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**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Akulliq)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Wednesday March 26, 2003**

**Members Present:**

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

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

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

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker:** Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Kilabuk

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 149 – 1(6): Early Childhood Education Program at Nunatta Campus, Nunavut Arctic College**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House of the partnership between Kakivak Association and Nunavut Arctic College that will provide community based Early Childhood Training.

Mr. Speaker, the value of the contract is \$1.2 million to be spent over a period of 15 months from January 2003 to March 2004. The Nunavut Arctic College has contributed to the training of qualified staff and development of resources.

Over the past 7 years the Nunatta Campus has delivered the Certificate in Early Childhood Education Program as well as Record of Achievement Program in Childcare Management. These accredited programs, which meet the standards of best practice, were delivered in Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Kimmirut and Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut commissioned a report on licensed daycares in Nunavut title "Looking Towards the Future." This document highlights the need for stable funding and adequate training. It emphasizes the importance of elders in the childcare system and the importance of Inuit values in developing childcare programs. The report identifies training issues for childcare services, which can guide long and short term planning of childcare in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister Picco.

**Minister's Statement 150 – 1(6): Nutrition Project for the Baffin**

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to provide the members of this House and the people of Nunavut with news of a project in the making, and it coincides with national nutrition month.

Mr. Speaker, my department has been exploring a community based nutrition pilot project with the Community Nutrition division of Nestle Canada.

Mr. Speaker, we are in the process of developing this project and I wanted members to know that my department is committed to working on this multi-phased project and get an overview of what the project is about.

Mr. Speaker, it is expected that a North Baffin Community will be selected within the next couple of months to participate in a needs assessment to determine both the health status of the community and the next steps to be taken. The resources for this would be provided by Nestle Canada.

Mr. Speaker, during this initial phase we will invite our partner, Qikiqtani Inuit Association, along with the Baffin Regional Nutritionist, the Community Health Resource person or the local Health and Social Service Committee. The project will be under the direction of the community Health and Social Service director, while the regional advisory committee will lead and approve project recommendations and determine the feasibility of later phases.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I am pleased that our government, through my department, is continuing to explore such joint venture projects that will benefit all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister Akesuk.

**Minister's Statement 151– 1(6): Inuinnaqtun Interpreter/Translator Program**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon Mr. Speaker, colleagues and my constituents of Kimmirut and Cape Dorset.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that my department is working with Nunavut Arctic College and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association to develop an Inuinnaqtun Interpreter/Translator training program.

We are pleased to report that Nunavut is making great strides toward protecting all forms of our Inuit Language, including Inuinnaqtun.

The work of our interpreters and translators is crucial in allowing us to achieve our Bathurst Mandate goal and in communicating with Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends)It is essential to ensure that Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun remains a living language for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, for years an Inuktitut Interpreter/Translator program has been offered to Nunavummiut and many Nunavummiut have taken the opportunity to take the program and establish careers as language professionals.

The same opportunity will soon be available to the Inuinnaqtun community. When this program is up and running it will provide students with the skills they need for employment opportunities in their community. It will ensure that a new generation of Inuit will develop fully their language skills in Inuinnaqtun. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Are there any further Ministers' Statements? If not, we'll move onto Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

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

#### **Member's Statement 497 – 1(6): Water Quality and Supply**

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was heart warming news that the Government will be promoting the Inuinnaqtun language. That is the first item that I really appreciate the Minister for talking in Inuinnaqtun. I will be speaking in English, and I am very pleased to hear that you are going to be training Interpreter/Translators.

(Interpretation ends) I rise today to recognize the important contribution being made by our Government and by the Federal Government to develop a Nunavut infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, last Friday, Minister Thompson announced four new projects which will address infrastructure needs in the communities of Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Pangnirtung, and Kugluktuk. The projects all focussed in improving water quality, and this in turn will improve our quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of water quality is often a concern to Nunavummiut. To take my community of Kugluktuk, as an example, this past winter there has been serious problems with the water supply. At times the Hamlet crew had to drill holes through the ice to get to the water from the River.

When it is -30, -40 degrees outside, this is a very difficult task. As a result of the problem with the water supply, water delivery was seriously affected. Water truck crews would be



three or four days with their deliveries. Some houses were completely out of water and Hamlet officials were considering closing down the School.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that you can appreciate the seriousness of the situation. If there had been an emergency, such as a fire in the community, the consequences could have been very bad.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that the Department of Community Government and Transportation had successfully been accessing federal funding for these projects. Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that the Water Supply Line Realignment Project, funded through the Canada/Nunavut Infrastructure Agreement, will ensure that the people of Kugluktuk will not see a repetition of water problems that we experienced this winter. I look forward to many more announcements like this in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

#### **Member's Statement 498 – 1(6): Gun Legislation**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, like millions of other people across this country I was outraged to wake up this morning only to hear that another \$59 million of our hard earned tax dollars was flushed down the toilet yesterday in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, it is not secret that the National Gun Registry has been a complete and utter disaster from day one. Mr. Speaker, each and every Member of this House is well aware of the legitimate place that firearms have in our northern communities and households.

Across the North and in the rural areas of southern Canada, people are appalled at what they see to be an assault on their way of life. Mr. Speaker, my constituents tell me that they have had nothing but trouble in dealing with these new requirements under this half baked federal legislation.

This system is simply not working for people in small northern communities, who depend on access to firearms and ammunition for harvesting and protection against dangerous animals.

Mr. Speaker, this is another example of a system designed to meet the concerns of a big city, not smaller communities. It is a system that is certainly not working for our unilingual constituents. It is a system where cost appears to be totally out of control.

Mr. Speaker, I applauded, I applauded our Government and the NTI when they joined forces to oppose this lunatic scheme that was no doubt hatched by out of touch bureaucrats in southern Canada. Other Provincial Governments are also unhappy about the impact that it has had.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it very clear, I am not encouraging anyone in this territory to break the law. However, we need to keep fighting for changes that makes sense for our residents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 499 – 1(6): Illness in Pond Inlet**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are some illnesses in Nunavut. There are two schools in Pond Inlet that are closed down. The other one is the Olayuk School and the high school, Natsivvik School is closed down due to an illness.

It came to the point where so many teachers and students were sick they had to close down. The two schools and I hope that this will not continue too long. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 500 – 1(6): Iraq War**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been seeing more coverage in Iraq on television that is now taking place. History shows that Inuit do not make war to acquire and take control of land and animals, for that I am thankful.

Mr. Speaker, we were taught that the land, the soil and living things to not belong to any one person. All of these things are for everyone to share. Mr. Speaker, to all of those who suffer the consequences of war in Iraq, let us, the people of Nunavut, pray for them.

To the future generations and the people of Nunavut, I want to say to you, let there never be war fought on Nunavut soil. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 501 – 1(6): Photo I.D for Patients**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to show my gratitude and for some good news regarding my mother. She is close to 90 years old and went to a hospital in Ottawa. When she was coming back, she was told not to fly back on the airline because she had no photo identification.

And so, I am grateful for the Community Government and Transportation who allowed her to get photo I.D. The department helped my mother and it became very apparent that for Elders, who are unilingual Inuktitut speaking, that the Government is always willing to help and I thank them for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 502 – 1(6): Funding Assistance for Elders**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about the things we hear. We all go through a hard time; I am not going against anyone who has made comments regarding the decentralized communities.

For Elders and youth programs, there is funding available from the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth for assistance in those programs. The Qikiqtani Association are also running programs in that regard.

I'm not putting them down in any way, but the term, I think should be changed. We are planning as a new government and with Nunavut being in it's infancy, that the planning we are doing for programming. I'm not putting down anyone when I say this, however, the term we often hear about the youth and elders will go to a conference.

The elders that were born many years ago have no grasp of the things we use now. The youth, being up to date with technology, there's a big gap between our elders and youth.

What I'd like to say, is those of us who are in between the elders and youth, I'm not saying we're just being pushed aside, we should try to bridge the gap between those two age groups. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you my colleagues. My statement regarding the elders and youth, I'm not saying they are able or unable, but there are so many people between those two age groups that also have a lot of knowledge.

I have a bit of Inuit traditional knowledge and I'm also aware of the new technology that you have to deal with. So, with all the funding and programs that are available, the people in the middle don't seem to get a lot of recognition.

I'm not saying the elders and youth are getting a little bit too much, I'm not saying that, but we also need to bridge that gap with the middle aged people. So, Mr. Speaker, we have a grasp of both worlds. A lot of us can speak in either English or Inuktitut, others besides me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 503 – 1(6): Illnesses in the Past**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when I was a young child many years ago and I'd like to share my experience with everybody so that they're on the record.

Mr. Speaker, when I was a child, in the months of February, March and April were the months that most people got sick and when there were periods of starvation. As a child, some of the areas where I lived had very bad conditions in those seasons so it was hard to get to the food source in those three months that I mentioned.

There were a lot of illnesses. There were deaths from those illnesses and that's how it was in the old days. Today, with the changes coming on and with a lot more technology today, it doesn't seem to be as recurring in those months. My colleague from Amittuq mentioned when I was a child I knew how Inuit lived traditionally and I also am aware of what the youth are going through.

In understanding both of these worlds I understand that there are not as many illnesses as many years ago and not as many people going hungry. That is how we live on the old days as Inuit and I wanted to put that on the record. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize visitors to Nunavut. First of all, the visitors are from Quebec. The people behind me are from the Transportation Department of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, they are up here for some meetings with my departmental staff regarding transportation. There are also negotiations regarding training and access roads in the communities for camp sites or hunting sites.

They are also looking at the types of breakwaters and they are having a workshop with my departmental staff. We know there are Inuit in Nunavik and there are a lot of similarities.

I would like to invite you to welcome them to Nunavut and I'm sure we will learn from each other from these discussions.

I will try to say their names. I apologize if I don't get it right. We will probably never see them again. Welcome to Nunavut.

First of all Dennis Blair, Director for Northern Quebec. Josie Asinaa. Please stand up. Luke Ampleman, Transportation Planner.

(interpretation ends) Those are the Native Affairs Coordinators and Luke, the Transportation Planner, Ms. Annette Guimond, Professional in Charge of Technical Follow-Up for the Marine Infrastructures Environmental Files and Climate Changes. Maybe she can learn a few things from me.

Caroline Renault, Professional in Charge of the Technical and Administrative Follow-Up for Air Transport, Social Economic Impact and Collective Transport Files. Big titles.

Mr. Speaker, my staff member Chad, his name is also complicated but that is Chad. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and welcome to the House the ones who are keeping up with the progress in the House, as the MLA for Pangnirtung, they supported me first. The mayor of Pangnirtung, Hezekiah Oshutapik and right before I begin, Greg Morash, the SAO. Mr. Speaker, I recognize them in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So that you can listen. I would like to recognize and welcome someone as well. When I first came here with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association as a Board Member, I started working with her as an interpreter. Very able person in English, I am sure, Ooleepika Ikkidluaq, welcome to the House, and Blandina as well. Welcome to the House, Thank you.

>>Applause

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not had the opportunity to welcome the, but we have some regular visitors in the Gallery. The individuals from Kugluktuk and she works at the Language Bureau, Agnas Allan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. She is here from Cambridge Bay, she is here for some workshops on women's issues. She works with the Kitikmeot Heritage Society and with the elders in Cambridge Bay and she is following along the footsteps of her recently deceased mother in the preservation of culture and language and I would like to recognize her and ask Members to join me in welcoming Ms. Emily Angulaalik. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 5. Item 6. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Havioyak.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 498 – 1(6): Water Supply System in Kugluktuk

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier on I stated in my statement that I want to direct a question to the Department of Community Government and Transportation. I had mentioned that we are having water problems; we had big water problems in Kugluktuk through our water treatment plant.

I am wondering if the Minister has made any improvements in that water supply system in Kugluktuk. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the Kugluktuk plant, I went to go see it not too long ago when I went over there and it was evident that there has to be something done about it.

My staff is aware of your situation and just recently, the federal government and the Nunavut Government jointly made an agreement where the Kugluktuk plant would eventually be changed.

The federal government and the territorial government are both going to be putting in money in together to replace the plant. And the road leading to that area, it has been more than once that there had been problems with the water pipes in Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you Minister, for your response. We like to hear some positive things in regards to water related issues. Once the Water trucks go out to deliver water, we have problems in the -40 temperatures.

As you stated that the Federal Government and your department would be working on this. When would you have an update as to the replacement of it so that we do not have problems during the winter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you. In regards to the Water pipe, we are going to be putting in \$700 thousand, and the Federal Government will be putting in \$307 thousand dollars. If we use Cambridge Bay, Pangnirtung, and in Gjoa Haven, were our priority if we are going to be working on those issues, we are going to be starting up those projects, and Kugluktuk is in the list. I believe that we can start working on the Project this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you for your response. (Interpretation ends) One more question in regards to the Water Treatment Plant. Last year we had some problems not only in the pipes, and also the filtration.

I am just wondering if that is included in the project as to if there is going to be done some work done on the filtration, because spring is almost here and there is going to be muddy water again in the springtime. Is that kind of work included in that amount of money that you just mentioned? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask my staff who specializes in this area to brief the Member on what we are going to do with the water problem in Kugluktuk.

I am aware of the mud that is going into the water system, and I also aware that two feeder systems were put in that water pump for the community. In regards to the technical aspects of the water, the water pumps, and the waterlines, and so on, I will have my staff brief him fully on that and what is going to be happening with his water pipes, and water lines this summer. Thank you.

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

**Question 499 – 1(6): Integrating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the Government System**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not quite sure exactly which Minister to direct my question to so I will give it to the Premier. The Nunavut Government came up with an agreement where they would include it in the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, and how it could be integrated into the Government system.

My question to the Premier is I am sure that there are Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Specialists in each of the departments. Do these Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Specialists have meetings on how they could integrate more Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the Government system? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the statement that I made yesterday on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, a committee called Tuqtarvik is being set up a that will be working on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

The government departments are will be utilizing IQ and work with the communities to make sure that more of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is integrated into the Government of Nunavut departments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will then ask my question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

We have been a government over the past three years and my question to the Minister is, is this year the starting point of integrating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the government system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth started setting up an Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit task force and from there we set up an entity who will be responsible for the implementation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

The recommendations that were made by the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit task force are now being reviewed by the Katimajit and Tuqtarvik. With that, we are looking into the recommendations that were made. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.



**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. Do the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit specialist coordinators that are in each of the government departments have meetings on a regular basis?

The Minister of Health and Social Services made a statement in the house that he now has an Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit coordinator in his department and I'm sure Human Resources has one too.

As for the other government departments, do they have meetings at regular intervals to have discussions on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and how it could be implemented? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The policies will have to be established, there has to be terms of references set up before we do anything, start anything with the government departments.

We know it is going to be a good start with the government departments. If they have terms of references, it will be better coordinated and properly implemented. As I stated earlier, we have the Katimajit and the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit and the Tuqtarvik that I mentioned earlier who will be doing all of this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. The Minister stated that there will be terms of reference set out and then it will start from there. How long is that going to take? Are we looking at a month or six months or a year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure that they will have a lot of work to do in implementing Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the government system.

They will have to work closely together between the Katimajit and Tuttarvik and what we're doing is we're going to be appointing members next month. We will be waiting for submission of names from the members and we will accelerate it so that we can start incorporating Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the government system. Thank you.

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

**Question 500 – 1(6): Detail of Increase in Power Rates**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Power Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I'm hearing not officially from the Minister but there may be a rise in power rates for all of Nunavut. If it is in fact true, can the Minister explain to this house, the details? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Nunavut Power Corporation. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, no it's not true. Mr. Speaker, there is a process that the member is aware of and most members of the house are aware of for increasing any utility rates or power rates.

We have a utility rate review council in place, called URCC, that would review any rate application that came forward from the Nunavut Power Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's nice to hear the Minister responsible is not raising our power rates and we know in the last two years, there have been new power plants going into communities in Nunavut. Baker Lake is one of the communities that is receiving a power plant this year.

Can the Minister assure the community of Baker Lake that there will be no power rate increases in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess some people don't like hearing that answer. The member asked me if there's going to be any rate increases and there is no rate increase proposed, Mr. Speaker.

In the past, the Nunavut Power Corporation, the rates that we had in place, when a capital project was built, then community itself, through an increase their rates, would pay for that capital project.

There's a good example in Clyde River. Mr. Speaker, when we built the 4 million dollar plant in Clyde River, there was no way we would expect the people in Clyde River, increase their rates by 50 or 60 or 70 percent to pay for the capital costs of that plan.

In the case of Baker Lake, there is over an 8 to 10 million dollar project, maybe a little bit more going on there on a capital improvement. Indeed a new plant is being built there

and we wouldn't expect the people of Baker Lake to have their rates increased by 60 or 70 or 80 percent to pay for that capital project.

As a power corporation itself, Mr. Speaker, has look at the opportunity to bring forward a fuel rider on the power bill, like we had in the past. We have not talked about increasing the power rates themselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if "...we would not expect..." is an answer. But, can the Minister confirm to me that the community of Baker Lake with the new power plant that had to be installed through no fault of their own, will not result in a 60 or 70 percent increase in rates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm not trying to be ambiguous in my answer. There is no way we can expect the community of Baker Lake to be able cover to the total amortization costs of the power plant.

The Member had asked me, do I foresee rate increases for power. I can't see the future; I can say we have to take into account the different factors, the increase in oil costs for example. I can say, Mr. Speaker, that the electrical rates in Nunavut have not increased since 1998, five years ago.

So, sometime I would expect this year, probably this fall, the power corporation, on reviewing their rates, may look at some time of an increase across the board in Nunavut. I don't know what that amount would be, but I can say with some certainty, that we would not see the rates increase by 60, 70 or 80 percent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad the honourable Minister brought up the topic that he is not Nostradamus and can't predict utility rate increases.

When they build a capital project in a community in regards to the power corporation, that they have to amortize this power plant over 20-40 years, and I'm sure the Minister's people do that, so they know what the true costs will be no power rates in a community that really doesn't really have a strong economic base yet and that any increase whether it's 5-10 percent has devastating effects on the constituents that I represent.

It is not a government town. It is just a traditional community. Has the Minister submitted an application to the utility rate for an increase, and how much and when does it come into effect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is a good question, Mr. Speaker and I will answer it in a good way.

Mr. Speaker, the quick and good answer is that when the power corporation was set up, under the NPCIS, there was a recommendation on looking the different types of rates that are in place.

The current rate structure that is in place was put into place in 1998. That rate was supposed to incorporate any costs for producing the operations and maintenance costs of running a plant, for example, to provide electrical energy to a community.

It also was set up so that you would set up the capitalization costs of running a plant. Mr. Speaker, the NPCIS, recommended when we set up the Nunavut Power Corporation, that there would be no increase, but at some point in time the Nunavut Power Corporation would have to look at how we do our rates.

The rates structure that we have in place right now, Mr. Speaker, was through the Northwest Territories. It was done in 1998 and there is time now to bring forward an opportunity to look at if there is a need to have a new rate. Maybe that will be a postage stamp rate, which is the same across the territory.

Is there an opportunity to look at a common base rate and so on, Mr. Speaker. I would suggest to you that the electrical rate review would happen in this fall.

Mr. Speaker, we have independent review council. Mr. Mercer out of Rankin Inlet that, Mr. Speaker, in any type of application that would be brought forward, would go through this rate review council and they look at then some of the factors like the cost of production, the cost of producing energy and so on and again to look at what the bottom line would be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 501 – 1(6): Plans for a New Government Building in Arctic Bay**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works.

On prior occasions, I have asked the Minister about the government office in Arctic Bay. The building is old and decrepit and same age buildings have now been completely demolished and new ones brought out.

Since there is no money to build a new government building in Arctic Bay, could the Minister inform us today as to what kinds of plans they have for the government office in Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was asked by the member not too long ago and I assured her that I would look into it. I don't have the information with me right now.

I will take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker, and get back to her as soon as I can. I will take the question as notice and I will respond to her before the end of the session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. The Minister has taken the question as notice; therefore, there will be no further supplementaries on the question. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Question 502 – 1(6): Inuinnaqtun Teachers in Schools**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in regards to the good news mentioned in the Ministers' Statement on Elders' and Youth programs today, I would like to ask the Minister of Education regarding that statement.

The Inuinnaqtun language is probably not as strong in the schools, specifically in the Kitikmeot region. I am just wondering if there are any Inuinnaqtun teachers in the schools? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the question of the Member, in the Kitikmeot region about the teachers, we have a shortage of Inuinnaqtun teachers in the schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For that reason I would like to get some more clarification on whether that the children in the Kitikmeot region as losing their Inuinnaqtun language? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We did a study, or review on the language of instruction in the Kitikmeot region. We understood from that review that Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun are in a critical situation. The Inuinnaqtun language was the most critical because they were losing their language.

It is not all like that in all the regions, but the Inuinnaqtun speaking students are not as strong as they should be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for his response, and I would like to ask a supplementary question. When we were at the Session in Cambridge Bay, there were these school children that were in a mock session. There was someone that spoke in Inuinnaqtun and requested that Inuinnaqtun be taught more in the Kitikmeot region. What is the department doing to promote the Inuinnaqtun language in the schools? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think Members of the Legislature know that curriculum development in Arviat recently just started. They will have to be getting support from people in the Kitikmeot to make sure they make Inuinnaqtun the language of instruction in Kitikmeot schools.

What we have done is that we are trying to encourage the Inuinnaqtun people to take the Teacher Education Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you Minister for your response. Since the Inuinnaqtun language is being lost in the Kitikmeot region in the schools, I just wondered if they have been using elders in the Kitikmeot region with the writing system and their language to help with the situation in the schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for asking this question. Some time ago, in one of the sessions, I mentioned that there are elders out there that will be assisting in the schools in Inuinnaqtun. There was a question from the Kitikmeot region in regards to curriculum material and we have set aside somebody to help the language of instruction in Inuinnaqtun in the region. Thank you.

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

### **Question 503 – 1(6): Department of Sustainable Development's Involvement in Diamond Mining**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm not exactly sure whether there will be a diamond mine opening in the future in Nunavut. I would like to ask the Minister of Sustainable Development, if I want to go prospecting, I would have to approach the Qikiqtani Inuit Association. Does the Department of Sustainable Development get involved when it comes to prospecting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. QIA has the land use or land exploration permits/licensing and we could be involved in assisting them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I'm asking this question is that I'm not sure whether QIA and Sustainable are working together on this issue. Mr. Speaker, can the Department of Sustainable Development help when there is mining that starts up in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Land permits and licensing are done by QIA and we are in support if mining exploration in the region of Nunavut. We have assisted the Prospectors Program with funding and the federal government deals with the environmental protection of the land. We work together with the federal government and QIA on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 504 – 1(6): Yearly Funding for Access Road in Repulse Bay**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the communities they build access roads to the hunting and fishing grounds outside the communities. I would like to ask a question to the Minister of Community Government & Transportation. In Repulse Bay, they would like to be able to build an access road with the people that build those access roads. Will they be getting funding every year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Members of the Legislative Assembly has been requesting funding for access roads for quite some time. We will be providing some funding for access roads to the communities.

We will be providing that kind of funding as soon as our budget is approved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for her response. It is one of the very important part of living in the community is having access roads. Due to the fact that the majority of the communities do not have a gravel site, I am just wondering whether there is going to be funding for access roads available to the communities every year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitik Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Member please clarify whether he is asking a question about access road funding for just Repulse Bay, or all the communities of Nunavut.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question was whether Repulse Bay would be provided with access road funding every year, because of the fact that they do not have a gravel source. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitik Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The access road going to *Niaqunnguug* from Repulse Bay, has been in the works for quite a long time. There was to be some funding set aside. Due to the fact that it was not given a priority, I think that it has been about 60 years since the money has been put to another project, but the road to *Niaqunnguug* from Repulse Bay, has been given a study, and Bill Crawford was involved in the study of that access road.

I am not exactly sure how much the funding will be for an access road in Repulse Bay, but my staff in Rankin Inlet have been working with the Hamlet of Repulse Bay. There might be some funding for that access road in Repulse Bay, but Mr. Speaker, I would assure the Member in a little while when we discuss our budget that there has been some money set aside for building the access road in Repulse Bay.

I will inform the Member in a little while on what status it is at right now, or this coming summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand the Minister's response. The Minister stated that this has been in the works for a long time and the money has been put aside for other projects. I would like to be informed exactly what other projects has it been given to? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitik Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was during the Government of the Northwest Territories and that funding was to be put in Government of the Northwest Territories funding, but since, now that we have Government of Nunavut, the access roads projects were eliminated.



They used to have the funding for access roads during the Government of the Northwest Territories period, but the hamlets were asked to submit an application to build access roads in their communities.

Now, with the Government of Nunavut, they eliminated that and now we are going to bring it back because it has been the request of all the members of this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Question 505 – 1(6): Photo I.D. Cards**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister responsible for General Nunavut Identification cards and I would ask the Minister for Community Government & Transportation, I believe.

Mr. Speaker, last February, the Minister made an announcement in the House indicating that her department would be issuing these cards and that they would be available at Motor Vehicle offices across Nunavut.

I would like to ask the Minister, I have been getting some complaints, if you want to call them that. They are people with questions on the criteria for that and they are getting mixed information that.

I would like to ask the Minister what the criteria for acquiring one of these General Nunavut Identification cards. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Jean Simailaq, I would like to say hi to her really quickly.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I have also had complaints about people not being able to acquire ID photo cards that my department is issuing. The criteria is that you must be a resident of Nunavut, you have to be 12 years old and you have to have had no other form of acceptable photo ID for air travel.

For example, a drivers' license, birth certificate, passport, fire arms certificate, and so on. In order to get these cards, you should have, to show my staff, a marriage certificate, or a baptismal certificate, a S.I.N. number card, T4 slips or an employee letter or a letter from a nurse or doctor, if you want to get these cards.

Mr. Speaker, if there is a problem with individuals not getting their ID cards, I would be glad to work with the Member to get the ID cards as soon as possible for that individual. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Minister's willingness to assist in this case and I will talk to her about it after.

So, I guess, she had indicated the criteria. One of the criteria that I have heard that has been used by people at Motor Vehicles, is that people have to provide a copy of a plane ticket or itinerary of impending travel in order to get a card.

The Minister never indicated that in her criteria, so I would just like to confirm that it is not necessary to have a plane ticket in order to get an ID card. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Actually Mr. Speaker, that is one of the little regulations that my staff have come up with also. If you show air travel documents, or a letter from an employer or sponsor certifying requirements for air travel.

But, Mr. Speaker, we have to make this work out for the individuals who want an I.D. card. It's just an I.D. photo card. I don't know why it's so complicated. All these little regulations and all this stuff and we'll just make sure that the staff comply with the members wishes.

>>*Applause*

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was just making sure that the staff follow our wishes. There should be a clear process in place so that there is no confusion between different offices, make sure that there are policies in place. This is out there for people to be able to get some identification cards for those that don't have one.

Some people may not want to wait, some people find out at the last minute that they have to travel, especially elders or anyone that may have to be flown out for medical reasons and some people want to get that ahead of time so they have it, so they don't have to try and rush at the end.

The other question I had Mr. Speaker, is about 12 year olds. If there is anyone under 12 years old, what is the rationale as to why those individuals can't get a general identification card as well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have a very clear policy. I think that the staff are so clear on the rules and regulations of this that it's getting a little bit difficult to get cards. I don't really know why, we said 12 years old, I didn't only say that

when they become teenagers they change very much, their faces change quite a lot. They need an escort. The Premier just said that.

This means that if you are not 12 years old and you want a photo I.D. card, we will look at it on an individual case basis. My staff are quite capable of producing these I.D. cards, they just have a very clear policy and they are just following the rules. But we say that we want to make this workable for all Nunavummiut and as a Minister, I am making a commitment on that, that we work with the people that need I.D. cards. It should be that simple. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has cleared some confusion on regulations and rules and policies around it. Even as a minor travelling, whether you're with an adult or not, they are still required to have photo identification when travelling in the south.

I would like to ask the Minister if they can make those cards available to anyone that does not have a drivers license, that may need it for travelling and if you could make a very simple process and a policy that could be followed by all offices throughout Nunavut so that there is a lot less confusion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no confusion on behalf of the staff with the policy. There is a very clear regulation and policy in place for the staff to follow. What needs to happen is that the staff have to be more flexible, and in this case, if they are under the age of 12, we will look at them case by case and see if we can produce an I.D. card for those individuals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 506 – 1(6): Assist Teachers to Obtain Bachelor of Education Degree**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is to the honourable Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that we have a large number of Inuit teachers in our schools all across Nunavut. In the last few years, there have been some letters circulating around saying that these teachers may need their Bachelor of Education program to continue teaching in Nunavut.

I know in my school, in Baker Lake, at the Rachel Amitnaaq Elementary School, there is a group of Inuit teachers that just have their teaching diploma. Can the Minister tell me today if there are going to be any efforts from his department to help those teachers achieve their Bachelor of Education status? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Education. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, just recently this has been coming up, not just from his community, maybe two, there has been concerns raised that have been brought to me.

The way it is set up now, is that, those who want to teach the higher grades will need a higher degree of college, but because we have not enforced this in the communities, we allow them to teach in those communities.

But the teachers in those communities are given the opportunity, given their experience. We try and ensure that there is community based training for these teachers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I grasp that answer totally. Can the Minister assure me that these teachers, Inuit teachers in our school, that have over 20 to 25 years teaching experience, will be assured that their jobs are safe and will continue to be safe because they don't have their Bachelor of Education program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As it is now, as I just informed my colleague, there has always been a requirement that the graduates of ENTEP should further their education and hopefully their Bachelor of Education degree.

However, if that course is not immediately available in that community, we have been very easy and allowed teachers to continue their professions. So they can continue to teach in that community.

Recognizing the importance of very educated, rather very experienced teachers in these communities, I will definitely commit to ensuring that my staff are fully aware of the importance of these experienced teachers in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is nice to see the Bathurst Mandate being implemented by the Department of Education, where they recognise the experience of Inuit teachers and long term Inuit teachers.

I would like to thank the Minister because it will make the teachers at the Rachel Amitnaaq Elementary school a lot more comfortable. My only final question to the

Minister on this is that, there is a group of 10-15 and they are probably at the top of their pay scale.

If they requested that the Department of Education be fit to run an additional program there to get them up to their Bachelor of Education program in that community, would the Department of Education consider it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll go a step further than that and ask my officials to check that school to see if they are wanting to have that be a program in that community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

#### **Question 507 – 1(60): Plans for Changes to the Public Service Act**

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

Mr. Speaker, in their department business plan, they had indicated that this year they planned on bringing forward some changes to the Public Service Act for our employees. I'm just wondering if the Minister could provide some detail as to what exact changes they are planning on making to that act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately, because of the process that I have spoke to you before, I respond to that question. I will have to take that question on notice and another process taking this course, I provide information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. The Minister is taking the question on notice, therefore there will be no Supplementary Question on these questions. Oral Questions. Are there any further Oral Questions? Mr. Irqittuq.

#### **Question 508 – 1(6): Nunavut Power Corporation Payment Agencies**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think today is more of a calm during Question Period. Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services, I had asked him regarding health. There were some problems and in questioning him regarding these payment agents. Has there been any plans regarding those payment agents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe the Member was asking about the payment agents for Power Corporation and, Mr. Speaker, we do have, as I said earlier, agencies that collect money on behalf of the Power Corporation in every community, almost every community in Nunavut.

And then you also have the option, Mr. Speaker, as you know, sending your check by mail into the Corporation.

Now, I have an opportunity to talk to the president of the power corporation on the payments and so on with the customers and clients, so we did follow that up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister just responded that they can send a check by mail and we know how slow they are and the payments would miss their deadline and the payment process is really slow and the statement process is really slow even though the payment agents are through the North Mart or Northern.

Why, in this computer age, does the stores not have automatic billing? Why is that so? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I said in the House before, there was a problem with the software package on the billing and we were behind about six months. We are almost up to date on the billings for the Power Corporation.

The billings is a separate issue from the payments. On the payment schedules, Mr. Speaker, the payments are done automatically when the check has been received. They have to be indexed into the account and through that process, they send that into the Baker Lake Office.

Mr. Speaker, if someone for example, sends their payments in, it usually takes 15 to 30 days to be credited if it is received before the billing period. It is no different, Mr. Speaker, these are, as I say, a Visa bill on the 18<sup>th</sup>, it will not appear on the statement until the next 6 weeks because of the cut off dates and so on.

So, it depends on the time that the person actually pays the bill and the number of days that it is before the bill is actually issued.

In some cases, Mr. Speaker, I have seen bills, the Member is correct, have been behind like two months where they have actually credited the account and that is something, Mr. Speaker, that the Corporation is working on right now, to make sure that the billing as

well as the accounts received were up to date on the bill and that the credits is placed there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am aware that these payment agents, for instance, he used VISA, it takes awhile for it to show up on that statement, I believe it is six weeks. But Mr. Speaker, if I wanted to pay my VISA, I can just do it over the phone. I would ask them over the phone if my payments have gone through and yes, they would tell me.

But it's very different, we found out Mr. Speaker, the people of Repulse Bay were going to be cut off. We heard over the news because of the late billing. I want to ask him if there is an easier and more efficient way in the payment process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Specifically in the Repulse Bay situation there was a problem with the software and caused some delay in the billing and the crediting and the member is correct, that problem has been fixed.

Mr. Speaker, when you make your payments, for example, if you went into Northern and paid your NPC bill, usually they don't fax them in on every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On Friday, they would fax them into the power corporation, and then the power corporation would receive them and then they would data enter them.

For example Mr. Speaker, if Northern sent them in at 4:00 p.m. on a Friday to the power corporation, they may not be entered until Monday. So that's one of the concerns that we have had and we are trying to adjust that and expedite the process so that the credit can go on there faster.

We are still working on some of the bugs on the system right now Mr. Speaker, but we are certain that we're 100 percent better than we were last year, but we're still not 100 percent efficient on the crediting of the account.

Mr. Speaker, if a person has made a payment and for example, they receive notification that their power is going to be cut off that they have a copy of the cheque, if they have an invoice, anything to show that they have actually paid, then when they contact the power corporation we are able to make sure that it does not take place where cut off would occur. That was the situation with some of the customers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will have a meeting in Baker Lake in June; perhaps the Minister can say at that point, okay, the payment process is now fixed regarding the power bills. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** I think Mr. Speaker, the sitting in Baker Lake will be an excellent opportunity to have all the members in the House actually tour our offices there in Baker Lake and see how the process is done.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it perfectly clear that the corporation staff in Baker Lake have seen thousands of bills on a weekly average. They have to send out accounts receivables and they have to receive the payables. They have done a very good job with the office from scratch. There were problems with software.

When we are in Baker Lake in the sitting then the members will have an opportunity to go there and to actually see the process and talk to the staff. Again, 90 percent are Inuit and review it at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was a good suggestion on behalf of the member. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Members will note that question period is now over. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like unanimous consent to go back to Item 5.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 5. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Mr. Mclean.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to recognize a constituent of mine, a long term friend. Jean Simailak. Now Reverend Jean Simailak. I'd like to introduce you to the House and welcome her to Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery Ms. Similak. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Akasuk.



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

#### **Tabled Document 102 – 1(6): Nunavut Business Credit Corporation Loan Status as of February 28, 2003**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation's loan status as of February 28, 2003.

I would like to point out that for each region reported, there is an amount called communities with one loan per community. To protect the privacy of individuals in these communities, we grouped these loans in one lump sum. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Ms. Thompson.

#### **Tabled Document 103 – 1(6): Nunavut-Manitoba Road – Kivalliq Inuit Association**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was asked to table this document from the mayors as a Member for the Keewatin Region. It is a letter to the Honourable Robert Nault, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

This is a support letter for the Manitoba Road study application from the Kivalliq Inuit Association. It was signed by all the mayors of the Keewatin and also, the president of the Chamber of Commerce and Cathy Towtongie, president of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Are there any further Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. McLean.

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

#### **Motion 021 – 1(6): Extended Adjournment - Notice**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great delight today do this Notices of motions. It's not very often I get up here with great news for this assembly in the city of Iqaluit that I've been coming to for the last four years.

But my motion today and I know my colleague from Iqaluit centre is behind me 100 percent that I give notice that on Friday, March 28, I will move the following motion. I move, seconded by my Honourable colleague from Cambridge Bay, that notwithstanding rule 4, that when the house concludes it's present sitting in Iqaluit, the great city, it shall be adjourned until June 2, 2003, in my home community of Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Kattuk.

**Item 15: Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills**

**Bill 34 - An Act to Amend the International Sale of Goods Act - Notice**

**Hon. Peter Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, March 28, 2003, I shall move that Bill 34, an Act to amend the International Sale of Goods Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration of Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 30, Bill 31, Bill 32, Minister's Statement 126-1 (6), with Mr. Irqittuq in the chair.

In accordance to the authority provided to me by motion 2-1(6), the Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out. Thank you, Mr. Quirke. Before we proceed to Committee of the Whole, we will take our usual 20 minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

*>>Committee recessed at 15:04 p.m. and resumed at 15:38*

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

**Chairperson** (Mr. Iqittuq) (interpretation): Welcome all. I would like to call the Committee meeting to order. In the Committee of the Whole we will be dealing with, Bill 30, Bill 31, Bill 32, and Ministers' Statements 126-1(6). What is the wish of the Committee? Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of Bill 30 and commence with the review of the Main Estimates for the Department of Community Government and Transportation. And after this we would proceed to review the Department of Public Works and Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. We will start with the Minister of Community Government and Transportation.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to speed up my comments. I apologize; my Opening Comments are quite lengthy.

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Legislative Assembly. I would like to highlight some of the key initiatives of my department as outlined in the 2003-2004 Business Plan and Main Estimates. I would like to address some issues that have emerged since the estimates were prepared and presented to the Standing Committee.

First, on a positive note, I was very proud of our young people who represented Nunavut for the first time, at the Canada Winter Games in New Brunswick. They, assisted by their coaches, volunteer mission and Community Government and Transportation staff, did well and in many instances, achieved personal bests.

While at the games, Territorial Sports Ministers reached an agreement with the Federal Minister, which calls on both levels of government to contribute increased funding to sport development.

It included that all of the Territorial Governments, for Nunavut, we received \$72,000, which will be matched by my Department. Third Party funding will also be accessed to develop the program.

With this new funding, we can help develop our athletes by establishing a number of new initiatives and incorporating northern and traditional sports into our program. The funds will be targeted towards the achievement and enhancement of training initiatives like a Nunavut Youth Olympic Academy and our Aim High program.

I also managed to secure a commitment from the Secretary of State, the Honourable Paul Devilliers, to increase the funding over the next several years in order to support similar programs.

The second issue that has emerged since the estimates were prepared is the unexpected financial impact of the two fires in the communities of Repulse Bay and Clyde River, which occurred in the late December and early January.

Fortunately, there were no serious injuries but both communities and the Government of Nunavut sustained multi-million dollar capital building and equipment losses. Replacement building design is underway in both communities and a new fire truck has already been delivered to Clyde River.

I must advise the Members that as a result of these fires, all communities and the Government of Nunavut are facing dramatically increased insurance premiums estimated for next year alone to be between 4 million and 6 million dollars.

My departmental officials are working with the Department of Finance, insurance industry representatives and Nunavut Association of Municipalities to address this urgent situation and to develop a new insurance coverage plan.

We are currently negotiating various aspects of this issue at this point. This will involve new partnerships and different approaches to securing insurance coverage. At a later date, I will advise the Members of the Legislature as to how this issue has been addressed.

Finally, I have asked my Department to redouble their efforts in fire prevention. Senior Officials are developing a Nunavut Fire Prevention Strategy, which will address shortcomings in the current ability of community fire departments to adequately respond to fire situations and it will aggressively carry out assessments in all communities regarding maintenance routines and the “fire safety” status of all buildings.

The strategy will include training for community volunteers; it will accelerate the replacement and improvement of equipment; and develop community awareness campaigns. At the appropriate time, I will table the new Strategy in the House.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, and colleagues, as I have noted before, community empowerment is a priority for me and my department. Over the next year and beyond, Community Government and Transportation will be focusing on training and skills upgrading for Municipal and Departmental employees.

The new Municipal Training Organization is a partnership with the Nunavut Association of Municipal Administrators (NAMA). With them, we are developing a training course schedule based on community-identified needs, which will no doubt include administration, finance, Municipal operations, fire prevention and building and equipment.

(interpretation) We are very pleased that our proposed budget includes increased funding for the Municipal Operating Assistance contribution program (MOAP) some money for improved pensions for all municipal workers. These are modest increases and they don't all address all the forecasted increased insurance premiums. This year, my department

will also be bringing forward for government approval, funding policy changes recommended in the Municipal Finance Review.

Sport Nunavut and the Recreation Division continues to work hard to develop a strong base for sports activities that can grow as we do. Our “first time” participation at the Canada Winter Games and the athletes’ success there is indicative of recreation activities program to support community based activities such as dog team races and fishing derbies. Mr. Chairman, I am sure that you are very pleased with this announcement.

(interpretation ends) With respect to transportation issues and funding, work is progressing on a Nunavut Air Service Study. My Senior Officials are reviewing a report on community and industry consultations and an airline network study. I hope to review the documents soon with my Cabinet Colleagues and then release it to the Members of this House.

Community Aerodrome Radio Stations (CARS) operation and funding continues to be a concern for all communities. My Department, in partnership with NAM, has met with NAV Canada to press for more funding. NAV Canada has recently indicated that funding will remain as it is for the next two years.

My staff will also continue to work with communities and Federal Government Transportation Agencies to increase O and M dollars and capital investment for all transportation infrastructure needs including air, marine and roads.

(interpretation) I will be concluding soon, Mr. Chairman.

(Interpretation ends) The Emergency Management Division has been working with communities to prepare and equip them to deal with emergencies. With the assistance of federal funding, training manuals have been developed in consultations with community-based search organizations and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. In conjunction with other agencies and community organizations, Nunavut Emergency Management is helping organize the first Territorial Search and Rescue (SAR) Conference. This will be held next week in conjunction with Canadian Coast Guard Marine Instructor Training Program. Participants will be members from communities and regional organizations.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Community Government and Transportation is faced with many challenges to accomplish its mandate and work in partnership with municipal governments and the transportation sector to enhance social and economic opportunities in self governing and sustained communities.

One is the budgetary challenge of “Living within our means.” Staffed within the Department, in consultation with stakeholders, has had to prioritize activities, programs, and policies. Funding emphasis has been placed in those areas where the need is greatest, such as community training and development and capital planning. I am pleased to say that there have been no cuts to programs, services and contributions that my department

will manage “within” the proposed budget through prudent staffing decisions and reductions to discretionary items such as travel and other expenses.

I am getting sleepy reading this book. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the Members of the Committee. This concludes my Opening Remarks and I am now ready to respond to Members’ questions on the 2003-2004 Business Plans and Main Estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. In regards to the dog team and fishing derbies, that was just for me. I am just joking. We have to smile once in a while. Does the Standing Committee have any opening comments? Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do. They are not as lengthy and as detailed. I have my great staff upstairs trained to make them short and sweet like me and Donald.

>>*Laughter*

As Chairman of the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development, I am pleased to be able to provide opening comments as we begin the review of the 2003-2004 Main Estimates and the 2003-2004 Business Plan of the Department of Community Government and Transportation.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee has had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Community Government and Transportation and has carefully reviewed the Department’s Main Estimates and Business Plan.

Mr. Chairman, Members were pleased to hear that the department will be focusing on training and skills upgrading for municipal and departmental employees. The recent announcement of the new Municipal Training Organization is a step in the right direction the provision of adequate training to the communities will go a long way to fulfilling our goal of local empowerment.

Mr. Chairman, Members continue to be concerned that the resources allocated for Community Aerodrome Radio Stations is not sufficient to meet the needs of the communities. The Standing Committee urges the department to continue working with NAM to secure increased CARS funding. In addition, Members would like to see CARS training, and we have asked this for five years in a row to provide it in Nunavut. Thanks to NAV Canada never listening to us up here, we do not know if we will ever that. I just added that in myself.

Mr. Chairman, Members noted that Nunavut was well-represented at the Canada Winter Games this year. And I think it was historical, that was the first time we were there. And it’s nice to see our youth go down there.

The Committee has stressed the importance of initiatives geared towards youth and continues to stress that organized, healthy activities for youth serve to combat such problems as substance abuse and suicide. The Standing Committee looks forward to a revitalized Sport Nunavut that focuses on community-based events to encourage youth to become active participants within the community.

Mr. Chairman, Members are concerned that important positions within the department are remaining vacant for long periods of time. And Baker Lake is a prime example of that. The Committee urges the department to work to keep positions filled and to ensure that important responsibilities are not neglected simply because the position is vacant.

Mr. Chairman, the Committee looks forward to hearing the Minister announce what projects will benefit from Airport Capital Assistance Program funding. Air travel is integral to daily life in Nunavut. The Standing Committee looks forward to the tabling of the air transportation study, and reviewing its recommendations.

Mr. Chairman, Members received the Nunavut Transportation Strategy 2001, nearly two years ago. The technical document indicates support for the creation of intercommunity roads. The Committee urges the department to move forward on plans for the Kimmirut, Kivalliq and Bathurst road projects.

Mr. Chairman, it is no secret that many municipalities are in a deficit situation. Members noted that one of the department's priorities for 2003-2004 is to implement the new financial reporting, evaluation and monitoring system in at least five communities. Members are hopeful that this will go some way in helping hamlets better manage their debt and track payables and receivables.

Mr. Chairman, Members were pleased to see a 3.8 million dollar increase in funding for the Municipal Operating Assistance Program. Members also noted that the grants for municipal insurance premiums and fuel price adjustment were one-time grants in 2002-2003.

The Committee urges the department to ensure that municipalities are assisted in the event that these rates increase again in 2003-2004. The Committee is looking forward to the implementation of the recommendations of the Municipal Finance Review.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Community Government is the funding agency for transfers from other government departments to municipalities. Members noted that these transfers are budgeted to amount to more than \$3.8 million in 2003-2004 and would like to see a detailed accounting of these funds.

In addition, the Committee would like to see the department act as an advocate for hamlets. Some hamlets have a shortage of resources and qualified staff to adequately review agreements and ensure that appropriate resources are being provided to fulfill their new responsibilities. The Committee urges the department to protect the best interests of all the hamlets in those agreements.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my comments on the main estimates of the Department of Community Government and Transportation. Individual Members may wish to raise questions or make comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make comments of my own after my speaking notes.

I'm pleased to see the Department of Community Government & Transportation's direction in the couple of years under the Minister and the present deputy and his capable staff.

I'm very pleased with where the department is going now. Some of the issues that we brought up in standing committee in regards to issue that affect community are being implemented now.

We know the success of having good municipal government is a department taking care of the hamlets and I Community Government & Transportation is a role model in that department.

Where they should be monitoring is the community empowerment agreements and I'm not taking shots at other departments out there but I don't think other departments are being very honest some times on the community empowerment agreements with following up and assisting the municipalities in performing these duties the best that they can.

I'm very pleased to see that the department is being one of the authors for training at municipal governments because I don't think at this time, in this tenure with this new Government of Nunavut that there are other outside agencies that are capable of delivering the training programs to the municipalities like their Community Government & Transportation department is at this point.

And it's no offence to the Department of Education or Arctic College but if this tenure, I fully support and I encourage the Minister not to get off track and train municipal employees because at the end of the day, Community Government & Transportation are the ones that have to make the decisions on whether the municipal governments be taken out or given assistance, or whatever. And we know what those results are.

So I continue to support the Minister in her endeavours to make sure that municipalities are on strong financial ground and that they don't continue to get into deficit. I'd also like to say that I'm very pleased with the community volunteer strategy that this department has taken up because for 4 years in a row and it went deaf for the first three years that nothing in this government was being done to recognise volunteers in communities.



There are people out there that toil endlessly for hours whether it's coaching minor hockey, refereeing, search and rescue people, just general all around people out there volunteering tons of hours and never being recognized.

I want to bring this up again and I hope that under the community volunteers strategy that you're going to help people out there but also recognize the people that go for hours volunteering and no recognition being given to them.

That's my opening comments. That's all I have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. You have the opportunity to speak on general comments for 10 minutes and a member may speak more than once to that under discussion. I wonder if the Minister is ready to proceed to the witness table with her officials.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

Thank you. Minister, if you could introduce your officials.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is John Walsh, my Deputy Minister. On my left is Mike Rafter our Finance Controller. Very simple, Walsh and Rafter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. The first one to speak will be Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome Minister and your officials. What I wanted to make a general comment on is to first of all congratulate the people that were elected by the people in the communities. The people in the communities believe in running their own affairs at the community level. However, the Department of Community Government & Transportation, under their budget, they only receive half of the money in the amount of \$40 million and that is their operating budget.

The operating budget of the Department is \$72 million. It's kind of ironic why the Hamlets don't receive as much money and half of the budget is for the total operation of the department and for the Hamlets. At the appropriate time, I will be asking questions on those issues. The money that is going to be used for the Department of Community Government and Transportation is \$13 million, 291 thousand. The \$13 million is just for this department alone, while they are trying to look after the Hamlets in the communities.

While there are twenty-six communities in Nunavut, and Iqaluit is the biggest one. Some of the communities are smaller. Looking at the \$13 million dollars, there is half a million dollars allotted for Compensation and Benefits, for the operations at the Hamlet and the Airports.

Under the Minister's Statements, she stated to us on page 3 in English, she stated that they are trying to get the communities empowerment. It is their priority of her department. We are pleased to hear that and we expect that the employees of the Government could be pulled out a little bit and then given to more operations of the Hamlets.

There is a lot of money being spent by Community Government and Transportation, together with the capital funding and operations funding. For instance, the Hamlets have to run their services in the communities. It just seems like they are not giving out the money evenly, between her department and the Hamlets.

Why am I saying this, Mr. Chairman? The communities vote for their Mayor and their Councillors because they want to operate their own government. I will have some questions later on Mr. Chairman, about the money that is allotted for the department and the various programs, in the amount of \$50 million dollars, that are run by their department. The \$40 million dollars of that is given to the communities.

Those people that were elected by the people in the communities to operate their own communities and their services. Under page 3, of the Minister's Comment, the Minister stated that she would like to give the communities empowerment and that is her priority. With the little bit of funding that is allotted for the municipalities, it does not seem to be enough.

The Hamlet's portion would be smaller than the portion of the department. What I am trying to say, Mr. Chairman, is the money that should be given to the communities is in the hands of the department, if we look at the telephone book, if we open up the telephone book, you could see the Department employees and the divisions that they have. It just seems like the hamlet does not get as much as they should be getting from your department.

And lastly Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a comment, is that during the program review, your department can get a little bit smaller, so that way you will be able to get more funding for operations of the communities or municipalities in Nunavut.

As well as, we must refrain from taking some programs such as the C.A.R.S. program, because C.A.R.S. does not have very much funding allotted to them. It is important that sufficient funds go along with the empowerment of the communities.

If you don't give the resources when you transfer C.A.R.S. to the communities, they will be, if you don't give them funding, they will have a difficult time operating because the hamlet has to pay for their overhead whether it's C.A.R.S. or whatever program is given empowerment.

During the program review, you are going to have to make sure that whatever program is transferred to the communities, that the resources come along with it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be asking questions later on.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Community Government & Transportation Minister and staff, I'd like to commend your efforts regarding this very difficult task.

I do have some concerns that I will be talking about regarding the handling of hamlets who are also elected into their seats. First of all I would like to say that during the Government of the Northwest Territories, the hamlets were created so that they could run their own affairs through the Northwest Territories initiative.

When the municipal governments were set up, there were a lot of staff at the headquarters and the funding for operating within the community was much less than the operating budget of the headquarters.

The conclusion I've come to is that at the time, the operating budget for municipal governments was much lower and a lot more staff were created at the headquarters level. And here we're saying we want the communities to run their own affairs.

Instead, more staff were brought up at the headquarters stage and it is still like that today, right from the beginning. When the Government of Nunavut was set up, a lot of communities had come into a deficit situation and are in a crisis situation.

Here, the government has a whole lot of staff at their headquarters. We have all stated that these communities will be given the power to run their own affairs. That is where we should be putting the money, where our mouth is.

We did not expect to see so many employees set up with in government. We wanted those resources to go to the communities. For instance, when it was set up in Yellowknife, quite a few staff with in the municipal and community affairs division, some of them were in Yellowknife, some of them were in Iqaluit and some were in Cambridge Bay.

Looking at all these situations the municipal government operating funding is just like giving it to dogs and letting them run their own affairs with no resources.

The resources, the funding was never adequate. A lot of them have run into deficit situations and some have even been taken over by the administration. With those in mind, it seems that they're just using those Hamlets to take on their own funding for their department because employees at the local level are not benefiting.

When the municipal government was set up, they do not have adequate funding and what I think of it is that they only seem to hire staff at their department level and the communities are restricted in obtaining their needs and resources.

We always have to fight to access funds to operate these Hamlets. What I have often thought of that situation is that, what James touched on earlier, \$13 million for compensation and benefits, I think I can say when the Department of Education dissolved their regional boards to have more funds for their department so did Health with the dissolution of their health boards so that they can save money.

Let's get rid of those departmental staff and funnel those funds to the communities where it really matters. I feel I can say that, I feel justified in saying that because when we ask for funds from the department there are so many barriers and with that in mind you would think that in the future we really have to look at how we run our affairs within government.

Our communities that we represent in Nunavut, the 26 communities that are run through Hamlets, we give them the responsibilities to run the affairs within the community. We try to base it on the needs; we need to give them better resources that are adequate to operate within the communities according to the responsibilities.

That should be a priority for the government. A lot of employees in the communities, when they request, they give it to the certain department and it given the run around, they get referred to say a fourth person and then the finally know, no, they can't access those funds and the whole meaning of accessing funds becomes really meaningless.

That is how the department is seen as at the local level. They're always looking for barriers to make it hard for the communities to access these funds. That's what I see them as.

Their mandate seems to be all over the place when it should be only to benefit these communities. Many communities want better infrastructure, arenas, community centres, but there are many barriers. They are told, we'll give it to you in so many years, meanwhile all the funding is being used up through compensation and benefits for its employees and that is a very big concern.

I am proud of the hard work that the Departmental staff does, but at the same time, they make it too hard for these communities and set up barriers for these communities. These staff members make it hard for the Hamlets to access the resources needed.

And that is very disappointing because there is a lot of room for improvement, Mr. Chairman, that is how I see it there is a lot of room for improvement and that is how I want to see it as we want solutions for this problem and I have been through that experience before so that is why I am speaking about it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Next on my list is Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to the Minister and the staff. I will make my comments brief. Regarding the Hamlets in our communities are trying their best to operate these Hamlets.

But there are a lot more solutions that need to be worked on, which could be worked on if more funds were brought into the communities. They really have their hands tied when they feel they can do more, but given the financial constraints, they have no way of doing it.

Although I am grateful for the work that they are doing, I think there has to be a better review in how the funding is structured to these Hamlets and how and why they run into deficit situations more often than not.

With those said, I am not putting anybody down in speaking like this, but these communities run into deficit situations no matter how hard they try. For instance, in some, it might be due to a lack of training in financial management or when they are operating these Hamlets, it is really hard for these Hamlets.

I have been through that situation myself and I am sure my community is not the one that goes through these difficult situations and we have to look at how these Hamlets can be better run with the adequate resources because I am sure that they try to be as prudent in their financial management as possible, but because they are never adequate, they end up running into these deficits.

The Mayors in these communities try their best to try and not run into deficit. There has to be a review on how this Department funds those Hamlets and how financial management could be made a priority for these Hamlets.

I know funding will not always be coming our way, but we have to figure out ways to support these Hamlets in running their own affairs. Those are my comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Anybody else, any comments? Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** I have a short comment to make here. I am hearing good news so far from the Minister from yesterday and today regarding recreation in the communities, for Nunavut communities, wherever they go to play games somewhere, I'm glad that these young people are given the opportunity to go play somewhere and I'm glad to see that this is happening in Nunavut.

Regarding recreation, I would like to speak a little bit about this. When we were in Pangnirtung, I had mentioned July 9, maybe in the last ten years, we've had our land claims agreement.

We signed the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement ten years ago. I would like to see some games, the sports that Inuit had, centres that are, it should be taught to the young people today.

Before we leave this session, for these people that are coming, the people from Alaska, Greenland and Northwest Territories, and also, Nunavik, they will be coming. The people that are preparing these games are looking for games that will be held on July 9<sup>th</sup> so that the games can go ahead.

They are seeking funding to fund these games this summer on July 9<sup>th</sup>. The games that are prepared already, but the Greenland, Alaska and Northwest Territories are coming to Kugluktuk this summer and they are looking forward to the games this summer in Kugluktuk, July 9<sup>th</sup>.

So that the young people can enjoy their activities. When young people are looking forward to the future, they seem to enjoy life and prevent them from getting into problems. I would like to see some funding coming to these games that are going to be held. I would like to see that funding be prepared for the games for this summer.

Within five years, maybe ten years that we will be having games every five or ten years but they will be playing these games in different communities. During the summer there will be games being held this summer.

I would like to see permanent funding being funded within five to ten years that we have these funding available wherever they're going to be holding northern games. And also, that item I wanted to bring, regarding search and rescue.

These search and rescue operations work very hard for the communities. Whoever gets lost in some communities, they need to have search rescue operations because they have very little funding to operate when search rescue is in operation.

They have lack funds because they have to save these for people that need funding to operate search and rescues. They have to create their own funding, and the whole thing was to make their own funding to do search and rescues.

I would like to see some funding improvement being made for search and rescue, because the gas prices are very high, and food to do their search and rescue. As you know, a lot of the search and rescue are volunteers and they use their own money to do search and rescue.

I would like to see improvements from Nunavut Government to have proper funding for search and rescue operations. I think that we need to set up an area where there is permanent funding being made available to the search and rescue operations for the communities.

Today, it is not too bad, but these search and rescue organizations raise their own funding so that they will be able to do their own search and rescue operations. I would like to see improvements from Community Government and Transportation to help these search and rescue operations. Thank you.

The last item that I wanted to bring about regarding Hamlets, in Kugluktuk, they have been in a deficit for the last one or two years. They were having problems operating their Hamlets because ran into a deficit. I know that their funding is reduced because of their deficit. But today, it is not enough.

Today it is just not enough to operate the Hamlet organizations. I know that it is hard to get funding but we need improve the funding for the Hamlets, as you have heard from the Members here. I think that there needs to be more funding for the Hamlets to operate their organizations. Since there is a lack of funding for the Hamlets, they have a big problem operating their organizations. The Recreation Complex was finished last year, the Hockey Arena in Kugluktuk was finished last year and we really appreciate that it is finished. It created a deficit for the Hamlet of Kugluktuk because the original one burned down and today they are running into a deficit.

The complex is being used by the community and it creates recreation for the young people in our community. It is not only for the young people, but the elders and people use that complex daily.

I want to ask when the time is right. The Hamlet of Kugluktuk is in deficit because they had to finish that complex. How can we get more funding because the Hamlet of Kugluktuk has run into deficit due to that problem?

I will ask more questions as to how we can reduce that deficit. I will be asking some more questions later on. At this time I will stop for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. I have no one else on my list. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman. I'll try and keep my comments brief. I don't have planned all that to say to the Minister's staff other than I think over the last year I'd like to commend and thank the Minister for, as she had indicated in her opening comments, they've had challenges to accomplish it's mandate to work in partnerships with municipal governments. I think that the department and the Minister made some great strides in their efforts to work with the City of Iqaluit to resolve some of their infrastructure problems that they face.

The new Cities, Towns and Villages Act, there were some positive things, amendments and changes in there to clarify if you want the authority and the power that the City and the Hamlets have. I think that goes a long way in showing the true effort in trying to promote empowerment at the local level. That's an important path that the government, and I think that's something that other departments should be looking at, powers that they can devolve down to the municipalities. This not only creates employment opportunities in decentralized communities, but all the communities and I think that's an important way to look at it.

Other than that, just going back to the department allowing the City to come up with its own plans. The whole municipal zoning plan was done by the City of Iqaluit and I know

that they look forward to the continued support from the department in that area in helping them achieve what they want to achieve for the City.

I don't have too much else to say, but again, I just wanted to commend the Minister and her department for the work in that area, especially here with the City of Iqaluit, also with other communities as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll make my comments really brief. In my community, the Hamlet does not particularly give me any concerns to bring with me. But there are some solutions regarding those requests for capital funds. I'm sure they will be supporting the community of Pond Inlet in it's wishes to improve the lives of its residents through these capital projects.

I'd like to thank that Minister, when the communities run into problems; they're very open and have set up programs to start dealing with some of the problems within municipal governments regarding funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. At this time I have no other names on my list. We can now move on. You will be given an opportunity to ask questions. Comments or questions. If you have no questions, we can start going page by page. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question to the opening comments made by the Minister of Community Government & Transportation. It's on page 2 and it's the third paragraph.

In regards to the two fires, it is stated here that there has been a dramatic increase in the insurance premiums estimated to be between \$4 and 6 million dollars.

I would like to ask the Minister what the premiums were prior to the fire and whether these premiums are going to stabilize some time afterwards? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was \$2 million dollars prior to the fires but Mr. Chairman, Shawn has been negotiating with Nunavut Association of Municipalities and the insurance industry representatives.

The negotiations are still ongoing and Mr. Chairman, he has been working on this for a long time and he could give you a more detailed report on the progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we could give him the opportunity I would like to get Mr. Maley to give you the details as to the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Because of the change, we would like you to introduce your officials first.



**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I have Mr. Kunuk and Mr. Maley who are told to be available as they have different responsibilities. If I didn't give you the details, I just want Mr. Maley to be here and I would like him to respond to Mr. Arvaluk's question, if I didn't give enough detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Maley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To give you a quick update on the insurance situation with our Nunavut municipalities, just to explain, historically this insurance program, which covers the municipalities, for their insurance coverage each year, has never been a government program.

For the last ten years, it's been a program that has been solely own and operated by the municipalities themselves. Starting in 1999, and onwards, with the September 11, crisis, and the changing global economy, insurance became much more expensive and as a result, our government, the Government of Nunavut, was asked to participate in assisting in off-setting the increasing costs of premiums.

Initially, our contribution was \$400 thousand dollars to off-set municipality's costs. And then it moved up to \$800 thousand dollars last year. So, last year, the government was paying \$800 thousand dollars to municipalities for paying \$1.2 million dollars with their own money for a total premium cost of roughly \$2 million dollars.

This was in a program that was partnered with the Northwest Territories Association of Communities. By partnering with them, they were able to reduce their premiums because risk was spread out with a greater number of communities.

However, this year, with the Repulse Bay fire, and also the Clyde River fire, it has thrown the Nunavut Municipal insurance program into a crisis. We were asked and we quickly jumped in to assist them in terms of trying to figure out how we were going to manage this problem.

So, in partnership with Nunavut Association of Municipalities, we hired a consultant to explore the situation with us. We've gone out to the insurance industry and solicited a price for insurance to purchase at the same price that we did this year, which is basically the same insurance you would purchase for you house, if you're buying traditional insurance.

Industry has come back and said to us that we can no longer afford to do that. Insurance costs this year, as the Minister referred to in her opening statement is going to increase between \$4 and 6 million dollars in premium costs.

That for us is unaffordable, so what we've initiated is a self insured program. This program is going to require partnership from the government and although, no decision has yet been made in terms of cost, there is a general recognition that we are going to

have to assist in these values in setting this program up. At the end of the day, this program will become solely owned and operated by Nunavut Municipalities.

The Government is going to have to assist in helping this self insurance program grow and eventually, over five or six years with some good risk management, as the Minister touched down in terms of the fire loss prevention strategy and good risk in lost property control Municipalities will be able to operate their insurance program and not be subject to premium increases based on global insurance costs.

So, I think the Minister has directed the staff in a very constructive direction in terms of doing this and we look forward to reporting back to the Assembly in the near future in terms of where we actually end up with this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** On page 3, second paragraph, that the other strategy for training for community volunteers and the Minister says, at the appropriate time, she will table a new strategy in this House. We have approximately, if all things go well, approximately two days left. When is the appropriate time in this case? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be tabling the strategy in June.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** On the same page, third paragraph, that there is a plan for community empowerment as a priority in her Department. Do you have a schedule as to what empowerment programs will be negotiated with the Municipalities, if it is successful; will that decrease PYs requirement within the Department? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're not going to decrease our empowerment, our staff for helping our communities. What we have done is we are training the SAOs and the secretary and the finance officers and maintenance workers, the sewage truck drivers. We are putting in place, training programs for these individuals and we need the regional staff and the headquarter staff to coordinate these programs and also that we can empower our communities that way.

So, when we are talking about empowerment, you may understand it in terms of putting equipment on the ground or putting extra people from my regional Office into the communities. What we are doing here is that we are doing new Municipal training programs with our communities so that they can have trained staff in the communities. A

lot of cases, we have staff that have been hired and that did not get training for the specific job in those communities.

And we have seen that across the territory, where we have hired beneficiaries to take on the SAO roles without any training. And this is how we are empowering our communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I completely misunderstood that paragraph and thank you for clarifying it. That the empowerment was transferring more responsibility like Social Services and Housing Association to Municipalities. Thank you, for clarifying it.

On the forth paragraph that Municipal operating assistance contribution program has increased and your statement also by \$3 million, 836 dollars. What is the criteria for distributing that to the communities? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We put it at 16 and half percent and that's a little over \$3 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is quite a mouthful Mr. Chairman. One is the budgetary, the third paragraph, one is the budgetary challenge we meet within our means, staff within the department. Consultation with stakeholders, I believe that is the Hamlet councils. If we look at a total and I'm not trying to go page by page Mr. Chairman, I'm just going to use 7-4 as an example in your budget.

Compensation and Benefits for your department, for the government employees only, \$13 million, 291 thousand. Is that a fair assessment, a fair budget for 30 small communities to assist them in running their Hamlets, or will that be included in the program review that the government is positioning to do? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you. Thirteen percent going to my staff benefits is pretty good I think and it can be included in the program review but I can't do without the staff that are in there already. That would be \$0.13 of every dollar for the staff. I think that is pretty good. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last point, not really a question but more of a comment. I could understand if the department was like Education or Public Works and Services or something like that, have sole responsibility of the work for the government, or for programs of the government. But in this case, they are two tiered responsibility, that is one is in the community level, the Hamlets, truly elected like us, that want to have independence in looking after their affairs.

But if you distribute \$99 million, 248 dollars to the 26 communities on the basis of their proportions, they would have increased their responsibility more squarely than the elected members of the Hamlet council. I'm just using that as an example.

Whereas other programs like emergency, Coast Guard and others that are not the responsibility of the Hamlets could be retained with a very small department like Culture, Language, Elders and Youth that would free up a whole lot of money for what the community really wants to do.

Mr. Kattuk's arena and things like that, I think imaginative review of the department will have to be done with your good staff so that fair portions of all contributions, we understand from our own experience from government that we rely very heavily on the federal government for our total budget.

Municipalities is like wise, are, I don't what the Federal Government take as their staff requirements for the purposes of transferring federal funds to Government of Nunavut.

I guess, what I'm saying is that more than half of your total budget is for your department to look after, whatever that may be. And a whole lot of these programs in your budget are recreation contribution, community development funds and all require PYs in your department.

If we could say, let's transfer all that in equal proportions to 26 municipalities, then you will not require these PYs in your department. I don't know how it can be done but I think this merits careful review as to where we can be more efficient according to your statement in your opening statement within our needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get John Welch to respond.

(interpretation end) We put in 55 percent of the budget for contributions and grants straight to the hamlets. I remember when I became the Public Works and Services Minister; I just had three staff when we started in 1999.

I couldn't do the Public Works and Services with three staff. One executive secretary, one Assistant Deputy Minister and one Deputy Minister; that was my headquarters department in Public Works.

Just to give you an example. The regional staff are very close to the communities. The communities appreciate each and every one of them. I couldn't tell you which one I would cut so that that office is useless.

Each one of my staff are very useful to the communities and are much appreciated. I have asked my staff to live within the means and they've done a good job on that. We do more than half the budget, given to the hamlets, in terms of grants and contributions and also their municipal operating money.

I think we have hired staff that are able to do their jobs and I couldn't tell you which ones I would get rid of unless my Deputy Minister is a specialist in engineering and finance and policy and we'd be working all night and all day doing all those jobs.

I would welcome a review to the department to tell us where to cut and which staff to get rid of but I can tell you right now, the communities appreciate the expertise we have in our areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Mr. Chairman, the Minister raises more questions. The example I will use is that you have a good relationship with Iqaluit municipality. You give them a block funding for capital.

For every other hamlet, you have determined if they need water truck, fire truck, sewage truck, dump truck. Inuit in that hamlet may require you have a PY to review that rather than treating it like Iqaluit with block funding for capital for example.

When you start giving block funding, on an annual basis, which will free up a whole lot of planning from the headquarters or regional office, then the municipalities will determine for themselves what they really need through the block funding. That's the point I was trying to make. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe in block funding communities. And actually in the last tail end of the last government, I tried a pilot project for Kivalliq Communities. It was called Kivalliq Block Funding committee and it consisted of seven mayors.

We could have done that and I still believe it's an idea that needs to be looked at closely. I think that we should block fund by region. Then the mayors can talk about their own five year capital plans amongst themselves and have more flexibility with the funds.

I still believe in that concept but at the time when I introduced it as a Kivalliq pilot project, which was a block fund to the whole region, it was shot down by Nunavut

Implementation Commission. They didn't like it at that time because we were just developing the government.

Maybe in the future this will be an idea that can be taken seriously to block fund on a regional basis and the mayors can have more say in how they're funded or they can have more flexibility with the capital.

Right now, I can block fund a city and if anyone of the hamlets get city status, I would welcome that block fund agreement with anybody who wants to do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is short. Community empowerment is a very good idea, as long as the money is increased as well. If you give a community empowerment, and not give them funding to go along with it, it doesn't work. What is empowerment talking about in your opening remarks? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Anybody can get empowerment once they reach a certain level.

Some communities were given social work and economic development officers to give the hamlets more flexibility in what they want to do and have those staff within the municipality.

The hamlet employee, if they can't do their financial statements properly, then what we do, is we can give them training in order for them to be able to do their financial statements.

For example, in Kimmirut, they had to train those people to raise their licence ability in order to drive certain vehicles. So, that's what we're doing is training the SAOs in the communities to be able to do more work within their community or their municipality. If you take the training, then you are able to do more stuff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe what the Minister is saying by the Housing Corporation's, if there isn't going to be enough funding given to the communities for the Hamlets to take over housing, or the Housing Authority, and if the money does not come with it, it would not work out properly because they end up running out of funding while trying to operate those other activities then the community ends up in deficit.

If they are going to take over housing, the money has to also come along with that so they can operate their municipality properly. So they can operate properly, I believe that the money has to come along with that Grant that is transferred to the community.

If they give them extra programs and not let the money come along with it, then it does not work out for the municipality. I wonder if she could clarify that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We now have some funding set aside to train the Hamlet employees. Like I said before the volunteer firefighters are getting funding now to be trained. What I am saying is that we have some funding set aside for training of municipal employees.

I stated before in this House that the money that is going to be used for training is now available, and it is in the budget to train the employees of the Hamlets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is very encouraging news. The communities should also be given the authority to use their own training fund, because a lot of communities have run into deficit problems partly due to a lack of training. When housing and Hamlets were trying to be combined there were nothing but problems that arose from it. I wonder if they know of this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can he clarify which groups have animosity towards each other? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding the Hall Beach Housing Association and the Hamlet when they were merged, a lot of the deficit resulted because community members not be able to sit on these Councils if they had arrears, and that has created a lot of animosity, because the Housing Association and the Hamlets have separate Councils. When they tried to merge those Councils there were problems that arose. Are you aware of that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I am aware of it. Some communities did not have too many problems. For instance in Baker Lake,

Housing and the Hamlet really worked well together. There are differences in the communities.

Mr. Chairman, I have heard of some cases in Hall Beach regarding the Housing Association and the Hamlets problems. Mr. Chairman, some communities who took on these powers are open to give back those powers if they are too many problems.

As well, Mr. Chairman, these elected Hamlet Councils are unable to sit on the Council if they have arrears to the Housing Association. We're aware of the problems and we will fix those through the elections regulations as to how we can better deal with it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's good to hear. The bigger communities who have a better idea of how to run it's own affairs probably do not have as many problems but in the smaller communities who want to take on more authority will need training if they are going to take on those responsibilities. Have they been looked into? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are aware of that and we do hear of cases from the members or the Hamlet councils. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm feeling a little better as I get those responses. I'll be in a better situation at the end of this once I have a better idea of how things are run.

In Clyde River we know we were in a deficit situation for a long time. Even the newspapers were reporting the deficit situation in Clyde River and the lack of experience in that community. Is that still a problem? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The communities in Nunavut, they're quite a few communities that were in a deficit situation. Clyde River was not the only case. We have put in place a review committee that will look over Hamlet finances to ensure they are in order and we have staff that regularly monitors the financial statements and to ensure a management plan is in place to pay off the deficit. Those are the things we have done and we will continue to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those Hamlets that are in a deficit situation, when they look for financial management employees, they're deficit situation and then they have to use funds to hire staff for the Hamlets and that puts them deeper into debt because of the high cost of living. I'm wondering if it's still like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we have our staff go into the communities we don't charge the Hamlet for the services in helping them with their finances. In the budget we have in there, we don't charge the Hamlets for the assistance in their financial matters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will make sure that what she is saying is true. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I did not hear a question. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at this business plan, 2003/2004 budget, earlier on I thought it wasn't here. I will be asking some questions how will you be able to the games on July 9<sup>th</sup> in Kugluktuk. I know that they will be asking for funding from the government to assist them in getting these games to be possible on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Are you prepared to fund the games this summer that will be held? Are you going to be agreeing if the request is made for funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will do my best to help the Kugluktuk games. Mr. Maley has been recreation coordinator here and that is how he has worked himself up. Regarding the games, he really has a way of making it work and finding funds.

With Mike Rafters help, I will commit them to finding funds to assist those people in Kugluktuk for their games. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. I appreciate hearing this good news from you. It is not only for the community of Kugluktuk, but for a lot of people, for Inuit who will be attending these games. It will be part of the circumpolar games and will be held in Kugluktuk.

I appreciate the good news that you have given me and possibly later on, we want to have everything well organized, but I think I understand that you will be having your officials work further on it so that funding will be available and when the funding will be available.

It is nice to hear that it would be available, that once everything is finalized, before we leave, I would like to hear how much it is will be given.

Earlier on, I had another question that I wanted to ask the Minister. David had mentioned part of it, Mr. Iqaqrialu had mentioned earlier, part of it, but the Hamlets that are in deficit, sometimes the Hamlets that are running in deficit, sometimes they have a hard time running their communities. I know that they will be operating in deficit, but sometimes when they are in deficit, they have a hard time operating their Hamlets.

As you know, the arena in Kugluktuk, the hockey arena in Kugluktuk was completed recently. I think the Hamlet kind of ran into a deficit to complete that hockey arena.

I know that the Community Government and Transportation had held, in the system, that building, that hockey arena. I know that the Community Government and Transportation had assisted in funding this important project, but I would like to know if your Department will help assist the community in reducing its deficit due to that problem.

How can you assist the community in reducing that deficit? Whether how you can, maybe this year or the year after, will the Hamlet be able to reduce its deficit between those years?

If that cannot be solved, how can we get the Hamlet to get out of its deficit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** They built an arena that was a lot bigger than what we would have planned as a Government. They did have a surplus in 2002, but right away, that was gobbled up and they fell into a big deficit after they built an arena that was quite big.

We will have a recovery plan with the Hamlet of Kugluktuk and we will work with them. Right now, we are monitoring them very closely and my staff is working to make sure that they can live within their means. We will do a recovery plan that we do with every other community that is in deficit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you Minister. I am glad to hear that you have a recovery plan for the community, so that the community of Kugluktuk can reduce its deficit some time in the near future, so that the Hamlet can operate properly once they are out of deficit.

I have a small item that I would like to bring up. It does not appear in search and rescue. I know that the Federal Government provides search and rescue funds for emergency funding from the Federal Government.

I think that if the Federal Government can provide more funding for search and rescue, even though a small amount, it would really help the communities with search and rescue operations, because a lot of these search and rescues organizations raise their funding through Bingos, and other fund raising activities.

Once the search and rescue operations are on, the money dries up pretty fast. In this capital plan, search and rescue operations have materials to operate with. However, I have a concern with small funding.

Even if it is a small amount of funding that we can get from Community Government and Transportation for search and rescue operations in Kugluktuk, it would help the community a lot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The search and rescue groups in the communities, funding has to be changed and I am aware of that. We are setting up new policies to ensure that we increase the funding. We are aware that they need more funding.

We might increase the funding them by \$2 thousand, 500 for each community, for the search and rescue groups. We are formulating a new policy to make it better fit the needs of these communities. It will be a better situation once that policy is in place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad to hear that you are working on this funding for search and rescue. When will this funding and policy be in place? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I can sign it tomorrow because we can formulate that policy really quickly. Either tomorrow or Friday I will be ready to sign that policy to ensure it gets implemented soon. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you done? Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is regarding Community Empowerment. I am glad that they are being given the opportunity to run its own affairs. That is the whole intent of Nunavut to ensure that the communities and these Hamlets have these extra responsibilities.

Regarding the Hamlets with deficit situations, some of them have a better way of managing their finances. Kugaaruk is in a deficit situation at this point and those communities that are given further authorities should be met with the same resources to ensure they don't run into these deficit situations. Their policies in place, for instance for the water delivery, there is a policy, then there are no further funds to administer that water delivery program.

Regarding snow removal, this item almost always goes over budget because we get so much snow and that is part of the reason why we get into deficit situations. We can't move funds from the water delivery funds to the snow removal program. Things are very restricted that way and so that is a big reason why Hamlets run into a deficit situation and that should be considered in part of the community empowerment program to ensure, for instance, they can take some monies from the administration program and have that authority to move funds within Hamlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding for Hamlets, they have an opportunity to move funds around in their budget, I'd like to say Mr. Chairman that we have reviewed the finances of the Hamlets and this review will be released soon and we are looking at some of the difficulties that the Hamlets are running into regarding finances.

There are different reasons why Hamlets have run into financial difficulties and once that review is done, I think it's just about done, we'll have a better idea what solutions we can put in place to help the Hamlets once we have all this together, we will release them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand her response that once this review is done, they will have solutions to look at improving operations within hamlets. Will they be given more powers after this review is done? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The finances of the Hamlet have been reviewed and looking at better solutions that the Hamlets can use the questions regarding those reviews will be covered in that review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you done? Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding her opening comments, the Minister of Community Government & Transportation stated that there would be more support for air services and they heard that they will be given funds for two years or are they not getting funds at all this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Every year they give funding and what they said was that after Sept 11, they will not be increasing the funding on an annual basis; they will cease those funds for two years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What percentage increase is it annually? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll get Mr. Rafter to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Rafter**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding for the NAV Canada, C.A.R.S. program is based on a number of observations made in the community and it really depends on the number of operating hours that a C.A.R.S. station has to go up.

There isn't a percentage increase that is allocated but it is based on observations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The C.A.R.S. in Pond Inlet is contracted to the co-op and the airport maintenance is contracted out to the hamlet.

The C.A.R.S. program funding, I heard, will not be increased. Does that mean, then, their compensation and benefits won't increase then I guess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Which one of you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes that is so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you done. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleagues question, Mr. Alakannuark's question, just further to his question regarding the hamlets. Once their given funds for the specific purposes, they are restricted as to what else they can be moved to.

If that fund isn't used up, they have to give it back to the government. Will that be changed this year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't take funds back as a Government of Nunavut, but when there are funds left over, we try and figure out ways where the hamlets can use it up.

For instance, sewage, water delivery, if the hamlet has money left over, as a surplus, we bring those funds together and make it a surplus for that hamlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Minister. Some communities have a surplus some years but they can't carry it forward to the next year. Will that be changed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The financial review will also cover that, but as I said that review is not yet and we have not seen the details yet, but I will release that information once they are done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I have no one on my list at this point. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): We don't have a quorum right now. We should take a quick break Mr. Chairman, if it's okay with you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We'll take a ten minute break. Ten minutes.

*>>Committee recessed at 17:34 p.m. and resumed at 17:53 p.m.*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. We can begin again. Page 7-5. Community Government & Transportation. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$7 million, 520 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): 7-7 to 7-12, is Community Government. Community Government. Total Operations and Maintenance is \$48 million, 758 thousand. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Under Community Government we mentioned \$800 thousand dollars for the Municipal Insurance Premiums. I would like further information on Insurance Premiums. Is it identified under another line item? Or what is happening here? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): This \$800 thousand dollars was a one time fund to be used for insurance purposes. At this time we are currently negotiating the insurance premiums and the number is just not slotted in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): So what kind of effect will it have if you decide on a number? We haven't set aside any money for insurance premiums for 2003/2004. If you complete you negotiations, are you going to be putting a number in there, or is there going to be no help to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This money doesn't come from the Federal Government. It comes from Government of Nunavut.

The cabinet agreed on \$800 thousand dollars and since it's currently under negotiations, the cabinet will have to meet and decide on how it's going to be funded. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Did the Finance Minister not agree to put funds aside for the municipal insurance premium. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Finance Minister is not the only one who makes those types of decisions. It's the cabinet who decides.

After the September 11, disaster, the insurance premiums were increased and the Nunavut Association of Municipalities and the insurance companies are currently negotiating and once we have a number, I will then give the information the cabinet members and we'll decide on a figure just like usual business. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): On 7-7, we have the budget and then 7-8 is information, 7-9 and 7-10. Are they all there? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are here. This is under Community Government and all the grants and contributions are all here under these pages. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): 7-10. We wanted to make a change to the Sport Nunavut Grant in Inuktitut but there has been no change. When are you going to be making that change? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The finance department gets the translation done. Possibly they didn't note it and there are no changes to the Inuktitut titling.

Which one did you want to see a change in the Inuktitut title? Is it the municipal training grant, the sport Nunavut or Recreation Leisure? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's the \$200 thousand dollar figure, municipal training grant in English and in Inuktitut, it's pinguaqtulirijit Nunavummit, which means Nunavut recreation. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I would like you department to note that. Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Maybe they are just that the Hamlets are just doing recreational activities. I apologize, the Finance Department, I am sure are listening to the proceedings in the House. I wish that they would note the changes and make changes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else? That is it? Questions, 7-5. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like information on the diesel fuel's stabilization rider. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is under grants and contributions to the Hamlets and it is to provide as a grant to Nunavut Municipalities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): That is it? Any other questions? Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Community Government grants consist of the five divisions of capital planning. Is this your division that takes care of standards and criteria? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson**: Yes, it is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean**: On that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that question, I am referring to standards and criteria, we did a lot of talking about it in the last few years and I am getting down to Sanikiluaq.

As Chairperson of the Standing Committee for the last three years, I have been trying to assist that community in getting their artificial ice installed because, again, I got another letter today to the Standing Committee, I have not shared it with my other Members yet, but I will give it to them, requesting assessments in putting artificial ice in, you know, a small community, a have not community that does not really have a lot of opportunities for the youth down there to participate in any type of meaningful recreation program and we build a big beautiful facility down there and they only have ice for 6 weeks.

And I think that is a tragedy and I think is sort of an anomaly where they are out there in the middle, well, in the end of Hudson's Bay and they have an arena there and they cannot utilize it properly.

And this is where standards and criteria differ from Sanikiluaq to Rankin Inlet and Kugluktuk and Baker Lake and Coral Harbour. Are there any plans to put changes to standards and criteria to assist this Municipality and get their artificial ice? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am aware of the artificial ice in Sanikiluaq through the Member of the Legislative Assembly and I am aware of the letter that was sent to you as the Standing Committee Chairperson.

I have not met with my staff yet on that specific issue, but we are aware of that as a Department, that Sanikiluaq needs help and we actually gave them some money for planning I think it was when I was down there for an artificial ice.

Now, we just have to figure out how to get that artificial ice in Sanikiluaq and I have not met with my staff yet on that specific artificial ice, so, I do not have an answer for that right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank you for your patience with me. Like I say, when we got elected, we were elected to think of all of Nunavut, and not just our own communities. As Chairman of the Standing Committee, I have to represent every community in Nunavut. I take that job seriously.

Like I say, it is a small community out in Hudson's Bay, and we know the social problems that we are having. I am asking you, I know that it is a capital question, but I am asking you as the Minister responsible to change your standards of criteria to make sure that Sanikiluaq get artificial ice in the next go around, whether it is out of O and M. It is just that community. I know that you have started to, which I commend you for. It is just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is all that I have to say.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Did you want to make a response, Ms. Thompson?

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it was just a comment. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For myself, me too. As a resident of Nunavut, I have to be receptive and listen to what the Nunavut communities are requesting, or asking assistance for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do not just make comments. If you have a question be specific. There are no other questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On 7-7 to 7-11, under Community Government is that all of it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): From 7-7, 7-8, 7-9, 7-10, and 7-11, 7-12 are all under Community Government.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question regarding the Water Sewage Services funding. Is that for all of Nunavut, or is it for one community? I would like to get further clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All Water Sewage Services are distributed to the all communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Community Government, I have noticed in the last while that there has been very little done in regards to training Recreation Directors. I am not sure if that falls under your department, but to date, I am not sure if we are still sending our Recreation Leaders and Directors to Inuvik. I think that we have the expertise and the experience in this Territory now to deliver a program where we can get Recreation Directors up to the level of professionalism that they can deliver programs in the communities effectively.

I know that in my community right now we took an individual that was a good Hockey player, a good all around guy in the community, and we made him a Recreation Director, we sort of plunked him in there, and now he is having trouble doing the administration part of the job.

I am not saying that we have to send these guys out for two year courses in Inuvik, but I am saying is there any way that we can deliver some kind of small workshop in the region for say at a two week period every three or four months to get them up to filling out applications, planning calendars, just to get a little more degree of proficiency over like a two or three period so they know how to fill out the forms for Minor Hockey, Canada Games, getting ready to play in Referee clinics, or Coaches clinics, and stuff like that? Is there any small micro plan that you have planned in your department to help Recreation Directors? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson**: Yes, we do to every thing that Mr. McLean is talking about. Mr. Maley will make sure that the plan is in place and that those guys get trained and all kinds of things, on page 7-12 we have some money for them, so yes to everything. I'm aware of the programs that used to be delivered in Inuvik and if we downsize that and start doing it at the community we can do that and we will do that, we will make it happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same issue that Mr. McLean was asking about in regards to swimming pools, in English, under the Inuktitut it has something to do with swimming pools, but it's Inuit traditional games in the amount of \$470 thousand had been reduced, is it because they had more training. Is that why the money is not as much as before? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Which page is the member referring to? I'm lost so if she could state the number. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry. 7-12. Recreation Contribution Program.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under 7-12 the money has been reduced because it's been moved to 7-10 under Recreation and Leisure Grants and we have transported it to that section. We will have more training for inter-community sports, Inuit Games, as well as Hamlet Days, that's what they requested so that's why we have transferred it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Haviyok. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under 7-11 Water and Sewage Service funding. I was told that this was water and sewage delivery is very expensive and it's the amount of \$5 million, 71 thousand. It has not been increased for quote some time, even though the community needs more service. I'm just wondering why this has not increased. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We follow how many houses that they have, how many trucks that they have and so on, that is how we formulate this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the 26 communities, the money has not been increased for this project. I wonder why that is? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has nothing to do with capital. This is just for the operations and maintenance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I know it's got to do with just Operations and Maintenance but it still gets expensive when you have to operate in the community. Perhaps this will not be enough for those 26 communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There is no question. I don't hear a question. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$48 million, 348 thousand. Agreed? Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will that translation be corrected before we pass this? I wanted to find that out before I agree to that page. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason why I did not agree to water and sewage service funding is because the hamlets in the communities, I wanted them to be able to get more funding for that. I'd like to ask another question Mr. Chairman. Will there be an increase to the grants and contributions under water and sewage block funding in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has been increased about two years ago and we have increased the operations of the hamlets to \$3 million dollars.

What we do, is we use a formula base and count how many water tanks there are and how much sewage services are required and what we do is follow the number of trucks and houses and water tanks. We have also increased the operations of the hamlets to \$3 million dollars.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that there's a \$3 million dollars increase on the Municipal Operating Assistance but some communities will probably be in a deficit again.

There's an increase in housing and there's a lot more service to be provided by the hamlet. How many years is this going to be used for? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we do is we give them an overall increase of 16 percent to all the hamlets.

The water and sewage services, what we do is provide it according to the size of the population of the community and how much water delivery they need and sewage services. That's what we follow. If there was an increase in the population of a community, we would look at it again and review it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You didn't increase it because it's usually the right amount? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we do is the public pays for their own services and what they do is they figure it out at the hamlet level. They figure out what services they need and figure out how much they provide and then they would increase the funding and if they think its okay then we leave it at that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the smaller communities, there is no way for them to have any extra funding for them. Could there be any more money if they would need it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the number of water tank increase and they need more sewage services, then we would probably provide more funding for them. What we do is we count how many houses need these kinds of services and that is the amount of money that we set aside for that purpose.

So, Mr. Chairman, the Municipal Finance Review has been done and those are the types of things that we took into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else? Community Government. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$48 million, 758 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Transportation. 7-13. Total Operations and Maintenance. 15 million, 738 thousand. Agreed? Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one question, Mr. Chairman. I would like my question to be understood, I think it is under Transportation Emergency Services.

Under the Business Plan of the Department, the fire marshal, I tried to look at the Business Plans, under the Business Plans, it states that under priorities for 2003 and 2004, to do with Nunavut Emergency Measurement Management, is responsible for the office of the fire marshal and that Emergency Measure Organization.

In my Constituency of Arctic Bay and in Grise Fiord, the conditions of the two offices are quite bad over there and if you entered them you could smell oil, and in the other there is a leak in the office in Arctic Bay.

My question is, Mr. Chairman, is in regards to the fire marshal, would they be able to bring that fire marshal up to those two communities to look at those two buildings, office buildings under Emergency Management?

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): We just agreed to Emergency Management in the previous page. I understand what the Member is talking about. We can send a fire marshal up there to check those two buildings.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize that we just approved the budget, but I do not see it, I guess it is too late. I would really like the health inspector and the fire marshal, together, go inspect those buildings. They can probably advise the Government as to the state and condition of the building. Can they determine whether it has to be condemned or not? Mr. Chairman, thank you.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They have not seen yet, so they cannot say what the conditions of those buildings are. So, we will direct them to inspect those buildings and once they have those inspections done, we will find out what their directions are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I am aware that they haven't been up there to do their inspections, but once they have done the inspections, can they give directions to the department as to what the estimates would be to improve the conditions.

Or, can they condemn the building and say it's a safety hazard. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The fire marshal has regulations and they are very stringent and they have that authority. I have seen cases where the health inspector staff, once they've done an inspection, they do a report as to what needs to be worked on and the fire marshal does a report as to what work needs to be done.

Whether it be a restaurant or whether they need two doorways in a building. They can give those types of directions and they would tell us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Haviyak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under transportation on the business plan, one of the priorities that you have on page 7-11, in regards to advance the Nunavut, Manitoba and the Bathurst Inlet road project, correct me if I'm wrong on this, but I was hearing that they must be going back to the drawing board on the Bathurst Inlet project.

Have you heard anything different that the project is still a go or otherwise. I'm not sure, I'm just trying to get an update from you if you've heard anything from them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson**: We're still progressing on that project and we haven't stalled on anything on that.

As far as I know it's still one of the initiatives of the government and we're working with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is, you can stop me if I'm wrong.

As my colleague from the High Arctic asked and further to her question, the state and conditions of those buildings, the fire marshals have the only authority it seems to determine that, even though the community knows that the condition is unbearable.



So, is the fire marshal the only one with the authority in that regard. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. To move things along, we're in transportation. That was already passed. So, please keep in line with what we're dealing with because that is not within our topic. That's the last question. I'll let the Minister respond. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manito Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was asked whether those people can go do those inspections and I said, yes, we can send them. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. Page 7-14, the top one, community aerodrome radio stations, are they not being given more funds.

She stated in her opening remarks that they were having financial problems and that there will be no increase in the budget. It was 4.4 and there is an increase of up to 4.6 million. Can you please explain that as to what the increase is for? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manito Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the slight increase, I was told that we cannot increase it for two years. There will be a freeze in the increases for two years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just on the bottom of that, Airport's Capital Assistance Program, has that been moved elsewhere to another line item. There are no funds for this year, although there was some for 2002-2003. Has that been moved somewhere else? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manito Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once this funding was from the Federal Government, we are expecting it through negotiation, and then it will be put in there, once the funds come in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to look back at that. Once I see the funding is put in there, I will ask further questions. I heard over the radio that \$2.6

million dollars funding, is that the funds that you are waiting for from the Federal Government? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are negotiations underway. Once there is an announcement, I will pass on the information to my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. McLean**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Community Aerodrome Radio (CARS), anyhow, it is a mouthful. I heard something over the radio last week about a contract being awarded to a Yellowknife company to run the CARS Station in a couple of communities in the Baffin.

To me that is ludicrous, that outside contractors are trying to administer a contract inside of Nunavut. I do not know who writes those contracts up, but in my community, the Hamlet does it and they do a very good job. Maybe that is not the case in the other communities, in the Baffin where they are giving it to a Yellowknife firms, I heard.

I want you to know that if you cannot negotiate with the CARS to run them locally, or find a business in town to run them, I think it is just a tragedy that a company in Yellowknife is running those contracts outside of Nunavut. I do not think that it is right. I do not agree with it, because I am certainly sure that if I did one in the NWT, they would not let me run it.

I am just trying to give a plug here in Nunavut that we should not let dollars leak out of the Territory. It is more of a comment.

On your transportation strategy 2001, on page 9, our vision for transportation in 2021 is that there are clearly marked and maintained routes between the communities. There is efficient access to hunting and fishing sites adjacent to communities. Inter-community and well used community trails are patrolled. Inter-community routes have strategically placed emergency shelters. Some inter-community trails have been upgraded to seasonal roads, and possible to all weather roads, depending on traffic levels.

There are important new surface transport routes between the Kivalliq region and Manitoba, and between the Kitikmeot regions, mining properties in Bathurst Inlet. These are all weather routes where resource development projects are able to contribute substantially to the required funding, and also the announcement of the Kimmirut/Iqaluit Road.

The point that I am getting to is that, will your department commit to a long-term strategy in O&M of putting in a budget line every year of a quarter of a million dollars for the Kivalliq Road, the Bathurst Inlet Road, and the Kimmirut Road, so if it in there as a line

item, this will be the beginning of starting something, because right now it is a hit and miss issue.

What I'm getting at here Minister, is if we commit say a certain amount of money in Operations and Maintenance, for whatever studies that it's going to take, that this will be an ongoing thing and it's not something we jump to in crisis when somebody speaks up and says what about this road and what about this road.

So, will your department look at putting on that line item? At least it's there and if you've got a quarter of a million dollars, or, I'm just throwing a figure out at you, \$200 thousand dollars a year, then it's easier to go access federal funding to match it or something like that so these studies can continue.

If we study for another ten years, at least there's money in the budget to study them and implement them down the road and maybe big brother in Ottawa someday will feel sorry for this poor little territory and give us some money to develop a highway system that no other territory or province in Canada does not have some kind of linkage to southern Canada. That's just my question, if you'll put that in as a line item for the next 20 years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the next 20 years, I don't know but yes, we can do that for the next, how many years did we build that road. Hundreds of years. Mr. Chairman, we will put that in the line item the next time we do the budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Nutarak, mentioned the C.A.R.S. program, you stated that there will be a freeze for two years and the staff for the C.A.R.S. belong to a union, they are part of the hamlet union.

We'll need to see increases in their compensation. If there is a freeze from the Federal Government for two years, will the Community Government & Transportation have to pay for the difference that the Federal Government will not pay anymore? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can review that question with my department so that we're not totally dependant on the Federal Government. We will review it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Just below it, Minor Works for coast guard, we're given \$394 thousand dollars, does the Nunavut Government have to pay 100 percent or is that totally coming from the Federal Government. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitek Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And on the last line, Airports Capital Assistance Program, the Federal Government will no longer sponsor the program for 2003/2004, and you stated that you had filed several applications for the A.C.A.P. criteria pending federal approval. Is that forthcoming and how much do you think it will be. Mr. Chairman, what I'm trying to say here is that they're useful for say like the Coral Harbour garage at the airport terminal, will be built this year.

If that will continue, those communities with the run down terminal in a lot of the Nunavut communities, the Federal Government if they no longer give those funds and if you can't find other funds, how are you going to deal with that Line Item? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitek Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those buildings are under a different program, it is not this program. This program is for snow blowers, heavy equipment for the airports. This is an ongoing program from the Federal Government. We are doing the negotiations now. We will get money for it. I just cannot tell you how much we will get this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is encouraging to hear. Page 7-15. The funding for land administration, it started in 1993. \$1 million, 126 thousand dollars that there is a cap, run until 2003. Why is it only until 2003? What has the Federal Government said in saying that they will no longer fund it because we need more work on the Land Claims Agreement?

In 2003-2004, there will be a new agreement. Will it be more or if there is no further funds coming in, what will happen to those positions of land administrators in the communities? Would you have to lay them off if the money is not coming? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is negotiated by EIA and they will have to negotiate it again, they will have to renew this program again, that is all it is saying. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** They are going to have to or will they not? Is there a commitment from the Federal side that they will renegotiate a new deal on under that 2003 and they have assured EIA that there will be a new deal to continue that land administration program? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot speak for the Federal Government, but the negotiations are ongoing through EIA for this particular issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you at least find out from EIA that the Federal Government has agreed to continue this program, maybe under the different terms of agreement? I do not expect the Minister to speak for the Federal Government, but has the Federal Government told EIA that they will continue to do that?

The agreement only ends in 2003 with the deal that after 2003, were in the year 2003, we have to negotiate a new deal, but we will continue. Have they told the EIA that? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** I can just make a commitment from my staff that we will be assisting EIA with the negotiations and I can find more information if it is for the Member, but at this time, I cannot say what EIA has planned for this, but we are working with the EIA Department internally. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is very important because if the communities do not have land administrators and they are in the mercy of these programs, if this program ends, so is the administration program.

That usually helps the community very much in town planning and things like that now, where the commercial areas are and residential, water reservoirs, garbage site relocation and things like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

On page 7-16, are the Coast Guard of Nunavut, are the auxiliary programs and Canada/Nunavut infrastructure program are funded 100% by the Federal Government or does the Government of Nunavut have to continue to that? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will contribute to those programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What is the portion from each, from the Federal Government, I know they're putting in 153 thousand dollars and the infrastructure program is 1 million 65. What amount will you contribute to that. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the emergency planning, the 39 percent from the Federal Government and rest of it from us. For the Canada infrastructure program, how much is it, 50/50. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Are you done. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** I don't know if this is really a question but in my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, I stressed the need to review how the Community Government & Transportation is not proportionately divided for the purposes of serving the communities.

For example, on page 7-17, the compensation and benefits distribution or payments for the government offices in headquarters and the three regions is every entry on the 28<sup>th</sup>. But if you look at the headquarters alone, but the regional offices is quite a bit smaller, who have direct contact as you stated, Minister, direct contact with the communities.

Non-direct contact at the headquarters is 8 million dollars. That's more than half of the total budget for the three regions. I know this is in the policy planning, but I think you will have to reconsider where we can streamline within the government so that the hamlets can have a little bit more share of that total budget of \$99 million dollars.

That is just a comment Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding his comments 878 thousand dollars, it's not a million figure. Is that what he's talking about.

Regarding his comments, I understood with his opening comments that my department will do a review and I think that's what his wishes are and that's what we can commit to, doing a review within my department. That's all I can say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I was talking about the compensation and benefits for headquarters for \$8.3 million dollars and the rest are \$2.5 and \$1.2 and \$1.1 respectively.

The last question. I'd like to do, or second last question, I'm sorry. In the travel and transportation, for your staff travelling to regions and communities and where else, who knows, 2 million dollars. That's a whole lot of travel.

Is that for the hamlets that are in financial problems because we hardly get anyone from your department going to Coral Harbour after Sean left. I don't know who goes there anymore.

I'm less concerned about that \$2 million dollar travel budget. Under contract services, can you tell me exactly what these are for, a total of \$11 million, 402 thousand dollars? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson:** Actually Margaret Taylor was in Coral Harbour for quite some time. She's from my department in the regional office, so there are a lot more people going to Coral Harbour after Shawn became an Assistant Deputy Minister. So we've staff traveling over there some times just the names are probably not familiar.

We are the most decentralized department in the government. We have decentralized to 9 communities throughout Nunavut. We have a community; we have part of the department in Cape Dorset, Resolute Bay, Arctic Bay, Nanisivik, Igloodik, Baker Lake, Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, and Kugluktuk.

There are a lot of decentralized positions in those communities and that's why that travel budget is that high. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And I may have missed one more of the questions so I will have Mr. Rafter say something because he's been quiet for quite a while. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Go ahead Mr. Rafter.

**Mr. Rafter:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the contract services under transportation, the vast majority of those funds are used for airport operating contracts and that's basically funding which in about 90 percent of the cases goes directly to municipalities for operating the airports. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I forget what I was going to say.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I have no one on my list at this point. Page 7-13. Transportation. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$15 million, 738 thousand dollars. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Information. Any further questions? Go back to page 7-4. Details of expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$72 million, 23 thousand dollars. Agreed? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The different departments that we've reviewed, \$4 million for Department of Sustainable Development, \$12 million, Human Resources, \$16 million, Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, \$8 million, 620 thousand dollars.

Looking at these departmental budgets for Operations and Maintenance, for these government departments, the Community Government & Transportation have increased by \$3 million but a lot of the communities continue to have problems regarding deficits.

What I think is that the Community Government & Transportation in representing these communities, in the 26 communities, these municipalities are very short of funds for operating their hamlets.

\$8 million dollars for Human Resources, I think that is how much the hamlet operating budget should be it's at \$13 million dollars. There is a lot of travelling to the communities from the department. I do not see any improvements that they are making from all these travels and I think that it is just a waste of money in my mind.

Community visits, financial management assistance and there are not improving the services. That is how I see it. That is why I need a better explanation as to how they use that budget to the best that they can? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): We try to use those funds to the best that we can. For instance, those trips to Clyde River, they got a shiny new fire truck. We got it almost immediately when it burnt down.

The Community Government employee, Timoon Toonoo out of Cape Dorset, visited those communities for five years to help them plan for this, and the Hamlets were very



grateful for the help. My departmental staff, and Joanasie Akumalik, as well, thanked my department for getting officials into their communities to assist Hamlet employees.

They are always open to go into these communities because if they do not need the assistance then they would not be asking for assistance from my departmental staff. If you want that stopped, I could do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there is no insurance then the Hamlet in the community, it would have been impossible to get a replacement fire truck, but because it was insured then the Government said that the insurance will cover it so we might as well pay for it.

Some of the communities who asked for assistance, from what I have seen, they are taking some of the funds from the Hamlets for those visits, from my experience anyways. Is that so, or not? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My departmental staff once they go to the Hamlets, they do not charge the Hamlets for those services. Lootie Toomasie of Qikiqtarjuaq, the Mayor, he was also very grateful for the support that he gets from my department. I do hear any complaints about the support that my staff gives to the Hamlets.

In Clyde River we tried the best that we can when their Fire Hall burnt down. I guess that there might be a misunderstanding as to why our staff travelled to those communities. They do not charge the Hamlets for those services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm trying to represent my community. Once the departmental staff go to those communities, they also ask me to come because it seems their staff do not seem to be supporting, they go to the communities but they do not seem to help. But because I have more authority, I am just wondering whether they will continue to try and meet the needs from those communities. I think that that is where the misunderstanding comes from.

As the Members representing the communities we always have to try to keep up with the needs of the communities, even though the departmental staffs goes to the communities. I would like an explanation why they go to the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I seem to understand is do not let the staff go to Clyde River. We do not need them. Is that what I am hearing? If so, yes I can make it so. We can let the Hamlet know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There may be a misunderstanding in there regarding those exchanges. We are dealing with the Department Budget's Main Estimates. We are talking about Community Government and Transportation. The \$13 million that is given to the Hamlets please make sure that there are no misunderstandings in there. Could we move on now? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask, once again, whether her staff that go to the communities, does she see the results of the work done in the Hamlets.

Perhaps the Minister does not understand what is going on in the communities, so we need continuous visits from her Department. So, I would like to ask whether they achieve results during those visits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Hamlets and the Mayors, I know them pretty well and we have a good working relationship. We have different reasons why some staff have to go to those communities.

But we still have to go into the communities to monitor how these Hamlets are operating. I do not know exactly why what he is getting at; perhaps I can get more information from the Hamlets and find out exactly why our staff was going to the communities.

Perhaps it would be better if I talk to the member in his office. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Departmental staff go into the communities. The Departmental staff, is there enough trust in your staff to do their jobs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): What staff are you talking about? Which staff, what situation are you talking about? The issues that are brought forward from the communities, I try to deal with it in a timely manner. But I do not know what he is talking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Detail of expenditures, Total Operations and Maintenance, \$72 million, 23 thousand, Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you agreed that we have concluded the Main Estimates for the Department? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

>>*Applause*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Ms. Thompson. Final Comments? Thank you. What is the wish of the Committee? We will take a break while they set up, 5-minute break. We will take a 5-minute break while they are setting up. ...

>>*Committee recessed at 19:04 p.m. and resumed at 19:13 p.m.*

**Chairperson** (Mr. Iqaqrialu) (interpretation): Thank you for coming back. We can now resume the meeting. Do we have opening comments from the Minister of Public Works and Services? Mr. Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Yes I do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will then go into my speaking notes and I'll be speaking in English.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to make some opening remarks for the 2003/2004 main estimates and business plan for the Department of Public Works and Services.

For 2003/2004, Public Works and Services, has a target budget of \$60.9 million dollars for Operations and Maintenance and \$10.7 million for capital projects. The responsibility of systems development was transferred from the Department of Finance to our Informatics Division. This increased our Operations and Maintenance by \$1.6 million dollars from 2002/2003.

Mr. Chairman, funded positions have increased from 200 to 201. This reflects the transfer of two positions to the Hamlet of Kugluktuk under the New Community Management Agreement, and the transfer of three positions from the Department of Finance.

With a budget of \$8.8 million dollars, the directorate provides advice, assistance, planning and implementation of human resources, finance and policy functions for the department.

While we have made some progress in increasing Inuit employment numbers, the staffing of highly technical positions in our Technical Services Division, and Informatics Division remains a challenge.

\$5.3 million dollars is dedicated to the Technical Services Division for the planning, design and project management services for client departments. This division assists in identifying long term capital requirements and operations guidelines and develops government wide technical standards for infrastructure.

The Operations Division manages the Government of Nunavut's inventory of owned and leased facilities and the allocation of office space. They ensure existing and planned facilities comply with mechanical and electrical codes and standards.

This division also purchases goods and administers the Eastern Arctic Sealift on behalf of the Government of Nunavut. They have been allocated \$31.6 million dollars.

In consultation with clients, the Operations Division develops implements and monitors contracting policy and procedures including the Nunavummi Nangminiqqtunik Ikajutti Policy (NNI) and develops contracting guidelines and procedures.

\$15.2 million dollars has been dedicated to the Informatics Division to provide the Government of Nunavut with voice communications services, a shared source of development, operations and support for computer hardware and software applications systems.

Mr. Chairman, for 2003/2004, the Petroleum Products Division has been allocated 9.6 million dollars in capital funding to upgrade the bulk fuel storage facilities in Nunavut communities.

An additional \$1 million dollars has been allocated, Mr. Chairman, for much needed upgrades to Government of Nunavut facilities.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to highlight some recent accomplishments of the Department of Public Works and Services. An in-depth review of the NNI policy was conducted in collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The Technical Standards and Safety Act was developed to replace several Protection Acts. A Community Transfer Agreement was signed with the Community of Kugluktuk, which transfers the responsibility of the maintenance of Government of Nunavut buildings to that community.

We recently signed new contracts for the supply and transportation of petroleum products to Nunavut communities. Contracts have been awarded for the dry cargo services for Baffin and Kivalliq communities.

Mr. Chairman, my department has been proactive in its activities in 2002/2003. We will continue to do so in future as we strive to be more efficient in our operations and services we provide to our clients. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Does the Chairman of the Standing Committee on CESD have any Opening Comments? Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chairman of the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development, I am pleased to be able to provide Opening Comments as we begin the review of the 2003-2004 Main Estimates and the 2003-2004 Business Plan of the Department of Public Works and Services.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee has had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Public Works and Services and has carefully reviewed the Department's Main Estimates and Business Plan.

Members remain concerned as to the final cost of the Government of Nunavut of the bad gas situation. It is not clear what the total cost was to test the fuel, reduce the price of the bad gas until it could be removed, remove the bad gas, and provide compensation for damage to engines. In addition, Members noted that the remaining bad gas that was removed was sold to a refinery in New Jersey. The Committee would wish to know how much was recovered through this sale. It is important that these costs be accurately presented.

Mr. Chairman, Members are concerned that boiler inspections are not being done as often as they should be. It is not clear who is responsible for ensuring that boilers receive their yearly inspections.

Mr. Chairman, Members noted the recent award of dry cargo contracts in the Baffin and Kivalliq. Members are concerned that private companies will face increased costs due to the change in contract to government and to the private sector with the Minister after the shipping season.

Mr. Chairman, Members are concerned that the Nunavummi Nangminiqatunik Ikajuuti policy is not being applied consistently. The Committee would like increased transparency as to who has been awarded the contracts and the value of those contracts. The Committee is concerned that the policy is not fulfilling its goal and supporting Northern businesses. The Committee is looking forward to the tabling of the 2001-2002 Annual Review of the Nunavummi Nangminiqatunik Ikajuuti Policy by the Government of Nunavut/NTI Nunavummi Nangminiqatunik Ikajuuti Policy Review Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Members noted that responsibility for the Petroleum Products Division will be transferring from the Department of Public Works to the Qulliq Energy Corporation in the coming year. The Committee looks forward to receiving regular updates as to the status of that transition. In addition, Members understand that PPD positions will be moving to Baker Lake and stress that a training program be developed to ensure that local people can be hired into those highly technical positions.

Mr. Chairman, Members continue to advocate for trades training across Nunavut. The Committee strongly urges the Minister to work in cooperation with the Department of

Education and Community Government and Transportation as well as the Nunavut Housing Corporation to best utilize existing funds for training programs.

Mr. Chairman, Members noted that certain funding for the Informatics Services Branch has been transferred from the Department of Finance to the Department of Public Works and Services. The Committee urges the department to exercise caution in ensuring that IT costs are kept under control. Members recognize that tens of millions of dollars have already been spent in this area.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my comment on the Main Estimates of the Department of Public Works and Services. Individual Members may wish to raise questions or make comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Applause*

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Are we going to be inviting witnesses, Minister Kattuk? Are you going to have witnesses? Okay then. You can proceed to the Witness Table.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Minister, if you would introduce your witnesses please?

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure everybody knows our Deputy Minister, Ross Mrazek. On my left, we have Patrick Galbraith. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you going to be inviting anybody else to come to the witness table at times.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Also in the observer seats, we have Petroleum Products Division, Roy Green and Susan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We can then go on to general comments which will be for ten minutes. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope I won't go ten minutes. I'll try to keep my comments brief and give my colleague David, a break if he wants it.

My opening comments are very brief in regards to the bad gas situation and now a looming, probably, maybe, we're not sure, situation with the P-50 heating fuel. And my only comments and these are just comments, Minister that I'm hoping through all of this we're learning. And we're still learning.

Hopefully some day the Department of Public Works, will find somebody, maybe on a temporary basis from July to November to do quality control on these products that we're

buying off shore in regards to gasoline and home heating fuel and diesel and whatever else.

I understand today, that we have a bad product, I don't want to say we do, there could be, we have a suspect product in Cape Dorset and Repulse Bay, and the product is going to cost us millions more.

I know the Finance Minister today is under severe pressure to balance the budget and the last thing we need is another \$4 or 5 million dollars fiasco in a couple of communities. What I'm getting to in the bad gas situation and that one yes, I'll accept. There may be a couple of communities getting bad P50.

There's got to be a point in this government where people are held accountable for their actions. It's not rocket science here we're dealing with. I'm just saying, if we have to every year, hire someone temporarily for six months to do quality control and see that we're not being shafted on a product.

It's an embarrassment. If we can't purchase and supply products, petroleum products to a territory of 27 thousand people. And I'm not blaming really anybody. I'm not blaming any people in your department.

It might be fiscally responsible to go out there and hire somebody to quality control test this stuff because if we get it, and we see what we're experiencing now, so, I'm urging the Minister maybe, find somebody that can do quality control on these products before we get saddled with them. I know its buyer beware out there but let's put a stop to this mess that we're getting into every year with petroleum products.

Yes Ed. you'd be just the guy to do it.

>>*Laughter*

So anyhow, I'm hoping that I'm getting my point across here tonight because people are shrugging their shoulders and looking at us and saying what are you guys doing out there. Can't you even buy Petroleum Products?

So, anyhow, I had to make that point clear. And like I say, there are probably reasons for it. The other issue that I want to talk about is the dry cargo contract. This one is going to come back to haunt us all. I see it now. And that's all I'm saying. It's going to come back to haunt us all.

Mr. Picco, if you want to come over here and sit beside me and comment, you're more than welcome. Well come over.

But I'm saying, in November when all the bills are in and all the costs have been tallied up, I'll be in the house here doing capital, reminding this government if they made a mistake or not.

And being the quiet, shy person I am, I'll let you all know about it because there's a region over there that's really in an uproar over the dry cargo contracts and if there is significant costs savings, I'll be the first one to stand up in this house and say, Mr. Minister, you did the right thing by doing this.

At this point I'm a little cynical about it because I know that business community over there and they're very active and vocal. So, I'm just saying, I'm keeping an eye on this dry cargo contract.

On the NNI Policy, I think we meant well. But I'm beginning to think the old BIP Policy worked better. I thought the NNI Policy was here to help Northern companies, specifically Inuit companies.

I can go on and say a lot of the business has been stayed in the north, and is in the north. We have done a good job with this policy of keeping outside contractors in. I think that it needs to be tweaked a bit more in trying to assist small businesses to develop.

One of the things that popped up in a meeting, I was in Rankin Inlet on the weekend was the Supply Ship and Erect Contract through the Housing Corporation. Members were saying that it would have been better off if it had been labour only, and I know that they still have a lot to say. I will have to bring that up with the Housing Minister personally.

Training, your department used to be one of the best years ago in training boiler people, electricians, and all that. I think that your department drifted away from it, so I would like to see you would come back in training people. Right now there is not a lot of training being done out there by the Housing Corporation. They are just too busy trying to do the day to day things with furnaces, and windows, and doors, sewage tanks, and stuff like that.

I really encourage you guys because you were good at it. I think that there have not been many staff changes in the last four or five years in regards to training. So I seriously encourage you to do some more trades training and apprenticeship training program.

On the IT issue, I think you guys are doing probably a great job on the IT issue, in maintaining computer and internet system and stuff like that. In my humble opinion, it seems to be working very well. Continue to keep it up because I know that in my community the IT person there is very qualified. He keeps the computer system. I never hear of any breakdowns, or any major problems happening.

Over the last four years, I think that this Territory has taken huge steps in the IT field. I do not know if you are fully responsible for it, but for a department that did not really have any IT four or five years ago, or only had it in certain areas, and now you have the decentralized communities.



The ones that I have visited, everyone seems to be on their working and doing a lot of good stuff. I have to commend you on your IT support and your technicians and stuff like that. So keep up the good work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is all that I have.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a short comment to follow along with Mr. McLean's comments. That on page, there is no page numbers on the Minister's Opening Remarks. It would be best if we had some page numbers on the Opening Remarks.

On the second page, under Eastern Arctic Sealift. I do not know what that means. I do not know what the Eastern Arctic Sealift is and I am not exactly sure which direction it is coming from.

I would like to get some clarification on that. And that \$31.6 million dollars is that just for transporting? Or is that also for capital? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Minister and his staff. I would like to smile at the people that are out there. The concern that I have is in regards to the bad gas that was also mentioned by Mr. McLean, is also a concern of mine, because I am sure that the Government paid out a huge amount of money because of the bad gas. I also would like to mention the people that would like to take some training in their communities with Public Works, and as you know we have a lot of things that we need in our communities.

The concern that I have, Mr. Chairman, is because if you find out again that there is a problem with diesel fuel, there might have to be a lot of pay out from the Government again.

Whenever there is something, when the gas is bad or the diesel is bad, if we can do some research right away on it, then we would not have to pay so much money. That is the concern that I have, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Havioyak**: I have a short item here, too, as well. NNI Policy, I want to make sure that the Inuit or local people are hired in the contract and the percentage, making sure that they are properly monitored and that is their word that I was looking for.

Is monitoring the contractors to make sure that they are hiring local under that Policy, there are actually hiring local. I know this question was brought up again last year, but I just want to make sure that we continue to raise this issue and how are you monitoring it?

It would be interesting to know how this is done to make sure they are meeting their requirement under their contract. That is the only thing that I want to mention because most of the comments that were made by the Members are already out there. I will be asking questions later on in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any more comments? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am in the support of the Department and to thank the Department for appearing before us tonight.

In the Minister's Opening Comments, I understand that and the Minister mentioned that NNI Policy, in collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, will be of great benefit to Nunavummiut.

In regards to contract services, there are a lot of contractors outside of Nunavut that try to get contracts in Nunavut, they are already set up as a business and they do much better than Nunavut-based contractors.

Even though they have a cheaper bid to do a contract than in Nunavut companies, but at times, they require more money to complete their contract and then they ask for more money.

Those are the types of problems that we encounter here in Nunavut. The contractors who try that live in Nunavut, that try for the same contract, that might have completed their work without asking for more money are sometimes not given the contract, although, they would be in a better position to complete the contract in its entirety without having to ask for more money.

So, those are the types of things that I have problems with are those contractors who do not complete their project and then they ask for more funding because they have to do more work in doing their projects. Those are the types of things that I wanted to make my comments on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Anybody else? Mr. Arvaluk, question?

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): I have a question on the Eastern Arctic Sealift. On the second page of the Minister's comments, interpretation end) the budget of \$8.8 million for Directorate, how many PYs is that to give advice, assistance, planning, implementation, human resources, finance, all those functions. How many PYs is that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Mr. Galbraith to answer the question. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Galbraith:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are no PYs attached to this particular contract because the government has issued a contract. We do have a consultant overseeing the situation in Montreal and the individual departments take care of the booking, advice, that go onto the cargo ships and the receiving end of it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't get it. But the second paragraph on page 2, it says that with a budget of \$8.8 million dollars for the Directorate, the Directorate provides, advice, assistance, planning, I understood that as a Directorate of Public Works Department. That's why I asked how many PYs there are in that \$8.8 million dollar Directorate, in your department. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is going to be 41 positions but at the present time there are only 32. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's for 44 PYs, for \$8.8 million but you have 32 right now. The second question I have is on that same page, of the last paragraph, I'm not quite sure what the Eastern Arctic Sealift is, is that Nunavut other than Kitikmeot. Are these for transportation of Petroleum Products, dry cargo, dry goods and material? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, it wasn't 44, it was 41 PYs, but there are 32 positions right now. And the Eastern Arctic Sealift is for the Nunavut region for dry cargo and Petroleum Products for the Baffin. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleagues from Baker Lake already voiced his concern on \$15.2 million dollar Informatics Division. I thought we started with \$4 million in 1999. It's almost quadrupled in the budget. I cannot stress enough that we have only limited, like \$700 million dollars, for the whole Operations and Maintenance of Nunavut.

When we can not build enough schools and housing, some of these making life easier for Government of Nunavut employees or operation of Government of Nunavut seems to have higher priorities.

I know it is comforting to be able to write to Kugluktuk and answer back in 15-seconds, but according to the international standards and I think they are still in the third world countries as far as housing and health programs and education and training, unemployment, and concerns.

I think we are going to have to, as a whole, not as a Department of Public Works, but as a whole Government. A few Departments contributing to start prioritizing in terms of immediate needs right now and probably limit some of the potential costs for IT and the control, you know, it is very good to have very high speed computer, but do we need that right now before we handle the housing shortage and everything else?

Under the fourth paragraph, there is an additional \$1 million has been allocated for upgrading the Government of Nunavut facilities. Is this for Public Works garages and things like this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the Member raises a good question about the technical services. We have to be able to provide information services to the people of Nunavut as the Department of Public Works.

But the last question that the Member asked, this is for the communities in Qikiqtaaluk and Kivalliq and Kitikmeot that when we need that extra \$1 million dollars for the vehicles and for the garages, to upgrade those facilities. That \$1 million dollars will be allocated for those needed upgrades to Government of Nunavut facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the third paragraph of that same page, the pages are not numbered, I hope, in the next budget; I hope you will put the pages down so that we can report it when we are asking you from your Opening Statements.

On the third paragraph, that for 2003-2004 Petroleum Products Division, it has been allocated for \$9.6 million dollars for capital funding. We talked about that before. I just would like to have the Nunavummiut to hear a little more clarification.

How many tanks, bulk fuel tanks, storage tanks are we building for \$9.6 million? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have to follow the population size of the communities in order to expand the tank farm. The communities are Arctic Bay, Hall Beach, Qikiqtarjuaq, Resolute Bay, Whale Cove, Gjoa Haven and Kugaaruk. Those are the communities that will be upgraded with their storage facilities or fuel tank facilities.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Are the majority of the contracts done by outside of Nunavut? Nunavummiut to build these storage tanks? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my Deputy Minister to respond to that, he is more directly involved.

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

**Mr. Mrazek**: Mr. Chairman, can I ask Mr. Arvaluk to ask the question again just for clarity.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Yes, 9.6 million dollars to build bulk fuel tanks. Are these being done by firms outside of Nunavut, in Canada.

My reason for asking this question is have they ever considered if companies outside of Nunavut, outside of Canada, will be done anyways, have you ever considered other countries that have experience, in south America or other places, to do it cheaper for you if you're not going to be hiring somebody from Nunavut to do these things. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Mrazek**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A number of those communities which total 9.5 million dollars, we have a number of projects related to the Petroleum Products Division operations.

Some of them could be just increasing the berms and the location for future tanks. Some of them can be increasing capacity, building the new tanks. Some of them are basically inspection and the engineering work involved and the spill response equipment and a few other things.

A number of the contracts are currently in the finishing design stages, ready for tender and it will be tendered and we don't have the outcome of the successful bidder, so I cannot really make any comment on who will get the contract or not.

In the case of the actual tank building technique, I would like to make sure that everyone understands that pressure welding and completely steel welding from that point, which requires extremely qualified people.

We know that those types of professions, who are qualified, are very difficult to find in Nunavut. So, we basically have no other choice than to probably involve the outside companies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): I understand that. Does it have to be a very expensive Canadian firm to do the building or welding of those tanks? I guess that's my basic question.

What I'm getting at here is that we purchase these and build these tanks at a very, very high cost. They're just sheet metal of steel and they are necessary, but because they are storage tanks, like warehouses, can we try to build them, in labour terms, as cheaply as possible.

What material, maybe order it from somewhere that is the cheapest place, even if it's south America or China or something like that, somewhere that it can be built cheaper than what we are doing right now. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are open to suggestions and on this contract; we have to follow government policies for contracting. When there are contracts out for tender, we have to follow the policies that are set within the government guidelines. Some other countries may be interested, but we will keep that in mind.

Countries outside of Canada, for the upgrading of tank farms, we have never had any bidders from outside of the country, only Canadian companies have bid on a contract. These materials for building these tank farms, or if we can find cheaper ways, we can look into that.

The transport from South America would probably be just as expensive as buying Canadian products. It might not make a difference if we buy from outside the country. So, we will take Mr. Arvaluk's suggestion if we think that it could work better for these tank farms and for the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk**: We do not know that until we invite the potential proponents for the designing engineering, etc., Mr. Mrazek has told us that some have been tendered for design engineering for those tanks.

Here is the problem, we have been building houses and tanks and Schools, and etc., etc., I do not know for the last thirty-four years. There tanks are basically light. Why do we do a million dollars or a five hundred thousand dollar engineering design if it is not in their tanks? Why do not we use the same drawings that we had last year, or a few years ago, except for the piping system, or the connecting system?

This little government here is being eaten up by design engineering everywhere when we already built identical stuff previously. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is kind of hard to respond to his comments, but whatever is being built in the communities has to be designed for safety purposes, code purposes, and the builders need a good design to follow when they are going to build those tank farms.

We do use some previous materials, we can attempt to do that, but his comment was that there was previous projects that were similar. I asked the same question, why do not we use the same design.

I do not have a particular response to his comments, but I will take his comments into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. Anything else? Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. In the Minister's opening comments, in the last page, the bullet, he stated, the first one in in-depth review of the Nunavummi Namminiqaqtii Ikajuuti Policy was conducted and in conjunction with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, is he talking about the Article 24 Contract Policy? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The NNI Policy is to benefit businesses and this was in collaboration with NTI and that is what we are trying to say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): There was a stop put on the policy from our Government and any company could bid on, for instance, the school building in Pond Inlet for the addition to the Olayuk School and it was open to anybody to bid. Do they use a lot of funds when they keep the contract open to outside businesses? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will let my Deputy Minister respond to that, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mrazek**: Mr. Chairman, I do not have the full understanding of the question, so, I would like to ask the MLA to rephrase the question.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Iqaqrialu commented earlier about a lot of money being used for contracts and they always seem to go over budget from what they tendered. I am talking about the Olayuk School addition that was recently completed.

The Education Minister and Minister Kattuk and the Premier and I went to go do the Official Opening, but there were some problems with the building and the Department had to come up with more funds and because of that, I am asking when the contract policy, the NNI was not implemented at that point and the tender was open to any business.

So, Olayuk School was not open for two months. Why was the contract open to other businesses and what effect did it have? Thank you.

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

**Mr. Mrazek**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This specific school contracts and project has been experiencing a delay by the contractor. It is without basically involvement. I would like to just ask that when that project goes for tender, it is a public tender and anybody can respond to the tender regardless if it is a small contract, big contract, outside contract, inside contractor.

The only difference is if the company is NNI and NTI approves, they have obviously, the advantage comparing to some contractors who are not approved for NNI or NTI. So, I would like to just clarify that from that point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mrazek . Are you done? Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you. I would just like to make a short comment. (interpretation ends) I'm sure you do some monitoring on the contracts with how many employees they need to meet the required number of employees, the percentage.

I'm just wondering how that is done. Do you have someone in the community that keeps an eye on the contractor to say, yes, he is hiring locals, but is he meeting the required percentage. I'm just curious to know how that works.



I guess you know what I mean. Do you have someone there saying, yes, he's hiring, no he's not. He's under the percentage of what he agreed to on the contract. Can you just fill me in on that process on how it works? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): I will ask Mr. Mrazek to answer that question. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Mrazek**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The policing of the NNI Policy is relatively simple.

When the contract is awarded, the contractor will specify that it will achieve a certain percentage. Let's say, for example, 10 percent, in some cases it is much more. That means that he will guarantee that 10 percent of his employees will be local or Inuit employed on the job.

We're not on the job every time and every day, but with any progress statement, which contractors submit for payment, he has to prove on the special form, which is like a payroll form almost, the name of the employee and the amount of money and the amount of hours the employee worked.

That can be very easily checked out if he's meeting the 10 percent or 15, or 20, whatever he said. If he achieved more than what he stated in the tender, we will be able to and in some cases, did give him an extra bonus for his incentive for exceeding the percentage.

In cases he cannot exceed, he cannot stay within which he stated in the tender, we can give him a penalty as well. I hope that this was a clear explanation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Havioyak**: Have there been any incidents where you have to go up to the contractor and say you are not meeting the required number that is signed in the contract. Have you had that experience before and how is it dealt with when that happens.

I'm sure you have a low level of maybe nothing, but I'm just curious if this is working. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mrazek**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In some cases, the contractor had difficulties to get the numbers. He stated in the tender, but I think we have to judge that on an

individual basis, and also, consider the amount of people who are employable or who want to work.

You may have a situation where you have too much job in one community and a limited amount of labour pool, but in many cases or the majority of cases, the percentage has been maintained according to the tendered documents. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that we report progress.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There is a Motion on the Floor to report progress. It is not debatable. All those in favour? Ms. Williams. We will ask for a vote. A show of hands please? Are those people opposed? We are not meeting a quorum. Those in favour to the Motion? The Motion is not debatable.

We will proceed with the meeting. When there is a Motion to report progress it is not debatable, and now the Motion was defeated. Please keep that in mind. Myself, as the Chairman, that is how I understood it, that it is not debatable. I hope that you understand the rules? Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): From what I understand that the Motion is not debatable. It is up to me whether I am in favour, or opposed to the Motion.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Now I know. We will just continue then. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I forget what my question was. In his Opening Comments that they have increased the number of Inuit. How many are actually working in the Department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alakannuark. Who would like to replace me as Chairperson? Who would like to be a Chairman to replace me at this point? Minister Kattuk, I will get you to respond.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Regarding his question, I do not think that this is the time to ask that question. I think that it is more appropriate to ask it when I am not at the witness table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kattuk. I do not want to be Chairperson today. Anything else, Mr. Alakannuark?

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not get a response to my question as to how many Inuit are employed in the Department, but because there is no response I would like that information as to how many Inuit are actually working in the department?

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Probably at another time. Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did respond to you and told you that I would rather respond to it during the Session, during Question Period, during Oral Question. I would be better prepared to respond to it because I do not have it in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Okay, he said he will be better prepared to respond to it during Oral Question Period. My other question is, in the communities that I represent in Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk There are no jet fuel tanks in those communities. Let me know if I am out of order, but are there plans in place to purchase tank farms for jet fuel in those communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk, there will be tanks built in those communities and it is in the budget for those communities and it is in the budget, for your information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, with that, what year would you start the construction of these tanks? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the budget, it would be in the year 2003-2004. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams**: Line by line. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Page 6-5, Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$8 million, 816 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Page 6-6. Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Technical Services. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$5 million, 308 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Public Works and Services. Branch Summary. Operations. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$31 million, 630 thousand. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Contract Services, \$18 million, 149 thousand, could you tell me what that is? Is that leases?

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have our finance person respond to your question, so you have the accurate information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Galbraith:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is partially for the leases of office space, commercial leases as well as the operation contracts as and when, for maintenance of extinguisher repairs and inspections and other building related duties. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the operations, including the Nunavummi Nangminiqqtuni Ikajuuti policy, do you now have a review process under that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like the member to rephrase her question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask it, do you have an appeal process for the NNI policy and also, if you have a review on this initiative, can you table the document. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To date, we do not have an appeal procedure for the NNI Policy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. I don't have any other names on my list. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): I apologise, Mr. Chairman, I'm looking at the wrong page.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Operations and Maintenance, 31 million 630 thousand dollars. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Public Works and Services, Branch Summary, Informatics Services, total Operations and Maintenance, 50 million 185 thousand dollars. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is where I was at. Contract services, you have compensation and benefits. That's wages for your real employees, 4.4 million dollars. You also have contract services for 2.078 million dollars. And you have other expenses for 4.6 million dollars.

Can you explain to me what those two are, contract services and other expenses above and beyond your salaried employees. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Mr. Galbraith respond to your question.

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

**Mr. Galbraith:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Contract services represent telecommunications contracts such as Articom, a contract where we use Northwest Tel and some broadband width.

The other expenses encompasses all computer purchases and services of the 4.6 million dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What's the difference between purchased services for 3.2 million dollars and the other expenses that you said are also for purchased services. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): I'll have Mr. Galbraith respond to your question.

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

**Mr. Galbraith:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Purchase services do not include the computer components as in other expenses, but telecommunications equipment and upgrades of 3.2 million dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** I think that he answered my question there on the \$4.6 million. That was the software development. That accounts for software and so that is all that I had to ask. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else? Total Operation and Maintenance. \$31 million, 630 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Informatics Services. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$50 million, 185 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed? Carried. The Public Works and Services Branch Summary. Decentralization. Zero. Details information item. 6-14. Any questions? We will then go back to 6-4. Details of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, \$60 million, 939 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you agree that the Department of Public Works and Services is concluded?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Closing Remarks, Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to thank my officials for being able to be here. Thank you very much for making an appearance.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): What is the wish of the Committee? Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will go into Opening Remarks, and then we will take it from there. Minister Ng.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, they are just on their way down right now, so if you want to report progress. It is a shame, I know.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): I move that we report progress. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There is a Motion on the Floor. Agreed? Opposed? Carried. Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 20. Reports of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman.

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

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your Committee has been considering Bill 30 and the Main Estimates and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I moved that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** There is a Motion on the Floor. Is there a seconder for the motion? Mr. McLean. The Motion is in Order. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Quirke.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder for Members for Government Operations Standing Committee meeting at 9:00 in the Tuktu Board Room.

Orders of the day for Thursday, March 27, 2003,

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 30
  - Bill 31
  - Bill 32
  - Minister's Statement 126 - 1(6)
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. In accordance to authority provided to me by Motion 2-1(6), this House stands adjourned until Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 20:32 p.m.*



