Mandate.

Briefly, the role of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is to seek political direction, build consensus on policy issues within the government, to communicate that direction, to collect, analyze and provide information to government and to the public, and to provide coordination and leadership for the public service.

It is important to note that the Department has no capital expenditures.

The total budget for Operations and Maintenance for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs in 2002/2003 is 11.90 million dollars. This represents an increase of approximately 2.45 million dollars from the 2001/2002 budget.

This increase in funding is needed to implement many of the Department's new initiatives as well as to fund a number of responsibilities given to this department over the past 3 years. These include:

- Program Review. The Department has budgeted a one-time expenditure of 595 thousand for the review of all of the Government of Nunavut's Programs.
- Program Review will work towards program and service delivery reflecting the best use of resources as well as the broader goals and priorities of the Government of Nunavut. It will also help to coordinate the delivery of services between departments, with the goal of eliminating redundancy.
- This reflects the theme of Simplicity and Unity found in the Bathurst Mandate. Mr. Chairman, it is important to note that this review is a joint project between EIA and the Department of Finance.
- Communication. Communicating the direction of the government is vital to the ability of government to inform, listen to and respond to the public. An additional 310 thousand dollars has been allotted to enhance our ability to communicate Government of Nunavut issues, in Inuktitut, with Nunavummiut. This additional funding will allow the government to carry out new communication strategies, like providing regular radio broadcast information directly to communities.

- In response to the Auditor General's recommendation that "Internal audit and evaluation functions operate as fully as soon as possible," the Evaluation and Statistics division has been allotted an additional 265 thousand dollars. These new monies will allow the division to continue to deliver Government-wide evaluations similar to the recent Decentralization report.
- (interpretation) The Department shows an increase of 832 thousand dollars for existing salaries. This amount is reflective of the adjustments made to the pay grid, resulting from the new NEU contract negotiated and employees moving to higher steps.
- This government continues to work to raise its profile within Canada. The Department has allocated an additional 328 thousand dollars to support Intergovernmental Affairs. Mr. Chairman, this new allotment will allow the department to continue establishing effective working relations with the federal, provincial, and territorial governments. It will also allow the Department to prepare for the upcoming visit from Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, scheduled for later this year; we well as a visit from the Prime Minister and Governor General and other dignitaries in future years.
- This newly structured division within the Department is the government's voice in the circumpolar world. The division manages to the GN relationship with NTI and land claims bodies, provides funding to the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, represents the government on the Arctic Council and manages transportation-boundary dispute issues. This division receives a total of 764 thousand dollars of which 130 thousand dollars is new money. Mr. Chairman. These are the highlights of the Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs budget for 2002/2003.

I would be pleased to answer any questions or address the comments of my fellow MLAs. I recognise that the department is receiving significant new resources. Since April of 1999, we have regularly asked this department to take on new or additional responsibilities; the Ikuma Report, the Law Review Commission, additional intergovernmental responsibilities and program review.

As surpluses of the earlier years are no longer available, the actual costs of some of these activities need to be addressed. Thank you again for the opportunity to meet with you today and thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm now ready for questions. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We hardly ever speak English but I will be speaking English today. (interpretation ends) Thank you Mr. Premier. You may go to the witness table. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, would you please help the witnesses go with the Premier. Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Okalik, could you introduce your officials.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me are, you must know the person on my left, my deputy minister, Ann Crawford. On my right Deputy

Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, David Omilgoitok. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Welcome. We're going to be dealing with the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Mr. Tootoo, do you have any opening comments?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services has reviewed the budget estimates for the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs for the 2002/2003 fiscal year.

I am pleased to provide you with the committee's comments. The committee notes that the department's total budget of 11.09 million dollars has increased 2.4 million dollars, or 28 percent over the department's 2001/2002 main estimates.

This is a substantial increase for a department that delivers few programs and services directly to the public. Mr. Chairman, members recognise the role that the department plays as a central agency for the government.

Last year, members raised a number of concerns during the review of the department's 2001/2002 estimates. I would like to take a moment to make some comments regarding progress and performance in these areas.

The Standing Committee continues to urge that the department to impress upon all entities the need to fulfil their statutory tabling requirements. As members are aware, there are a significant number of annual reports and other documents that are required by law to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

A considerable number of these requirements are not being fulfilled in a timely manner and Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs must fulfill its business plan goal in providing leadership and coordination in this area.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee has previously made a number of recommendations in this House on the need for this government to begin producing annual performance reports that measure not only activities and expenditures, but also outcomes and results.

Members would note that this recommendation has recently been echoed in the decentralization evaluation that was tabled last week. Members would also note that one of the department's stated goals is measurable progress in all departments.

Mr. Chairman, the committee noted with interest in the budget address, the budget address commitment to increasing funding in the amount of 310 thousand dollars to improve communications in communities. Members would again emphasise the need for more attention to be paid to using community radio as a means of communication. Members stress the need for written communications in Inuktitut and Innuinaqtut to be as

clear and intelligible as possible. Members would also reinforce the need for communication flow in both directions between the government and the citizens. Mr. Chairman, one of the most important challenges facing the government over the coming year is the coordination of the program review exercise.

Members reiterate their desire to see the knowledge and experience of long time front line staff to be drawn upon and caution the department not to fall prey to the over reliance on imported consultants.

Members are unclear to the extent to which the program review exercise will complement or delay the progress of the review initiatives that have already moved forward. For example, the work on the Ikuma group and the Community Government and Transportation sponsored municipal financing review come to mind as areas where clarity in this matter is required.

Members have also noted during this budget session, that departments continue to tinker with their organisational structures and staffing levels. It is unclear to members, to the extent to which the structure of the government itself will be fundamentally altered as a result of this process.

Members have noted that the funding for the law review commission has now ended and members look forward to the commission's final report being tabled in this house. Members would also like to see the government make clear which of the commission's recommendations it accepts and which it does not. On a similar theme, members are pleased to note that the department appears to be moving forward with evaluation projects and looks forward to the projects showing results. Members also look forward to the release of results of the Nunavut Household Survey.

Earlier this year, the Standing Committee tabled its report and recommendations regarding the annual report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. Access to Information and Protection of Privacy issues fall under the jurisdiction of this department. Members look forward to the government tabling its response to the committee's report in a timely fashion. Members applauded the Premier's efforts at pushing Nunavut's priorities on the national stage.

It is important however, that we lobby our federal partners in a concerted, coherent and coordinated fashion. It is important that the government continue to make arguments at the national level in favour of funding arrangements that are based not on rigid per capita formulas but needs. However, it is also important for our own credibility that we in turn deal with the needs of our communities in a way that is not solely based on population levels. Mr. Chairman, a collegial relationship between the government of Nunavut and NTI is important to our success as a territory.

Members look forward to the tabling of the next annual report on the Status of the Clyde River Protocol. Members have also noted with concern, recent statements by NTI with respect to the NNI issue. The government could make its own position on issues of

contention between itself and NTI more clear to the members of this house. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments and I anticipate that members will raise their own questions and concerns as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. The chairman usually does know when we start a new department. For the purpose of the continuation of the meeting members have about 10 minutes each to make opening comments. And according to Rule 77 you have 10 minutes each to do your opening remarks in regards to the departments and the first 10 minutes are for general comments.

We are dealing with 2-6. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. We are under general comments. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm impressed with the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs who represent Nunavummiut and are developing programs that are needed in Nunavut. I'm glad to see that they're implementing projects or programs that will benefit Nunavummiut but with that there are some areas that need improvement. In Nunavut the jobs that should arise, for instance, the Clyde River Protocol and the Agreement, I think there's going to be questions raised later as to what's been happening with the agreement.

As Nunavummiut, we are aware of some needs in communities that are being ignored or left out. The communities are able to express what needs they have and what is important to them and their values. A lot of times, when they are expressed they are set aside and under the Bathurst Mandate a lot of the areas or improvements that need to be made in communities are expressed by Inuit but they don't seem to be followed by this department. With that, we become aware of what the departments are doing and I think the department needs to know that the people are looking at the work that's being done and that needs and values should be kept in mind.

So, I hope that under the agreement they should follow what's in the agreement and not set aside areas that are important to the people of Nunavut and I think there are some areas that we need to correct as a government.

We represent the people of Nunavut and we have to be kept well informed about what's happening and what improvements are being made. As the Nunavut Government, we have to be open to the public and support one another. Without good communication, we won't get along. As the government we are encouraged by the people of Nunavut to work together. I'd like to encourage this department to keep the people informed about any changes that will be made in the agreement. There needs to be good communication so we could support them in areas that they're trying to implement or change.

As Members of the Legislative Assembly it's overwhelming at times trying to keep up with the needs in communities. The projects that are being done and people need to know what changes need to be made. They should respect the needs of Nunavummiut and keep

us well informed of what's happening within the department. I just made my comments brief. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Any other comments? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My comments will be brief but I will have questions later. I'd like to welcome the minister and his officials. In the premier's opening comments, I was able to go through them and I don't think he said anything about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. As the Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, I think it's important that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is dealt with. It's something that the elders are encouraging this government to deal with.

In the committee's opening comments, we have to realize the minister has to take all the notes and the committee comments seriously and look at what the committee has considered and to be able to respond and be accountable.

This department needs to be more accountable, this department that is in front of us, it needs to be more accountable to the people. I know that when I travel to communities, the government, the recording of what's happening in the government, I think needs to be renewed just to keep people informed of what's happening. The government needs to be able to respond to concerns within Nunavut.

I will have questions later in this area and we're also awaiting for example, the household survey that was done. As a committee, we were hoping that this would be completed and we've been waiting for the household survey and these are areas that we will keep bringing up. The program review that is being done in the government is also something that we will asking questions about because we expect, we want Inuit people to be involved just so that the premier is aware of what questions might arise.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Williams. On my list I have Mr. Havioyak next.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you. I just want to make a brief comment on decentralization. Just recently, I just wanted to on these reports and how the decentralization is being, how it is in the communities out there. In some cases it's very good for people and in some cases it's not. Sometimes it gets very difficult in Kugluktuk in terms of jobs. In other communities, it seems to be working. That's good to hear. For Kugluktuk, if it's going to work well, for Kugluktuk we'll keep that in mind.

If it's going to be amended or changed then I would like to be notified so I can notify the hamlet there and how well it's going to be working. Or even know before it's changed or made amendments to. Your report was very clear there. For example, in Kugluktuk, or Igloolik, because they are mentioned in this report here, in Kugluktuk, there were 33 positions that were to go to Kugluktuk.

This is what I brought up in recent times. There were 33 positions that were to be moved to Kugluktuk. If there are 33, in the future, I don't want that changed at all if there are going to be 33 positions transferred there. This is one of my concerns and I will be bringing up questions on that.

Also on the recommendations, if they're going to be working on the recommendations, then we would like to be notified. I'm sure I'm not the only one who wants to be notified. There are other members that want to be notified as well. For example, if it's okay, in Baker Lake, it works for Baker Lake.

There are more workers there now in the community and I have questions on this training on the job or the trainees. We'll know from there that there will be more Inuit people who will be working in the government and this is one of the concerns that I have. For instance, the Department of Health and Social Services was moved over there, 14 positions were moved there. There are Inuit people that are working in the department as well. The positions are like, there's not enough Inuit there. For people who are going to be working for Health and Social Services there we want people that are well trained, people from Kugluktuk as well. Sometimes there are capable people that aren't working there.

I brought this issue up many times and the minister knows as well. If they could have training on the job then you'll have more people working there in the government positions. This is all I have to say and once the recommendations are out then when we'll look at it more closely and thank you for listening to me Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just briefly. There were comments made earlier about when we first started creating Nunavut, the government was encouraged to implement Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Inuit are still waiting for Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit to be implemented so I want to ask this department to speed up on implementing Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and the elders in the communities are waiting for the government to approach them. If the government needs assistance from elders for Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit issues, our elders are willing to assist government officials. Inuit are always willing to help.

In the communities, I want to encourage this department to get Inuit in the communities involved in counselling or to counsel people that are having problems because when you live in a community you know more about the problems that are happening. And the elders are willing to assist or help the government departments, if approached by government staff.

Chairperson (interpretation): We are discussing Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Keep on topic when you are making your general comments. We are on 2-5 in the Main Estimates just to let you know what we are dealing with.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman for your comments and I am done my general comments.

Chairperson (interpretation): We will be taking a break. The bell will ring when the members are asked to come back. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 3.11 pm. and resumed at 3.50 pm.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, for coming back. We're on general comments. I only have one name left. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have much to say. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, I will make brief general comments. During our session, we have to do the proceedings according to the rules and guidelines. Although we want to voice all our concerns we have a limited time to voice our concerns.

One of our members could not finish his or her statement according to the parliamentary procedures. Since Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is running the whole government, I think your department has to consider how we can make more time for the members to make their statements. Implementing the agreement between Government of Nunavut, NTI and the Federal Government, we have to follow the agreements and it's evident that they need to be followed properly.

For example, the NNI policy, there have been some concerns and it's evident that it's because there was not a close working relationship between Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs office and the NTI office. They have had their differences but maybe it is due to perhaps not having a clearer working relationship, so I'm cautioning the government to watch out and have a clearer relationship with these entities.

We have no choice but to follow the rules. The Acts should be made Inuit friendly. Many times, the laws and statutes have been a barrier for Inuit people and I know that we can make amendments to the laws according to Inuit traditions but many times we have run into stumbling blocks because of the laws. This is just something to consider

Your department should really consider that and I have more to say but I won't be bringing it up now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqittuq. As the chairperson, we have to follow the parliamentary rules. Yes, and we have no choice but to abide by them. We feel for the members at times when we sit as the Chairperson but we have to follow the rules.

At this time, we still have this department to deal with. Page 2-6. I have no names. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance 1 million 477 thousand dollars. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Under page 2-6, it states here, two Deputy Ministers and three ADMs. For example, the Department of Education has a Deputy Minister and two ADMs. I don't know how we improve it but the Deputy Ministers and the Assistant Deputy Ministers combined are five, so I was wondering if the department is willing to consider having one Deputy Minister and one Assistant Deputy Minister and the rest could be directors or managerial positions?

In the Standing Committee Report it states that the communities are lacking funding. It seems like this department can get all the funding they need while the other departments are lacking funds. It seems like the compensation and benefits 1 million 300 thousand dollars is for 11 staff. So therefore I would like to ask a question. Under program review in your statement on the first page, under the premiers' opening comments. On the first bullet under program review. I know that it will have one-time budget expenditure of 595 thousand dollars in the O and M estimates. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Program Summary.

I was wondering if you will be reviewing the whole thing in your department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There were quite a number of questions that he asked but I will try and answer them. In regards to the number of employees, we have tried different areas and we've had one Deputy Minister but we do have a lot of other business to deal with and we are quite busy and we have a lot of other tasks that have to be done urgently.

Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, we have to protect the requirements of the department and we have to, I have to be available at all times. I' have to represent Nunavummiut outside of Nunavut and we want to have solid government and achieve the goals that have been stated. At the same time the EIA office is responsible for the management of other programs and the executive branch of the government and there are our day-to-day operations as a Cabinet. We have to watch the day to day operations through the Assistant Deputy Ministers.

I have an ADM that represents the staff who go down to the Ottawa offices. On a daily basis we have to watch what the Federal Government is doing. An ADM has to supervise the staff and also the Decentralization, because decentralization is a very important issue for the members here.

As I stated before, I want to achieve our goals and that is why we have more than one Assistant Deputy Minister because their jobs are unique and special. We have to be solid and we have to be strong. We don't want to see Nunavut lacking representatives; I want to see solid representatives so that is why we have set it this way.

In the program review, it will be a one-time review of all the government departmental programs and services. For this fiscal year the expenditures are increased. That is about all the answers that I have for you, and I don't know if I missed any of your questions. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although I know the Premier is working very hard and is dedicated, Makivik Corporation got the fishing rights in our Nunavut waters. I know that you are opposing it and I know that you are working on it.

The question that I wanted to pose is when we have staff down in Ottawa already, an Assistant Deputy Minister living down in Ottawa; prior to the Federal Government making their decision, how come you never knew what the situation was?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Federal Government made their decision without informing us. At that time as soon as my staff found out about the Federal Government's decision in regards to the fisheries we were immediately informed. Once we had that experience, the Federal Government was made aware of our opposition. Once we made them aware that we were quite concerned about the decision, they were very supportive and our staff down there made us aware and informed us right away. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Did you find out or did you check to see if the Federal Government had broken the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, we watched various kinds of legal actions through Aboriginal Affairs to make sure that the Federal Government is abiding by the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. We are opposing the government on the firearm legislation as you know. We are opposing the Water Bill also. We changed their decision to protect the Inuit rights with the support of NTI. That is how we received those results.

If we are going to be solid and strong we have to work with them and get support from these entities. We will be using the entities to protect ourselves and we will try and use them on a daily basis. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): The thing I am trying to ask about, the federal government gave fishing rights in the waters that are identified in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. Did you find out if they broke Nunavut Land Claims Agreement or not? The Nunavut Government and NTI and federal government should consult with each other before they make new decisions in either one of these entities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes we try to inform each other and I don't know if they have violated the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, but we are very opposed to it because Nunavut fishing rights could be reduced if these rights are given to other jurisdictions. So we were opposing it very much and we were trying to make that change. Once we found out about it we were opposing it right away. And we will be protecting Nunavut needs, Nunavummiut needs and their rights and ensure overlooks them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you very much Mr. Premier for your excellent responses. Are you going to be doing a review through your legal counsel and your staff, I don't know exactly what it is called but it's the articles. Will you review to see if any of the articles under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement have been violated when the fishing rights were awarded in Nunavut waters? There was no notice given to the people of Nunavut for example and there was no agreement made.

For example, if the federal government wanted to set up a park. The three signatories have to come to an agreement before anything can be established. Are you going to be looking into the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement checking out the articles and see if there was any violation of the agreement?

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we had known that there was intent to give fishing rights, we would have addressed it right away. We would have used our Nunavut Land Claims Agreement if we had known about it prior to the signatures. We tried to protect our rights, we have also told the federal government that they have to address our needs and also represent Makivik, and we are going to be looking at how we can arrive at an agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Please say thank you so proceedings can go smoothly in the House. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Within the agreement if there was no protection, if there is no protection clause to protect the Nunavut waters we'll have some problems.

And with that, I can use an example of the Nunavut Tunngavik and the Nunavut Government arriving at an agreement where they said they'd keep each other informed about the NNI policy but, maybe because they weren't informed properly they are now opposed or have concerns about the NNI policy and I do know that it could be that.

But if there's a protocol, are you going to be setting up a protocol so that the Nunavut and Federal Governments can agree on if there's going to be any effects on the Nunavut waters or the Nunavut lands that they keep each other informed?

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are more and more aboriginal groups saying that they have rights to some of the Nunavut lands. We will have representation when they're debating this issue. But in regards to the Nunavut waters we were not informed prior to the fishing rights being given. We don't want that to happen again and we need to be a participant. If we're going to be participants or if it's going to affect Nunavut we have to be there. The NNI Policy's only a small portion of what we do. We do a lot of other things. We have the water bill, the gun legislation, and other things that we're dealing with and just this past week we signed an agreement for parks.

This is just a small portion of what we do. We keep looking for ways to improve and to coordinate or to legislate. For example, the Wildlife Act and also the Education Act which we are reviewing with NTI; we do a lot of things within our department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have agreed under the Financial Administration Act that during the budget debates that we would be included. We don't know what's going to be in it but we do a preliminary review of the estimates before they're debated in the House. That was the understanding that we got and that's what I'm trying to say Mr. Chairman. We don't know what's going to be coming up through Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs with NTI and with the Federal Government.

And for example, there are also the other Canadian provinces. For example, we want to build a highway from Manitoba to Nunavut and we're also looking at alternative energy sources but the Manitoba and the Nunavut Governments have agreed that if they're going to start any projects that will affect one or the other that they will consult each other.

Do you have such an agreement or will you make such an agreement with the Federal Government, stating that if it's going to have any effect on Nunavut and in the Nunavut waters that the Nunavut representatives will be informed prior to any action being taken?

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we're talking about two different things. If we're talking about other aboriginal groups looking at Nunavut lands the Federal Government has legislation in place that the governments that are going to be affected have to take part. We've been using this to date. We're also dealing with mining and oil exploration in Nunavut. There are different things that we're dealing with in our department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Very briefly, you only have 40 seconds. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you're speaking and when you're breaking for lunch it seems like the clock goes really fast.

The Federal Government, do they know that we're not looking just for things that we can oppose? Do they know that with our minds and hearts, we're doing the best we can to help the people of Nunavut? We don't have any connections to businesses or anything else to change our minds. Are you going to assure the government that we're doing the best we can within Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes we talk about it in our department. We work with one another but we do have to protect the needs of Nunavut. That's my responsibility and I try to do it to the best of my ability. I have meetings with various organizations and federal government representatives.

I have meetings with the federal representatives pushing or lobbying the Federal Government for the needs of Nunavut but we have to look at protecting Nunavut because we're part of Canada and as any other Canadian, we have a right to the same services. To use fisheries as an example, in the south they are given 80 to 90 percent of their fishing rights. We're at about 27 percent today. We have very few employment opportunities in Nunavut and these are ongoing issues that we're going to lobby on so that we can have the same types of services and the same types of programs as the rest of Canada.

We have to be on par with the rest of Canada. It's an ongoing issue that we lobby to the Federal Government and only if we come to par with the rest of Canada would I be happy then. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Page 2-6. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very happy with the department because they work in cooperation with other entities out there but I think I was out of Iqaluit at that time or missed reading some of the documents but heard all of a sudden in the news about the NNI policy and that there was a one year extension to the

NNI policy. At that time, NTI had concerns or problems with the NNI policy and with the Government of Nunavut. NTI and the Nunavut Government had agreed that if there's going to be any changes or extensions, that they would be consulted. Did you not inform NTI because it was urgent, you had to extend it because of some urgency? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry. All the Members of the Legislative Assembly had to deal with it and it was an urgent matter, the end of that NNI policy was on March 31 and we decided to extend it for another year so that we could include other businesses out there.

We had visits from people out there before March 31, they wanted to know what was going to be happening, and because of the urgency we extended for a year. It was an urgent matter that had to be dealt with immediately, we didn't do it intentionally, we didn't inform the people out there but it was an urgent matter. Sometimes you have to take the bull by the antlers and deal with it on a day to day operational basis and this decision was reached after due consideration of the issues. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With this emergency, when you say it was an impossible task, nowadays, even if you experience an urgent matter, anything is possible; you can send correspondence any time these days, via fax or telecommunications. If it was an urgent matter you could email it to the signatories and they'd see it right away. And if I had an urgent matter that I had to deal with and inform my community I could inform them right away, the word urgency is used so often that it is losing its meaning.

Were you not urged to make that extension by the companies that are owned 50% or 51% by non-Inuit and did you not cave in? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had never heard any of these comments being made in the House. We were told to extend the policy and we have received some correspondence supporting the extension of the policy. There was one time where we had Canadian North representatives who wanted us to extend the policy as well as the Northwest Company and these requests have been tabled in the House.

It's not a new issue. We wanted to use that NNI policy fully and when NTI asked for an extension for a week, we used it because that's what they wanted to do prior to the final date of compliance. We had a discussion prior to the extension so that each party knew exactly what one or the other was going to be doing and we will keep to that procedure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At times we misunderstand some issues, especially us regular members and especially my colleague next to me as they do not understand every little nuance in English. I do not want to mention this unpleasant fact but we have a disadvantage when we are unilingual as we do not receive any advance notice until it immediately requires action. And by the time we comprehend the matter, it is non-debatable and we only hear about it when there is a problem with whatever was implemented.

If we had been informed right from day one we wouldn't have this difficulty as it would have been debated and even though some of us have concerns it is a little late to do anything about it. But in regards to what you said, I don't quite believe that it was urgent, that it was such an urgent matter that you couldn't have any dialogue with NTI.

If there's an urgent matter, you can send the information out right away by way of e-mail or other techniques. Is it because NTI couldn't respond right away because of all their other responsibilities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had dialogue with each other and then they wanted it extended for a week at that time so we corresponded by phone. So we extended it for a week, but then we extended it for a year. It has passed now. People with their own business in Nunavut, even though they don't live in Nunavut, they want to be able to come here and we welcome them to be part of Nunavut because they create employment for the people of Nunavut. The others that are outside of our boundaries have not been considered. That having been said, that is why we decided to extend it for a year.

We have stated that we would like to resume talks to see if we can amend it for future use for things that are not included in there. To date these have proceeded well, the things that I was talking about, like legislation, and we just finished with a fairly large agreement on Monday. We will always proceed with things like these. We don't always agree on everything, if you recall a case almost went to court. Sometimes we don't always agree with each other on some things and we work to make it better. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The NTI executive said that they wanted to meet with the cabinet but the cabinet were not able to meet with them due to conflicts. Is that true? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I have always said, I want to work with whoever I have to work with. If something like this is going to happen then I'm not going to be part of it. If someone wants to work with me and if they want to be straight forward, I'll work with them. This is the way I am and the way I want to be. But if they're going to turn around and say something else for their own gain, I can't be in support of them. I want to be able to work with them in the future and if they want to work with us and if they want to work with anybody else, I welcome that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I have names on my list. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Just a short question Mr. Chairman, just before we go page by page. I asked this question in the House in regards to Quebec trying to get hydro electricity and it'll probably affect Nunavut waters. The question that I had was that Nunavut would probably be affected by that hydroelectric project. I just wonder what is the status of that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's inside of Quebec, the hydro electricity that they want to start up and I will be going to Sanikiluaq tomorrow to meet the community to hear their concerns. We are in agreement that we want to protect our environment here in Nunavut and we will be trying to protect the Nunavut area if we're going to have problems with the hydro electricity being planned in Quebec. I will be meeting the Hamlet of Sanikiluaq on their concerns, because I too have concerns about this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Have you met with those people that are proposing that hydroelectricity project to talk with them about compensation just in case there's an environmental hazard that happens here in Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have not been part of the environmental impact discussions to date and we have not been asked anything either. But in regards to the agreement we're going to have to be involved with the environmental assessment as it may damage Nunavut and this is going to be a part of our negotiations with them or an agreement with them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Last question, Mr. Chairman. The minister said that he was going to go to Sanikiluaq, so is that the beginning of Nunavut being part of the negotiations for the protection of the environment? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I've been invited to go to Sanikiluaq to talk with them and this is the only good time that I could go. There have been other times that I have been invited but I was not able to and I will be happy to go down to Sanikiluaq. I will be open to the discussions that we will be holding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I still have some names. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is under 2-6. I just wondered if the program review is on this page 2-6? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not on this page. It's on 2-8. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask the question on 2-8. I would like to ask about the contract services in the amount of 230 thousand dollars in 2001/2002 and in the revised estimates it was 385 thousand dollars; but now it's only 186 thousand dollars. What is the reason, what do you use to contract services for under directorate 2-6? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are various things that we were doing and we have completed many. In regards to the Power Corporation, the Law Review Commission and the Ikuma II Reports, these have been completed so that is why there is a decrease in this year's Main Estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I still have some names. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, you already went page by page, I think that we were supposed to have some general questions before we went page by page. I just wanted to let you know. I don't want to ask any questions at this time page by page. I would like to get back to the minister's opening comments if that is okay with you Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Yes there were opening comments from the members and now we are on questions for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. As long as you keep to the subject then you may proceed Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to be asking a question on the Premier's opening comments. Under the Premier's opening comments something about Aboriginal Circumpolar Affairs? This division receives a total of 764 thousand, of which 130 thousand is new money. In regards to NNI, the EIA extended the NNI policy for one year. My question is, the Premier welcomed the businesses to Nunavut and that is very good to see, but also those people that have always lived in Nunavut, pertaining to contracts according to the agreements. They should be considered for contracts if they live here in Nunavut. I just wondered whether those guys are welcome here too, to do business here in Nunavut.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are a lot of people that have their own business living in Nunavut. They have been impacted as well. It could have been a longer extension than just one year. If they want to move to Nunavut they are welcome to move to Nunavut, if they want.

In the Budget Address by the Minister of Finance, the taxes have been lowered, there should be a lot more business if they want to come up to Nunavut. It was not even a year as we speak so this has been helpful for businesses in Nunavut. We have been asked about it before and we only did what they wished us to do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand the response and I am not saying that I disagree with the minister. Also the other question that I had was the people that have their own businesses in Nunavut. Are you welcoming those businesses that already exist in Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, even more so with Nunavut based businesses. Especially now that we have lowered the taxes that they had to pay and NNI is more directed at the people that already have existing businesses in Nunavut. We are really helping those people that live here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Minister. I still have some names. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I want to go back the Chairman of the Standing Committee's opening comments and I couldn't agree with him more with it. Mr. Chairman one of the most important challenges facing the government over the coming years is the coordination of the program review exercise. Members reiterated their desire that the knowledge and experience of long-time staff be drawn upon and caution the department not to fall prey to over-reliance on imported consultants.

And like I say consultants have made a killing in this territory in the last three years from the south and I'm a little concerned and I have mixed feelings about the results of consultants. Because we have a lot of long term staff up here and I wonder sometimes if don't ignore them all when we are doing things in Nunavut. So my question to the minister is that I'm a little nervous about the program review.

There was a tender in the newspaper and it closed May 10, 2002 looking for consultants to help provide the review team with support and analysis services for tasks that will arise during the timelines of the program review and it's got the NNI component in there which I'm glad. It's an RFP. I know it's too early for the minister to have an answer on who we'd consider to be the consultants but does he have a list of consultants yet that have submitted RFPs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. To date there's been 20 enquiries so far to that RFP. So that's very encouraging that there's a lot of interest expressed so far. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's great to hear. Have there been any consulting firms from the north and I don't want their names because I know you are under an evaluation now. Has there been any long term consulting firms in the north show an interest and submit on the RFP? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: From the advice I received, yes. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Are you done? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I must reiterate what I've said earlier that the problem with bringing consultants from the south is they get off a plane, they travel around, and they are instant experts. Going back we have a tendency sometimes that if it's a consultant in the north we might not use them because we might have some bias against them for something that they did a number of years ago.

And I'm just asking the minister again that when he's finally getting down to hiring a consultant, please, please, I'm pleading with you to consider a northern company because the program review is going to be a very political and close issue to all of us.

So make sure that you have some northern expertise involved that you use when you are doing this program review; long-term northerners that work for the government and are on the front-lines because they know the programs probably better than anybody. So it's

more or less a statement but I would like to see that done and I'm sure that you will commit that to this House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): I didn't hear a question. I don't have anybody on my list.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm getting like you on my preambles and I get lost on them sometimes but I wish the minister could confirm that he would consider on the RFP long-term northerners. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm bound by NNI, so we have to follow it. Nunavut businesses will get priority. So I have to follow it. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson (interpretation): We understand. Thank you. Anything else? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm on 2-6. Under directorate, I have two questions. Under this directorate, under Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, how are the annual reports being handled because reports have to be submitted annually. How is this going? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to be kept informed about annual reports. If an annual report is due and it's not submitted I want to be informed as to what reports are not being submitted when they're supposed to be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If they just rely on one of us to request these reports that might not work very well. Has EIA made sure that GN departments are fulfilling their statutory tabling requirements? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. We keep a list now of statutory requirements and we ensure that's happening internally but if you notice any deviation from that list we would like to be advised so that we can act on it. So that's the only way we can act on it. If you let me know that would be very helpful. If you noticed something not being done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Madam Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They have staff that receives compensation and benefits of over 1 million dollars and I'm sure that they could keep on top of a few

reports that need to be tabled annually. So maybe that little bit of advice. Because there's already a list, as the minister says. My second question is will this department take a lead in making sure that our GN departments, all the departments, boards and agencies, table annual performance reports in addition to business plans? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. All we've tracked so far is the statutory requirements that we're bound by so, if there are additional responsibilities that are asked of us then we'll take a look at it but there are other bodies of government that ensure these things, for example the FMB is in charge of business plans and making sure that they are done. So, there are different bodies of government, central agencies that perform other duties that we have to respect. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Williams.

Ms. Williams: Do I understand that the departments or boards, different boards and the departments are responsible for some of the reports and business plans? I do just not understand properly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I explained that for statutory requirements of government for tabling, we will do that, but if additional responses are requested of us we have to work with other agencies. Business plans are required by the legislation to be tabled, the only requirement for the business plan is that they be reviewed by the Financial Management Board and that's statutory from what I understand. So where we are bound, we will do so, but we have to work with other bodies of the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister indicated that there is a list and on that list there are a number of reports that have not yet been tabled. When can this House expect those reports to be tabled?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this is our last day today, it may be a little difficult today, but I can make a commitment to table them in Pangnirtung, this fall at the earliest possible time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I have one more name on my list. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Williams and I are taking turns, but the program evaluation, is there money available for program review or policy review? Thank you

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not identified here but there was a surplus that will be carried over for collecting information from communities. We're just completing the review and the surplus is being carried over because we want this to be completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He stated that they're using a surplus to complete the review. There are two questions; if the surplus is fully expended, will the review be completed, or will they do a supplementary appropriation for funds?

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): When I met with the law review commission they stated that they should be able to complete it with the surplus funds that they have and perhaps in the next month they should have it done and we want that to be done properly. So they said they should be done within a month.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch summary. Directorate. Total operations and maintenance 1 million 477 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turn to page 2-7. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Evaluation and Statistical Services. Total operations and maintenance 885 thousand dollars. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the evaluation and statistical services, when they're doing these surveys and compiling statistics and, I've said it numerous times in here, when you're doing the unemployment rate, when they're going into communities and evaluating the unemployment rate, they have a tendency sometimes of showing up there in the middle of a construction season. We all know in the construction season unemployment rates drop by 70-80 percent.

My question to the minister is when Statistics and Evaluation are doing this; I'd like to see them go in February and March when most seasonal people are unemployed so the statistics would more or less reflect what the actual unemployment rate is.

The reason I say that is because I think statistically that's what the Federal Government looks at with our statistics. I brought it up in the House here with the poverty level and where we are with it and if the Federal Government knew the cost of living in this country. We should be getting detailed statistics that accurately show what's happening in Nunavut.

And I'm not saying the statistics department isn't doing their job. At least we're getting some statistics that are showing what's happening here. My question to the minister here is that when you're doing the employment statistics, could you direct your people in that department to, when they're doing it, to do it in the slower months of the year when the seasonal workers are sitting home unemployed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. McLean are you done? Evaluation and Statistical Services. Total Operations and Maintenance 885 thousand dollars. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think they're called Kiglisiniartiit in Inuktitut. These are evaluations in communities. The evaluations for 2001/2002, would they be able to table evaluations that were done in the previous year in the house? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes they are available but they're all figures and there's a lot of numbers. I think we'd have to identify how we want to present it. During the next sitting, we would like to table it for your information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also, under this page, there's 180 thousand dollars for contract services, what are they contracting out in this department? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Auditor General in Canada asked us to strengthen our evaluation and statistical services. We had to use contract services to compile the information.

Chairperson (interpretation): I don't have anybody else on my list. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Evaluation and Statistical Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, 885 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 2-8. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Communications. Policy and Planning. Are there any questions or comments? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government's public affairs needs. Does that have to do with news releases? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are expected to inform the communities more, put out more information into the communities and it is to provide information on cassette tapes and this is something the communities are interested in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes we usually see information on press releases sent out to the public and they try to protect the government and they try to inform the public. The recordings that you sent out to the communities, do you have a goal to make sure that the communities will understand?

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the recording tapes, we've only used it few times when there are important issues or important information that needs to be released. So we will be releasing recorded tapes, we plan to do it on a monthly basis, and we are hoping that it will be clear for the communities and that's what we want to do.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This 288 thousand purchased services is that for that line item? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes in part and under Program Review we use part of that for Program Review just for this one time review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Arvaluk would you like to continue? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to Mr. McLean's comments I'd like to make an additional comment under Program Review. I would like to ask Mr. Okalik if they had considered or made a decision in regards to the employees within the department that they need to be fluent in Inuktitut and be able to read and write Inuktitut. I was wondering if this is already set or part of your policy? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we do want to utilize Inuktitut and we do want to hear from the impacted people as to how they want to see improvements because there are many people that are impacted and I'm sure not all of our staff will be able to read and write syllabics, but we do want to see that within our department. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes this is a very important issue and I'm aware that you know it as the Premier and your staff know that we need bilingual speaking people in the workforce. And also head person should be able to be bilingual for example the Bureau of Statistics used to hire people in the communities who were unemployed; they used to hire young people.

They used to hire young people when they were doing statistics and some young people did not know how to ask questions. Like for example, my mother who's in her eighties. The young person asked, the interviewer asked which hockey team do you like? That's just an example. My mother doesn't even know anything about hockey. When she was being interviewed she was asked as to whose team she supported. When you're considering the interviewers, you should ensure they're bilingual and make sure that you support them so that they could fall back on something. I know that this is very important and I'm very happy to hear the premier state that this is very important and we expect a lot of improvement on these programs.

This is not a question. It's more of a comment. Yes, I want to urge the department to commit to this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we provided some courses on that, we now have new employees in the communities, and we appreciate the people who notified us about this under the program review. We have five employees and four are Inuit.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Would you like to continue? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are only nine of us. There's no quorum. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): I'll ring the bell to call them in. Thank you. Page 2-8. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Communications. Policy and Planning. Total Operations and Maintenance 2 million 329 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Page 2-9. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Intergovernmental Affairs. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Compensation and Benefits. In the revised estimates it was 1 million and, well first of all in 2001/2002 it was 669 thousand and then when it was revised it became 1.1 million dollars and in here in the main estimates it's 764. Can you clarify that to me, why is there a reduction there? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologise Mr. Chairman. Yes it was larger last year and we made changes to Aboriginal Affairs and also northern subsidies and they were moved from another department to this one. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Page 2-9 and 2-10 are on the same line item. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Under 2-9, Contract Services has a substantial increase. What kinds of contracts will you be awarding because there's a huge increase on that? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it was moved to the rates review council and so they are contracted at times while they are reviewing the power rates. That's why there was an increase, because it was in a different place last year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Grants and contributions, they have provided funding through inter-governmental affairs. The funding for this contribution has been allocated; did you move the Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs Branch? Where can I find that because there's no 90 thousand dollars in these main estimates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk, can you please rephrase your question?

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry; I went ahead, so I take my question back.

Chairperson (interpretation): That's the first time I have seen someone take their question back. Anyone else? Page 2-9. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Total Operations and Maintenance, 1 million 189 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turn the page, 2-11 and 2-12 are on the same line item. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs. Any comments? Total Operations and Maintenance, 761 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turn the page to 2-13. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Nunavut Cabinet. Total Operations and Maintenance, 3 million 694 thousand dollars. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Under contract services, 210 thousand dollars. What is it used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is used for our daily operations, like for photocopiers and to purchase materials and supplies that are being used on the second floor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Would you like to continue? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. The total budget for the department has increased by several hundred thousand dollars. But the total budget for ministers and the commissioner has not increased at all. I'm just wondering why does the staff need to travel more this year but not the minister? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We'll continue to travel as we have as ministers, some travel we go through the department and so it's not reflected here, but it's not always mandatory travel directly related to an individual minister's department.

In turns of other travel for staff, we have hired additional staff, as you know, in program review and there's additional staff who don't have to travel to other communities to do their work so that's why there's an increase in staff travel and that's not reflective of mandatory travel that we continue to use today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was worried that if I tried to ask the ministers to come to my community, they might say no we don't have any money for travel, that's why I was worried. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Williams. I didn't hear a question. Mr. Premier would you like to respond or make a comment to that comment.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't hear a question either but I understand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On this department the question I have is last year, and I don't know if it falls under this so I am going to ask, last year you had a program where you sent your deputies out to each community to experience living in Nunavut and we have a few new deputies this year, and a few new assistant deputies.

Would you commit to keeping this very successful program going? I had the Power Corporation President in Baker Lake for almost a week last summer and he thoroughly enjoyed himself and the staff really liked having him there and things like that but you have a new deputy in Community Government and Transportation, Mr. Walsh.

He's been in the north and he's got a department in Baker and quite a few staff, so I'm asking if you would send a deputy or two into Baker Lake this year and to experience the northern lifestyles and see how people live. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to go myself if I can; yes we plan to continue with this program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: That's nice to hear but if the Premier comes he has to buy his own gas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. There was no question. We're into Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Nunavut Cabinet. Total operations and maintenance 3 million 694 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Turning over to 2-14. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Commissioner of Nunavut. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the Commissioner is being paid for by the Federal Government but I have a question with the 45 thousand, under travel and transportation. If the Queen or the Governor General is going to be coming in it is mandatory for him to travel and this 45 thousand is used to give awards at the community level for bravery and so on. If the 45 thousand runs out and these events still need to happen what contingency plans are in place? Thank you

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Nunavut we do the ceremonial awards at the community level and this 45 thousand has not increased or decreased. The commissioner is usually able to get on charters, and also he can use the RCMP, air force planes, and ministerial charters; he's invited to go on those charters free of charge. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just as an example the, I wanted to go on a court circuit plane that was going to Coral Harbour but I had to pay 600 dollars. Is it free for the commissioner if he wants to hop onto the charter?

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): That's it? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My other question under Commissioner of Nunavut is we haven't had a Deputy Commissioner for a long period of time, are you looking at appointing a Deputy Commissioner in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik Itsivautaq. If you recall when we solicited names from regular caucus you could recommend people to become Deputy Commissioner and we would forward names to the Minister of Indian Affairs office. We are still waiting for

names. So help from you members would be appreciated on this matter. Qujannamiik Itsivautaq.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. That's it. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Commissioner of Nunavut. Total Operations and Maintenance 185 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turning to the next page. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Decentralization Secretariat. Page 2-15. Comments? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very briefly (interpretation ends) Have they made a mandate to make decentralization happen in a timely and organized manner? Can the minister tell me it is happening in a timely and organized manner today? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. It is as timely as you can possibly physically do it. To date, we've encountered barriers here and there, we didn't have lots of office space before, and we had wildlife officers, local wildlife officers situated in one community. So, we've adjusted, planned and I think we've done okay so far. And we'll continue to press ahead to fight barriers, like housing is a shortage right now and we're pressing ahead with an RFP to accommodate that concern. So whatever barriers there are we'll try and overcome them. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Anything else? We are on page 2-15. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Branch Summary. Decentralization Secretariat. Total Operations and maintenance 567 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): The next page is information. Details of work performed on behalf of third parties. Comments? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turning over, information item. Going back to 2-5. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Program Summary. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance 11 million 90 thousand. Comments? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Premier I would like to thank you and your officials and we thank you for very capably handling your department.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and all the members for giving me your support which lightens up the load when we're working on it on a daily basis. I also thank our staff. We look forward to having a good department this year.

Chairperson (interpretation): We'll then move on. There is an issue that we have to deal with at the moment. We'll take a ten minute break.

The rest of the committee members aren't here but my committee has to have a short meeting. We'll take a ten minute break.

>>Committee recessed at 5.25 p.m. and resumed at 5.35 p.m.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Does the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly have opening comments? Mr. Speaker, you can proceed.

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I glad to be here before you today to present the 2002 – 2003 main estimates for the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Before getting into details of this year's proposed budget for the Legislative Assembly, I would like to take a few moments to account with you today for our performance for the past year.

As members know, the government's ongoing program review exercise has meant that departments have not produced new business plans for 2002 – 2003. I think it is appropriate however, that I advise members as to what specific goals in last year's business plan for the Legislative Assembly were achieved, and what our results were.

One of the primary goals in our 2001 – 2002 business plans was to support members in their review of the statutes that fall under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Assembly. I am pleased to be able to say that the Assembly is on track to having almost its entire legislative base thoroughly reviewed prior to the end of the first Assembly, with new, fully-translated Acts in place. As members know, our new Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act and Integrity Act were fully translated and passed in the 2001 – 2002 fiscal year. Our base is solid for the Members of the next Assembly.

Looking ahead, I am confident that your Management and Services Board will be reviewing a draft Elections Act over the coming months for presentation to Caucus and consideration in the House during the fall 2002 Session. This new Elections Act for Nunavut will represent the culmination of several years of hard work, and high praise is due to the members of the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit for their efforts in getting the review process underway.

I would also like to note for the record that the Legislative Assembly is fully up-to-date in fulfilling its statutory tabling requirements. As members know, almost every department must, by law, table certain annual reports and other documents in the House.

Our 2001 – 2002 business plan stressed the need for elections readiness. Again, I would like to acknowledge the work of the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit in undertaking the recruitment process for our new Chief Electoral Officer, Ms. Sandy Kusugak. In a few moments, I will review the resources that have been included in this year's budget for elections readiness.

Since 1999, members have stressed the need for the Legislative Assembly to be a people-friendly place that showcases Nunavut's art and culture.

I am pleased to be able to report to you that 2001 – 2002 was a year of solid progress in this area. Some of our accomplishments include:

- Hosting 6 major art exhibitions in the Great Hall;
- Expanding the display cases for Inuit art in the lobby areas of the first, second, and third floors of the building;
- Hosting a number of major events throughout the year in which approximately 1,500 people attended; and
- Continuing to effect improvements to the landscaping on the Assembly grounds.

Over the coming year, we plan to complete the major landscaping projects and improve the signage inside and outside of the building.

It is our intent that this Legislative Assembly be fully prepared to welcome her Majesty the Queen in October of this year. I look forward to all members joining me in welcoming the Queen, Prince Philip, Prime Minister Chrétien, and the Governor General, Adrienne Clarkson to Nunavut in early October.

Over the past year, continued progress has been made in the areas of information and technological services. Assembly staff were involved in the development of new unicode syllabic fonts. I understand that the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit has in fact, formally recommended to the government that this font be the new standard across all departments.

The Legislative Assembly's website continues to attract a significant number of visitors. During the last two months alone, there were over 2,000 requests for various documents from the website.

Every report that is produced and tabled by a Standing Committee is posted on the website, as are some transcripts from Standing Committee meetings, such as this year's appearance of the Auditor General.

Over the coming year, we are still planning to move towards greater autonomy for the Assembly with respect to our computer network. This is a complex endeavour, but one which responds to members' concerns.

Progress continues to be made with respect to collection development in the library. To date, almost 800 items have been catalogued in our automated system.

Over the coming year we look forward to cataloguing approximately 400 Inuktitut Language materials that have been acquired. Staff continue to respond to reference enquiries from the department and the public. We've also hosted several events in the library including a recent presentation made by the Icelandic Ambassador to Canada.

We continue to broadcast proceedings of the Assembly on APTN, on a nightly basis. In addition, residents of Iqaluit are now able to view the proceedings on local cable TV. We also broadcast live on the radio during session in both Inuktitut and English.

The Government of Nunavut's Statistics Bureau has provided us with information from the Nunavut Household Survey concerning the broadcasting of the Assembly's proceedings. We will be reviewing this information as we plan for the fall 2002 session.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to turn now to the details of our proposed expenditures for 2002/2003. All members have noted that the total operations and maintenance spending is projected at 14.39 million dollars in 2002/2003.

I should note Mr. Chairman, that the estimates for 2003/2004 are likely to be lower as this year's budget reflects initial costs of the members' Supplementary Allowance Plan. The increases over 2001/2002 are also attributable to several other initiatives. These include 500 thousand dollars for Elections Nunavut in the area of elections readiness; 110 thousand dollars for enhancement to member's constituency budgets; and 160 thousand dollars for increased staff capacity to serve members in the areas of research and corporate services.

Mr. Chairman, in closing I would like to again thank members for their support over the past year. I look forward to another busy and successful year at the Legislative Assembly. I welcome any questions or comments that the members may have. Thank you. Ma'na.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sergeant-at-Arms if you would escort the officials please. We do know the names of the officials. I apologise, Mr. Speaker. We do know your officials and we recognise them, but if you would please introduce your officials. Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right, your left, is the Clerk of the Assembly, Mr. John Quirke. And to my left, your right, the Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Steve Pollock.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does the Ajauqtiit Chairperson have opening remarks? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. For your information I'll be saying Itsivautaq and Uqaqti. Thank you very much for your kind remarks in regards to Ajauqtiit.

Mr. Chairman, as Chair of the Ajauqtiit Committee, I'm pleased to be able to give my opening remarks as we begin debate on the 2002/2003 main estimates for the Office of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. Later on members of the committee will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding these estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit had the opportunity to meet with the Speaker and his staff. At that time the speaker provided an update on his department's proposed expenditures.

Mr. Chairman, this year's review was a little different as there are no new business plans for any department. As members are aware, this is due to the government's ongoing program review exercise.

However, members were pleased that the Office of the Legislative Assembly was able to advise the committee on which specific goals from last year's business plans have been achieved. This gives a good measure of the department's progress and it will allow members to better evaluate plans for the future. Mr. Chairman, members were also pleased to hear that the Legislative Assembly is fully up to date in fulfilling its statutory tabling requirements such as those contained in the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act and the Integrity Act that were passed in the 2001-2002 fiscal year. Members look forward to seeing the draft Elections Act during the fall 2002 session.

Mr. Chairman, the committee noted an increase since 2001-2002 which is attributable to other initiatives, including 500 thousand for elections readiness. We are indeed fortunate to have Ms. Sandy Kusugak who has an extensive background in elections as the new Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut. Members continued to be pleased with the artwork being exhibited throughout the building and support the fact that the building is used to hold a number of major events.

Mr. Chairman, members were pleased with the increase in the members' constituency budgets as this was an area of concern, especially for those members who have more than one constituent community. Mr. Chairman, I'm sure that all members of this House are happy to hear that the Speaker is fully prepared to welcome her Majesty the Queen in October of this year, as are all members.

We look forward to this visit. Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening remarks. I anticipate that individual members will raise their own comments, concerns or questions on the department's 2002-2003 main estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you for calling me Itsivautaq Mr. Iqaqrialu. Thank you, Mr. Chairman of the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit. In accordance with our rules we'll give ten minutes for the members to give their general comments, you may go below the limit but you can't go over ten minutes. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think my ten minutes is not going to be enough Mr. Chairman. I just have one question to the Speaker in his capacity. I have to say that the Legislative Assembly staff are doing very well but we have always discussed this issue during our standing committees; I have always asked the question during full caucus but perhaps I can ask the question in the House so that it may be foremost on our minds.

Some of us when we come here tend to get quite heavy, we tend to gain weight and I have been asking for an exercise room here, for the Legislative Assembly members somewhere within this facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anybody else? Mr. Speaker, would you like to respond to that comment?

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That issue was brought up before, for providing some type of an exercise room or area for the members so the TV cameras can see. We certainly need it. The problem that we have, on a more serious note, is we really don't have space. I would suggest that the Clerk and I will be talking to various people in the summer to discuss how we can approach the proposed new Legislative Assembly and that could be part of that process.

And the people that I will be speaking to are not the panel that I referred to in earlier comments, in that committee meeting. Regarding the panel that will meet together to discuss the future possibility of a new Assembly to look at what approach we would take to start off the process. So the problem we have is that we just don't have space, we are very, very limited in our space in the Assembly. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you for your comments. Are there any questions from the members? Just before we go page by page are there any questions? There are no questions. Page 1-6. Office of the Clerk. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Total operations and maintenance 6 million 224 thousand. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under contract services there has been a decrease in the number; it used to be about 112 thousand. Which contracts have been eliminated? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will pass that question to our Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Pollock.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Pollock.

Mr. Pollock: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Over the last couple of years, we have been able to better estimate where expenses lie and this year we've been able to move money between the different accounts so it's just a reallocation between contract services and purchased services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Page 1-6. Total operations and maintenance 6 million 224 thousand. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under travel and transportation, I'm sorry purchased services, there has been an increase of approximately 800 thousand, what is that purchased services for? What's the reason for the increase? Is that to do with contracting interpreters? Thank you

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

Mr. Quirke: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to repeat what the director of corporate services said. It's basically a reallocation of funding between purchased services and contract services in those areas. The expenses in those areas are translation of communications, our Hansard, our equipment leases, our security, our cleaning contracts, and our legal services. The members may recall that the security and janitorial were transferred to the responsibility of the Legislative Assembly from Public Works. And that's where you see some increases. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman under that page. Mr. O'Brien had just said earlier as the Speaker he is having a committee formed to look at the opportunity for a new Legislative Assembly. I'm wondering for these budgets, for these committees and meetings are they located on that page and if they are or if they are not how do they see the consultation work with the members here and the adoption and review of other reports that have already been done. For example the Nunavut Capital Commission report which indicated a location for the new Legislative Assembly. Will he be incorporating that into his committee? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as I indicated earlier that the clerk and I were going to attend some meetings this summer just to establish the format from which we approach the overall plan. I think the money we identified at this point is 40 thousand dollars and that also includes some the Clerk is going to use to do some other research.

But at this point in time it would be somewhat premature to talk about details of our approach because we are just at the initial stages and as I indicated, the meetings that will

take place this summer will just set the stage as to how we will plan for such an endeavour. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is that it Mr. Picco? Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Office of the Clerk. Total Operations and Maintenance 6 million 224 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 1-7. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Expenditures on behalf of members. Total Operations and Maintenance 6 million 852 thousand. Agreed? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under fees and payments, this has been increased to about 2.9 million, what is this increase for? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The bulk of that would be used for the increase to the supplementary pension plan that was voted on and approved in the House. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that the only reason why? Because of the supplementary pension plan, is that the only reason why the cost has gone up? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that should also include the regular pension plan which every member in the House is a part of. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are on 1-7. Total Operations and Maintenance 6 million 852 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 1-8. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Office of the Speaker. Total Operations and Maintenance 253 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 1-9. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Office of the Chief Electoral Officer. Total Operations and Maintenance 500 thousand. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Under fees and payments, in the line fees and payments, how come there's been an increase, what is that used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Speaker. Mr. Quirke.

Mr. Quirke: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The increase from 3 to 20 thousand dollars recognises that the Chief Electoral Officer would have to begin a process of registration. Fees will be required to pay people to start the process of identifying people who should be on the voters list and for translation services of documentation to the public. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Quirke. Anything else? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under contract services on that page, there's a slight increase and what is that for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Which one of you will answer that question? Mr. Pollock.

Mr. Pollock: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The 76 thousand dollars includes the cost for rent and utilities for setting up the new Elections Nunavut Office. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Last year there was only 1 thousand dollars and now it's other expenses 106 thousand dollars. What are the other expenses on 1-9 used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Pollock: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, this is the first year of setting up for the elections office and in that category we'll be covering expenses such as setting up the office, office furniture, computers and all the infrastructure for the first year of the operation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk. Thank you. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Office of the Chief Electoral Officer. Total Operations and Maintenance, 500 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Page 1-10. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Offices of Independent Commissioners. Total Operations and Maintenance, 560 thousand dollars. Agreed? Just a minute. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Under contract services, it was 95 thousand dollars for the two years previous, but now there's been an increase. I just want to know what that's for. Thank you.

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

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, these reflect increased costs for our Integrity Commissioner and I believe our Privacy Commissioner. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The compensation and benefits on 1-10, isn't that where those independent commissioners are being paid? Thank you.

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

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Mr. Chairman, this figure primarily reflects the cost of the Language Commissioner and her staff.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Is that it? We're on page 1-10. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Offices of Independent Commissioners. Total Operations and Maintenance 560 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Thank you. Page 1-11 is an information item. Going back to 1-5. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Program Summary. Details of expenditures. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was caught off guard on the first page and I wasn't going to say anything but I have to speak now in regards to money in the budget for looking at a new building. Mr. Chairman, I'm aghast. By the time this building is paid for it's going to cost the citizens of Nunavut 50 million dollars plus operational expenses. The issue that I'm getting here to is that everybody that comes into this building and especially my constituents say it's a nice building and they're very pleased with it. It serves Nunavut well.

And this is just a comment, that before we go out and start planning a new building for the citizens of Nunavut look at the actual life span of this building. And I think the building was built to last 40 or 50 years. But I think we're getting a little premature on

planning for a new Legislative Assembly in Nunavut when we have other concerns and issues that we have to deal with. It's just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): That was just a comment. And thank you Mr. McLean for your concern. Going back to the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Program Summary. Details of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance 14 million 389 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Mr Speaker, thank you for appearing in front of the committee and your officials. Thank you. If you have any closing remarks the floor is open. Thank you. Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Kevin O'Brien: Mr. Chairman, just one last comment in reference to the proposed new Assembly. This was discussed in caucus. I guess our job right now is just to look at possible costs and how it may be approached. I guess the bottom line is that this is something that wouldn't be seen for many, many, years down the road.

It's future planning and we all know the building here is small and we're cramped and it was a request by a number of the members to follow up on this so. It's very, very, premature to make any sort of decision I guess, as to when this building would be replaced. Thank you for your support for this year and look forward to the same support over the next year. Thank you.

>>Applause

Chairperson (interpretation): We still have some items to deal with. So please do not leave. Order. Order. Please, we have another item to deal with. Under page 11.

Bill 6, if you could find that page, it's the summary of total Operations and Maintenance, 689 million 608 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Bill 6. I have Bill 6 in front of me, Appropriation Act No. 2, 2002-2003. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turn to page two. Total Operations and Maintenance. Total appropriation 689 million 608 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Under Bill 6. Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 6 as a whole. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree that this Bill is ready for third reading? Thank you. Order, order. 3. Do you agree? I have this in front of me. Bill 6. Our legal counsel didn't hear an agreement.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): We are done with this Bill, we have completed this Bill. I'd like to ask what the wish of the committee is. We still have Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act on the order paper. It's after six now, what is the wish of the committee? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Perhaps we should take a supper break and then return.

Chairperson (interpretation): It's not debateable, we'll return after supper. We will return at 7.

>>Committee recessed at 6.15 and resumed at 6.55 p.m.

Chairperson (interpretation): I want to call the meeting to order. Have a good meeting and please smile at each other before we start. I would like to first ask Minister Thompson if she has any opening comments? Ms. Thompson.

Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have opening comments, shall I proceed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Honourable Members. I am

pleased to present to you today Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act. The bill before you today proposes to extend the life of the existing general assessment on property taxes. This general assessment will remain in effect until October 31, 2004. The function of this bill is simply to allow operations to continue as they have been until the general assessment can be updated. If passed, the act will come into force on October 30, 2000, so as to prevent a gap from appearing in the assessment coverage.

Mr. Chairman, I want to reassure members that property taxes will not be charged retroactively. The act does not allow this to take place and this is not the intent of this government. The amendment will allow the Government of Nunavut time to add the many new properties that have been developed in the last few years and thoroughly review the assessments that were completed under the previous government.

The Government of Nunavut will then have a complete and up-to-date general assessment. By extending the life of existing general assessments, the government will be able to continue to generate revenue through property taxes.

Once the new general assessment has been completed, the new values will then replace the existing values when determining property tax. I'm now pleased to be able to respond to the members' questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): You can go to the witness table and also invite your officials. Do you have any officials? Thank you. If you would introduce your officials, please, Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. John Walsh, on my left and on my right is Wayne Winter, who is in the decentralized community of Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. We are waiting for the Chair of the Standing Committee. Standing Committee Chair, do you have any opening comments? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development reviewed Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, with Minister Thompson and her officials on May 11, 2002.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is quite straight forward. The Standing Committee recognises that its intent is to permit the government to collect property taxes for the years 2001 to 2004. Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee is concerned however that the assessment has not yet been completed. This is the second extension that has been undertaken by the Government of Nunavut to allow the contractor time to complete the assessment.

The Standing Committee urges the department to ensure that assessments are completed in a timely fashion. The Standing Committee recognises that the department is currently developing a communications strategy.

It is essential that the strategy be comprehensive to ensure that property owners are aware of their tax liability. This is important now to explain the current extension but will be even more important after the assessments are complete. The Standing Committee urges the department to work with the contractor to ensure that the language needs of unilingual Inuktitut speakers are met in this strategy.

The department should consider the use of radio to ensure that as broad an audience is reached as possible. Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee supported the bill at the clause by clause stage of the Standing Committee review and recommends its passage to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. McLean. Any general comments? Any comments? If there are no questions or comments, Bill 9 can now be reviewed. Bill 9. Clause 1, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Bill as a whole. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Do we agree that Bill 9 is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Thank you. That was a very brief time. Thank you, minister. If you have closing remarks, please go ahead. We also thank your officials. Any closing remarks? Madam Minister.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you. I would like to thank my staff for coming out here to take a seat here and to stand up again after a few minutes.

(interpretation) Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would also like all the members to have an excellent summer and spring. And if you catch a fish, think of me. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We still have another issue to deal with. Order in the House. We will begin with Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation Number 4, 1999/2000. Do you have the copy of the Bill? Thank you. We have had a long day but we will try and conclude our meeting today. Mr. Ng do you have any opening comments?

Supplementary Appropriation Acts 1999/2000 to 2002/2003 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the committee today to present four Supplementary Appropriation Bills that are required to authorise expenditures for our first three complete years, as well as additional capital spending for the current fiscal year.

The bills for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 deal with department over expenditures as well as year end adjustments for leave and severance liabilities. The Financial Administration Act requires supplementary requirements to be brought to the legislature for approval.

The Bill for 2001/2002 is required to approve three special warrants - 5 million dollars for the Department of Health and Social Services to fund increased costs related to Non-Insured Health Benefits and reciprocal health care billing. Approximately 2 million of these are recoverable from Health Canada through the Non-Insured Health Benefits program. A further 748 thousand dollars for the Department of Sustainable Development to fund workers' compensation benefits for eligible Nunavut Harvesters for the 2001 calendar year. Also 500 thousand for the Department of Community Government and Transportation to fund the emergency repairs to the Cape Dorset water line.

The bill for 2002/2003 is required to approve the carryover of capital projects not completed in the 2001/2002 fiscal year and to approve the addition of two new capital projects: the replacement of the Baker Lake community learning centre by the Department of Education and the purchase of 37 additional staff housing units by the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng, you can now go to the witness table and also Sergeant-At-Arms if you would escort the witnesses. Thank you and welcome. Mr. Minister please introduce your witnesses or the officials.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my left is Bob Vardy, Deputy Minister and to my right is Mr. Roger Perchard, the Director of Expenditure Management for the Department of Finance. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you and welcome. I have the Supplementary Appropriations Act No. 4, 1999/2000. We will start on tab 6, Bill 4. Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized 175 million 171 thousand. Total department 171 thousand. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why are there previously unrecorded employee leave and severance benefits in the total of 72 thousand? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is Mr. Chairman to reflect the recommendation to charge all accrued liabilities for the year that they're earned. So, over the course of the next two or three supplementary appropriations, you'll see that for every department. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): I didn't quite understand, I was asking why they were previously unrecorded. Why did we have unrecorded employee leave and severance benefits? Why is it that they were unrecorded, that was my question?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Because Mr. Chairman, not until after the end of the fiscal year can you do the accruals, the reporting of the accounting for the accruals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total department 171 thousand. Agreed? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question on the same page, departmental operations, can we get clarification on what the 99 thousand was for?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the amount that the budget was overexpended by the Department of Health and Social Services in their operations and maintenance for the 99-2000 year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: I know that's what we're dealing with; can the minister and the department tell us what that was used for?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Vardy.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, all I can tell you is O and M expenditures were over the budgeted amount for that year. I don't have specifics here in respect to the details of what it was but given the size of their budget it's a small amount from the overall budget Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): That's it Ms. Williams? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the opening comments of the Finance Minister in the Inuktitut and English versions, there's a slight difference, the 500 thousand that the minister mentioned, in the Inuktitut it says 5 million. So could you make that change as soon as possible? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I apologize if there was a mistake in the Inuktitut. It's 500 thousand dollars for Cape Dorset. That's what the member's referring to. Not 5 million. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else Mr. Nutarak? Department of Health and Social Services. Not previously authorized 171 thousand dollars. And total department 171 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 7. Department of Health and Social Services. Capital. Not previously authorized 166 thousand dollars. Total department 166 thousand dollars. Agreed? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't understand this. For example, if we're going to be doing any construction under contract, it's a capital item. The contractor makes 2 million 188 thousand dollars, for example and if this contractor doesn't finish the project and goes over by 166 thousand dollars, does the government ends up paying the over expenditure?

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this case is actually the Department of Health and Social Services that went over their capital allowance by the 166 thousand dollars and this is to correct that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): That's it. Department of Health and Social Services Capital. Not previously authorized 166 thousand dollars. Total department 166 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 3. Schedule 2. Capital 166 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Total Supplementary Appropriations 337 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Bill 2. Supplementary Appropriations Act No 4. 1999 – 2000. Clause 1.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3, page 3. Page 3. Vote 1. Total Operations and Maintenance 171 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Vote 2, Capital. Total Capital, 166 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Total Supplementary Appropriations, in parts one and two, 337 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 1. Clause 1.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 4.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 5.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 6.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 7.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): The bill as a whole.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Is the bill ready for third reading? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 3, Supplementary Appropriation No. 3, 2000/2001. We're all on the same page. Nunavut Government. Supplementary Appropriation Number 3. Not previously authorized 1 million 93 thousand. Total Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, 1 million 93 thousand. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we saw earlier with the Department of Health and Social Services they had over-expended and the Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs over-expended also. It says severance benefits here. Was that paid to people who are leaving the government? Or how exactly was this 621 thousand 582 used for? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would have been for unpaid holiday leave and severance benefits for employees of only this department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would be very helpful to have some of this detail and this is more than half a million dollars and there's very few people working in that department. Another one just down, second line departmental operations under the 471 thousand 418, could the minister clarify what that was for?

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes Mr. Chairman the 471 was the over-expenditure in the operations and maintenance side. The 621 is for the charge out for accruals for the employee leave and severance benefits. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He just read off the paper that I'm looking at. I'm trying to ask what it was for? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman in respect of which item is she referring to; or is it both? If I could get that clarified? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Williams please clarify your question.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm talking about, the minister is just reading off the paper but my question is about the departmental operations for 471 thousand 418. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the bulk of the over-expenditures for the Department of the Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs was in respect to the Implementation Secretariat for the Power Corporation when they were moving and incurring expenses in setting up the Power Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This 476 million 582 if this is for the few employees of EIA then I assume then that this was for the Deputy Ministers who were temporarily there or they were there, but had to be let go or early retirement etc., etc.

Did they actually have payments or is this a partial payment 621 thousand 582 for severance benefits package or was there more that is not in the supplementary appropriation rather in the main estimates and this one is over-expenditure from letting some Deputy Ministers go? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Maybe I should just first, first of all this doesn't necessarily mean that this amount would have been paid out of the budget this year. But it is an earned liability of the government because if people didn't take their vacation for example, during the course of the year, then that money is entitled to them and they would receive it in the following year.

But it's charged out because it was earned in the 2000/2001 year. It's in the appropriation here. It may not necessarily have been just for this one year as well. If they did the accounting, the accrual for all the employees, and it was charged out in this one fiscal year, it would be a larger than normal amount. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we are meeting in standing committees, some times we are provided with a substantiation sheets to explain what the

government's asking us to approve. But these particular ones, they don't have the substantiation sheets. Is it possible to have the substantiation sheets in the future so that we will know at least, the minister will know how to answer Ms. Williams' question of what it was actually used for because right now we'll never know. Thank you.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer to that is yes, but I guess the reason why we don't have a lot of the detail here is because this is all recorded in the public accounts that will be tabled later today because it was approved earlier for tabling. Once the public accounts have been reviewed by the appropriate Standing Committee, and the witnesses appear before them, then all those expenditures, the over expenditures and all the details of that will be available to the committee reviewing that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: I understand that only Standing Committees have the copy of the public accounts. Nobody else has a copy. Is that what he said? Thank you.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, everyone will have a copy of the public information once it's tabled later today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that, but it's very hard to determine right now what we are approving other than accounting principles that are being used under the Financial Administration Act, Section 32.

Other than that we really don't know. All we know is that we are following the law of Financial Administration. But I guess it would be more accountable on the part of the Legislative Assembly, if we were to actually approve something that we know, it would have been more appropriate I think to have the public accounts tabled and discussed and approved before we carry these Supplementary Appropriations.

I know it's old; 2000/2001 but we did not expect not previously recorded employee leave and severance, even though they're accruals, even though it might not have been possible to know what the contents are. But it would have helped with this one. This is a comment really. Next time we should do it in reverse so we that we would know what we're talking about. Thank you.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the member makes some good comments and we'll note it. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Are you complete? Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, page 6. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized 1 million 93 thousand dollars. Total department 1 million 93 thousand dollars.

Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Go to page 5, I apologise, page 7 Department of Justice. Operations and maintenance. Not previously authorised 562 thousand. Total department 562 thousand. Do you agree? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The following pages are very similar, under these accruals previously unrecorded, employee leave benefits. Under section 36 of the Financial Administration Act and every one of them are similarly like that, and we have to approve them in order to make it legal for the government to record it as approved. I'm not going to make any more comments on the following pages but I still urge the government to have the information for the public accounts tabled, read and discussed, so that we will know next time when we approve it. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: I agree with the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Justice. Operations and maintenance. Not previously authorised 562 thousand. Total department 562 thousand. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 8. Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Operations and maintenance. Not previously authorised, 63 thousand. Total department 63 thousand. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 9. Government of Nunavut 2000-2001 Supplementary Appropriation No. 3. Department of Education. Operations and maintenance. Not previously authorised. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to ask the same question even though my colleague said that. Anyway the Departmental operations, almost a million dollars, 933 thousand, 949 maybe if they can give us a little bit of information on what those almost million dollars were used for?

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These expenditures are overall over their budget for the operations and maintenance. They are part of education and again once the public accounts are reviewed, the deputies or officials come before the appropriate committee and explain why the expenditures happened. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe Mr. Chairman, you can advise me. I'm having a hard time approving anything when we don't know what this money was used for. Maybe you could advise me, maybe the magical thing that we need to do without knowing what we're approving. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the deal with over expenditure in departments, the correct appropriation authority is this legislature and of course if you don't approve it, then we would be in violation of the Financial Administration Act. Having said that we know there are over expenditures, it's reported in the public accounts. The auditor general certainly comments on over expenditures, the departments as well as committee members when they review it and they've reported back.

So there are lots of mechanisms for internal evaluation on the over expenditures but in this case here, this is just a formality from the perspective of legal authorities and the legislature to correct those over expenditures for that fiscal year. That's the public accounts that are going to be tabled later today. The official financial statement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We're on page 9. Department of Education. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized 10 million, 451 thousand dollars. Total department 10 million, 451 thousand dollars. Do you agree? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I find it very difficult to approve some things without comprehending it and any paperwork showing the clarification when we don't know what the funds are for even though we're going to get information later on. As a government, when there are over expenditures and without any reasoning, when we have to approve the over expenditures the explanation and the information should always be provided. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated earlier, like the response to Ms. Williams, this is to legally allow for the expenditure to correct the public record with respect to the over expenditure that's already taken place. A detailed review of the over expenditures

themselves come with the review of the public accounts; the formal financial statements of the government that will be tabled. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Although the public accounts committee will review that I don't want to see this happen again like this. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Quite frankly, I don't like to see this happen as well. It's not my preference Mr. Chairman, as Chairman of the Financial Management Board that the departments exceed their authorities. In some cases for the accruals of the employee leave and severances that is understandable because they requested to account for them. But in the case of where this has gone over in departmental operations or the authority for spending that's given in this legislature we certainly don't support that either without it being totally justified. Similar to one of the appropriation bills later on, where departments have started now to correct the procedure to bring forward before, you know in the year that's undertaken to catch up in the appropriate fashion versus two years later. Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Since there's the Financial Administration Act, I guess we have to keep up with that and I'm sure there is other legislation to make sure that we have clarification along with the numbers. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that was a comment. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. Do you have any legislation or rules that state that when you're going to bringing out some figures that you'll bring them out along with the explanation and clarifications? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess the Financial Administration Act is what we fall under for expenditures. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Did you say yes. Is there such a provision or rule? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are no specifics on itemized detail but certainly the fact that the amounts have to come forward to the legislature for approval and explaining as far as what the rationale is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Are you finished? Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No matter what the department is or what minister it is we always want to get information as to what the money was expended for and we always want to get detailed information and usually that's what we like to see or that's what we request. When we don't have detailed information and since the ministers don't have that, usually the answer is they don't have the detailed information at hand. So, I was wondering if we could improve the system next time so we can have detailed information on what was expended.

For what reason Mr. Chairman, I'm sure that there are confidentiality issues, like the Assistant Deputy Ministers that were asked to resign and I know that when ADMs resign and they're given severance pay I'd be very interested to see the severance pay. So perhaps before you come up with a supplementary appropriation perhaps you will have more detailed information as to what they were expended for? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The bulk of the amount the nine and a half million dollars for Education, the member is right in respect of it's unearned severance pay, unpaid vacation leave, I mean, certainly he's right in his perspective of we can't bring information of each employee what they've earned, what they are entitled to, what as far, you know, their leave credits and their severance pay and stuff, that's why it is in a global amount. And I it would be an awful chore quite frankly to be doing that for every single expenditure under this item, but again it's not to say that it's specific to just severance payments for one or two individuals.

I mean this is all the employees who earned severance leave that they would be entitled for the period, based upon the agreements that they are under, whether it's a collective agreement amount or you know, a contract amount under HAY plan or separate contracts that they may have as a senior official within the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister has stated that the employees accumulate severance benefits under their pay, I know more than one ADM, previous ADMs when they are asked to resign they are given a year of severance

pay, is there any rule or regulation to this effect? So they get paid for all the accumulation for their severance pay? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman once again I'll try and explain it. It is the accrual; it's not to say that the individual would have gotten paid for this year. It's what they would have been entitled to be paid if they had left on March 31, 2001 in this situation. If all the employees within the Department of Education left and had to get paid out for all their severance benefits and all their employee leave it would have been a total 9 and a half million dollars. But having said that, we know that not everybody quits at one given time.

So it's the accumulation of that amount that carries over into the next year until such a time if they decide to leave or they use up their vacation leave in the case of vacations, the vacation portion of it Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Would you like to continue? Thank you. Department of Education. Operations and Maintenance, not previously authorized, 10 million 451 thousand dollars. Total Department 10 million 451 thousand dollars. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we don't approve this, then would it create problems with the Government of Nunavut's funds? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It wouldn't create problems. The money has already been spent. These liabilities are already earned. It would create a problem from the perspective of the legal legislative authority to spend. And I don't know how the Auditor General would treat that. She might even comment on the legislature. I don't know. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Just for further clarification. This will not create a deficit situation with the Government of Nunavut's revenue or money?

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, no because as I had indicated already, this money has already been either spent in the case of departmental operations or over-spent.

And in the case of the liabilities, the leave and severance benefits are already earned by those individuals. I would like to also, and maybe I should have said at the start, it would have clarified things a bit. The reason why it's so large for education is this is the

assumption after the dissolution of the boards. So this is the leave and termination, the cases of all the teachers throughout Nunavut along with those who have been become employees of the department, not of the boards anymore. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Total Education Total Operations and Maintenance. Total department. Not previously authorized, 10 million 451 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Questions. Thank you. Page 10. Department of Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized 20 million 865 thousand dollars. Total Department 20 million 865 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Questions. Thank you. Going back to page 2. Page 2, on Bill 3. Page 2. Page 2. Operations and Maintenance, 33 million dollars 34 thousand dollars. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. Page 3. Total Appropriation, 33 million 34 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. We're on this page now. Bill 3. Bill 3. Are you there? Supplementary Appropriation No. 3, 2000/2001. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Turning to page 3. Vote 1, operations and maintenance. Total Operations and Maintenance, 33 million 34 thousand dollars. Total Supplementary Appropriation, 33 million 34 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Page 1. Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 4.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 7. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Do you agree that the bill as a whole is ready for third reading, do you agree on the Bill as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 3 is now ready for third reading. Thank you. Supplementary Appropriation No. 4, 2001/2002. Bill 4, page 6. Department of Health and Social Services. Are you on that page? Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Special Warrants 5 million dollars. Total Health Insurance Programs, 5 million dollars.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total Health Insurance Programs 5 million dollars. Questions. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're all in a hurry. It's just that I take it this 5 million dollars is for medical travel and how come it wasn't picked up? Or was the accounting that slow coming in for 2001/2002? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Department of Health and Social Services realized late in the fiscal year that they were going to be over budget once again and put forward the request for the supplementary funding through special

warrants. But the primary cost Mr. Chairman, was the increased medical travel and out of territory hospital physician use as well as increased utilization of boarding homes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did this last year and when we were writing down another 20 million dollars over spending in the departments. I'm not saying it's over spending. It probably catch up spending. But, you know, the minister has the facts and figures so, you know we'd like to know about this ahead of time. I'm sure his department can let us know ahead of time how much he's going to be over by, 5, 10, or 15 million dollars because this really throws our accounting off every year, with the Department of Health and Social Services not having these budgeted figures in.

I'm sure if they would let us know ahead of time that they anticipate another 5 or 10 million dollar deficit in medical travel we could accept it but it only gets dropped on us out of the blue, you know, it's a little harder to digest. That's just basically a comment and basically if the finance minister could direct the Department of Health and Social Services staff to maybe forecast what kind of deficit you're going to have it'd be better on all of us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Yes, we have worked with the Department of Health and Social Services and will continue to do so to try to keep abreast of the situation in respect to the expenditures. Sometimes unfortunately with medical travel and forced treatment requirements the area is hard to contain. But the Minister of Health and Social Services is fully aware. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Okay we were on Department of Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Special Warrants 5 million dollars. Total department. Health and Insurance Programs 5 million dollars. Total department 5 million dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 7. Sustainable Development. Operations and Maintenance. Special Warrants 748 thousand dollars. Total Corporate Management 748 thousand dollars. Total department 748 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Carried. Page 8. Community Government and Transportation. Capital. Special Warrants 500 thousand dollars. Total. Community Government and Transportation 500 thousand dollars. Total department 500 thousand dollars. Questions. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to page 2. Schedule 1. Operations and Maintenance. Operations and Maintenance Appropriation 5 million, 748 thousand dollars. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Questions. Page 3. Schedule 2. Capital. Capital Appropriation 500 thousand dollars. Total Appropriations 6 million, 248 thousand dollars. Questions. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 4. Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4. 2001/2002. Clause 1.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 3. Vote 1. Operations and Maintenance. Total Operations and Maintenance 5 million 748 thousand dollars. Questions. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Vote 2. Capital. Total Capital 500 thousand dollars. Questions. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total Supplementary Appropriations in parts one and two, 6 million 248 thousand dollars. Questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Page 1. Going back to page 1. Clause 3. Questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 5. Questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 6. Questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Clause 7. Questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. The Bill as a whole. The Bill as a whole? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree that the bill is ready for third reading? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Bill 4 is ready for third reading. Thank you. Supplementary Appropriation No. 1, 2002/2003. Page 4. Page 4 of Bill 5. Department of Finance. Capital. Not previously authorised 390 thousand. Total comptrollership 390 thousand. Total Department 390 thousand. Questions? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The 2002-2003 supplementary appropriations going all the way to the end of the page, are those ones we approved last year in 2001-2002? Those are the ones they've already approved but were late in spending? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Everything is a carryover with the exception of the Baker Lake Community Centre, with Education for 1 million 660 thousand and the condominium project of Nunavut Housing Corporation 6.8 million.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's no explanation of why the money was not expended, after it was approved, and there's a lot of money and it just explains that I guess the government's money will not have impact for 2001-2002. The Baker Lake one is not the same, I just want to find out why those were not expended right away even though they were approved already? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Go ahead. Sorry we cannot hear you. Go ahead, is it on now? Keep talking.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've indicated sometimes it's for a variety of reasons, you know every year there's a carryover in the capital projects. Sometimes projects go over that can't be completed. Other times late arrivals, difficulty of contracting for various numbers of reasons but as you know this past year this current year we had a fall approval that's a lot more adequate time for tendering. So we've been hoping to minimize the amount of carry over as a result of potential delays in the upcoming fiscal year, but this is for the last fiscal year. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Want to continue Mr. Arvaluk?

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): I'll have a question when we get to page 7.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 4. Department of Finance. Capital. Not previously authorised, 390 thousand. Total Comptrollership 390 thousand. Total department 390 thousand. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page 5. Department of Justice. Capital. Not previously authorized 100 thousand dollars. Total Registries and Court Services 100 thousand dollars. Total Community Justice and Corrections 239 thousand dollars. Total Department. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why is this a carry over? Why didn't the planning go ahead on the Iqaluit Court House? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: I don't know Mr. Chairman. I could find out from Public Works or the Department of Justice on that specific project. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Total Community Justice and Corrections 239 thousand dollars. Total department 339 thousand dollars. Questions. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 6. Department of Public Works and Services. Capital. Not previously authorized 211 thousand dollars. Total Technical Services 211 thousand dollars. Petroleum Products Division 2 million, 537 thousand dollars. Total Petroleum Products Division 2 million, 537 thousand dollars. Total Department 2 million, 748 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 7. Department of Community Government and Transportation. Capital. Not previously authorized 4 million, 319 thousand dollars. Total Community Government. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are a lot of communities. We know that in 2002/2003, these are not previously authorized for 2002/2003, but they were approved for 2001/2002. Just to clarify. Most of the communities in Nunavut, there are projects that weren't continued and I mentioned it here. Even some projects, such as in Coral Harbour the sewage and solid waste improvements; projects that could have been done very easily with 13 thousand dollars. So, I can't even start to find a reason why it wouldn't be done. Have the communities been told as to why they weren't continued or done? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that Community Government and Transportation officials would have been working with the communities on these projects from the regional centres like they always do. So they would have been advised and consulted on this. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): You want to continue Mr. Arvaluk?

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): The minister believes that Community Government and Transportation would have informed the communities. The total of not previously authorized is 4 million 319 thousand dollars. Are they informed in the communities? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Are you asking the Minister of Community Government and Transportation? Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manito Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The regional offices are responsible for informing the communities and I know that if the municipalities weren't informed, the mayors when they were in Ottawa would have told me. I wasn't approached by any mayors about this. But we will strive to inform them because it's important that we have good communication and mayors must have been informed because I wasn't approached and I was there for three hours one morning. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to see if some of these communities were informed. I'll be able to tell the minister and she could inform them whether or not they were informed. Thank you.

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

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My staff, I keep telling my staff to inform the communities, the municipalities. If the member hears about one community not being informed, I would like to be told. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk, are you done? Community Government and Transportation. Capital. Page 7. Not previously authorized, 4 million 319 thousand dollars. Total Community Government, 4 million 319 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 8. Department of Community Government and Transportation. Capital. Not previously authorized 991 thousand dollars. Total Transportation 991 thousand dollars. Total department, 5 million 310 thousand dollars. Questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Department of Education. Capital. Not previously authorized, 3 million 951 thousand dollars. Total Corporate Services, 3 million 951 thousand dollars. Total Department, 3 million 951 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 10. Department of Health and Social Services. Capital. Not previously authorized 3 million 395 thousand dollars. Total Directorate 3 million 395 thousand dollars. Total Department, 3 million 395 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Page 11. Department of Sustainable Development. Capital. Not previously authorized 1 million 926 thousand dollars. Total Sustainable Development 1 million 926 thousand dollars. Total department 1 million 926 thousand dollars. Any questions? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask the Minister of Sustainable Development because these are projects that were carried over. It was just about 2 million dollars carried over. Were those communities informed as to why they were carried over and when the projects will be done? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister of Sustainable Development. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. These are projects that will be going ahead. So the communities are informed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Do you want to continue? Total Department, 1 million 926 thousand dollars. Questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Page 12. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Capital. Not previously authorized 6 million 381 thousand dollars. Total Nunavut Housing Corporation 6 million 381 thousand dollars. Questions? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is to purchase and furnish 37 staff housing units in Iqaluit. Will you be purchasing furniture with the entire 6 million? Thank you.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: That's the plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Are the houses already built? Thank you.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are under various stages of construction right now. We're just finalizing negotiations with a couple of developers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Was the tender put out to see who would be building the 37 staff houses and are you negotiating who would be building the houses and would it be advertised throughout Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The developers were selected after requests for proposals were put out and then it was nailed down through some developers and the negotiations are now in respect to the floor plans and those types of things within the successful bidders. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: I've seen some houses in Iqaluit for 250 thousand dollars that aren't even worth 40 thousand dollars each. Do you feel that you are getting a fair deal with this 6 million dollars? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, based on the local market conditions. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's what I was talking about, local market conditions right now. If you go to Nova Scotia, or Newfoundland, compare that house down there. You would get it for 49 thousand dollars, but it's marketing for 250 thousand dollars. The local market conditions. Is there a cheaper way, can you not order materials, construct it yourself and get your money's better value for six million dollars? I know there is a shortage of housing here right now. Build your own. Would you not get a better deal? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, the proposals that we have now are for mid range housing, mid range price housing and the average of these units is 165 thousand dollars right now so we feel that that's fairly competitive. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Are you done? Nunavut Housing Corporation. Capital. Not previously authorized 6 million, 381 thousand dollars. Total Nunavut Housing Corporation 6 million, 381 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Go back to page 2. Schedule 1. Capital. Total Capital Appropriation 24 million, 440 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Page 3. Not previously authorized. Total Capital 24 million, 440 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 5. Supplementary Appropriations. Capital. No. 1. 2002 – 2003. Definitions Clause 1.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3. Page 3. Total 24 million, 440 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total. Appropriations 24 million, 440 thousand dollars. Any questions? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Go back to page 1. Bill 5. Supplementary Appropriations. Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 7. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill as a whole. Do you agree? Do you agree that this bill is ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Bill 7. Bill 7. Mr. Ng.

Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act 2002-2003 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of the Loan Authorization Act is to facilitate lending to municipalities. So it will benefit municipalities which may not have the ability to borrow from commercial lenders. The Loan Authorization Act sets the upper limit for municipal loans for the 2002/2003 at 5 million dollars. The government is requesting a loan limit of 5 million dollars to ensure that we are able to meet the needs that may arise in a municipality.

If requirements do not materialize, loans will not be made. Loans are advanced only after careful scrutiny by the Department of Community Government and Transportation and Finance. Only applications from there are recommended to the Minister of Finance for approval. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ng. Are you going to have the same officials with you Mr. Ng?

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Ii.

>> *Applause*

Chairperson (interpretation): Okay. Does the Committee Chair have opening comments? Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be replacing the chair. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services is pleased to have the opportunity to review Bill 7, the Loan Authorization Act 2002/2003, with the Minister of Finance. Members are aware that this piece of legislation is introduced on an annual basis with the only substantive change from year to year being the upper loan limit allowable under the act.

Members noted with interest that the upper limit for 1999/2000 was 10 million dollars. The limit for 2000/2001 was 5 million dollars and the limit for 2001/2002 was 2.5 million dollars. This year, the limit has been increased to 5 million dollars. It is the understanding of members of the committee that this fiscal year will see loans being made to several municipalities for both land development purposes and as an element of deficit recovery plans.

It is always a concern for members when municipalities in Nunavut fall into deficit. The issue of whether the current levels of municipal funding are adequate for municipal needs is a debatable one. Regardless, it cannot be seen as a positive development when municipalities have to borrow money in this way. The committee would also reiterate a recommendation made last year during the review of the 2001/2002 Loan Authorization

Act, that all Members of the Legislative Assembly be formally advised in writing by the government as to which municipalities have received loans and for what purposes and in what amount.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. The Committee recommends the passage of Bill 7 to all members.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. Any general comments to Bill 7? I don't think there are any general comments. Bill 7. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 7. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 8. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 9. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 10. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill as a whole. Do you agree? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like further clarification on Clause 10. Maybe I'll rephrase it. (interpretation ends)The Executive Council considers necessary procuring at the purpose and provision of this act. Or may make any regulations. Are you saying that, you will make a condition an agreement to carry these conditions out before you make a loan? Is that what clause 10 means? Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's my understanding that means the commissioner will sign off on recommendations of the Executive Council in carrying out the provisions of the act. So, in other words, the recommendations are being made to allow for the authority to lend and the Commissioner signs on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: That number 9 then is more suited to this kind of thing I'm concerned about that when you're making a deal with the communities, for a certain amount of dollars, that you take conditions. How is this being repaid? Repayment Program, repayment plan or something like that. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it's always the case of repayment schedules agreed upon before the loan is authorized and agreed upon between the government and the municipality. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): That's it? Thank you. Clause 10. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Bill 7. Does the committee agree the bill is ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to thank the committee members and also my officials, Mr. Vardy and Mr. Perchard. Thank you.

>>Applause

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you very much for making your time available. Thank you. We have concluded our business. Thank you very much for your support and cooperation while I was chairing the Committee of the Whole. At this time we can call in the Speaker.

Speaker: Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 20: Report of Committee of the Whole

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 and I would like to report that Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 are 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. Okalik will be the seconder. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman, I seek unanimous consent to go back to Item 13, Tabling of Documents. Thank you.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed Mr. Ng.

Revert to Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 034 – 1(6): Consolidated Financial Statements, March 31, 2001
Tabled Document 035 – 1(6): Non-Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)
March 31, 2001

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following documents, Public Accounts Consolidated Financial Statements, March 31, 2001 and Public Accounts Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, March 31, 2001. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ng. Is there any further tabling of documents? Third Reading of Bills. Ms. Thompson.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act – Third Reading

Hon. Manitok Thompson: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baffin South, and everybody else, that Bill 9, an Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 9 has had third reading. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 4, 1999/2000 – Third Reading
Bill 3, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 3, 2000/2001 – Third Reading
Bill 4, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 4, 2001/2002 – Third Reading
Bill 5, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 2002/2003 – Third Reading
Bill 6, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 2, 2002/2003 – Third Reading
Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act, 2002/2003 – Third Reading

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hudson's Bay that Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 4, 1999/2000; Bill 3, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 3, 2000/2001; Bill 4, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 4, 2001/2002; Bill 5, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 2002/2003; Bill 6, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 2, 2002/2003 and Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act, 2002/2003 be read for the third time. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The Bills have had third reading. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Before we proceed to Item 22, I would ask that the Clerk ascertain whether the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the chamber to give assent to bills. Mr. Clerk.

Assent to Bills

Commissioner Irniq: Please be seated. Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, as Commissioner of Nunavut I am pleased to give assent to the following Bills.

Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation Act, Number 4, 1999/ 2000– Assent
Bill 3, Supplementary Appropriation Act, Number 3, 2000/2001– Assent
Bill 4 Supplementary Appropriation Act Number 4, 2001/2002– Assent
Bill 5 Supplementary Appropriation Act, Capital Act, Number 1, 2002/2003 – Assent
Bill 6, Supplementary Appropriation Act, Number 2, 2002/2003 – Assent
Bill 7, Loan Authorization Act 2002/2003– Assent
Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act – Assent
Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act – Assent
Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act – Assent
Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act – Assent

Nakurmiik.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Before we proceed to Item 22, I'd like to acknowledge the pages for their hard work and long hours, Darren, Joanna, George, Julia, Natik, Tamaiju, Tommy, and Terry, who are not all here.

>>*Applause*

Now the item that everybody's waiting for Mr. Clerk. Item 22. Orders of the Day.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Orders of the Day for Monday, October 28, 2002:

>>*Applause*

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
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Members, that closes this session. I know it's been long and difficult and strenuous at times. Most of the members are taking off for the summer. Safe travelling and a good summer and we'll see you back here in the fall with the exception of the committee that'll be here throughout the summer.

This House stands adjourned until Monday October 28, 2002, at 1:30 p.m. in Pangnirtung.

>>*Applause*

Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 8.55 p.m.*

