



**Nunavut Canada**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

**6th Session**

**1st Assembly**

**HANSARD**

Official Report

**DAY 56**

**Thursday June 5, 2003**

**Pages 3724 – 3805**

**Baker Lake**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Arviat)

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(Akulliq)

**Hunter Tootoo**  
(Iqaluit Centre)

**Jack Anawak**  
(Rankin Inlet North)

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(Amittuq)  
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(Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove)  
*Minister of Education, Minister of Human Resources*

**Uriash Puqiqnak**  
(Nattilik)  
*Deputy Speaker*

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk**  
(South Baffin)  
*Minister of Sustainable Development*

**Glenn McLean**  
(Baker Lake)

**Hon. Paul Okalik**  
(Iqaluit West)  
*Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister of Justice*

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**Rebekah Williams**  
(Quttiktuq)

**Hon. Peter Kattuk**  
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*Minister of Public Works and Services*

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk**  
(Pangnirtung)  
*Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Community Government and Transportation*

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**Baker Lake, Nunavut  
Thursday June 5, 2003**

**Members Present:**

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

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

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

>>*Prayer*

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

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 173 – 1(6): CG&T Update**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, as the new Minister of Community Government and Transportation I am pleased to update this House on some significant issues and the ongoing work being carried out by the Government of Nunavut through my department at this time.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as you are aware a municipal training initiative was developed over the past year in conjunction with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. To date the partnership has produced the Municipal Training Organization and identified 33 urgently required core courses. In the first six weeks of operation alone, training was provided to 69 participants. I am pleased with the initiative, as capacity building among community employees remains a primary concern of this government.

I recognize that the cost of running a municipality has greatly increased over the last few years. In response to this, Government increased the Municipal Operating Assistance Program by over \$3 million dollars this fiscal year. Further, we have also allocated an increase for hamlets share of employee pension funds.

CGT is working to access further funding for municipalities from federal programs. These programs will help us to fund municipal infrastructure projects for our communities. We will continue to keep you updated on how these proceed.

Mr. Speaker, transportation is important for Nunavummiut and the Department is working to make the transportation system more efficient and effective. There are a number of transportation related initiatives of which my colleagues should be made aware.

One of our major efforts is the Nunavut Air Services Study. A report that recommends a number of air service improvements and ways to implement them will be released shortly to MLA's, communities and air carriers. It will provide the base for discussions with air carriers on ways to improve services.

We are also paying attention to Nunavummiut needs for improved land access to our resources, communities and other parts of Canada. The Department continues to support and work on a number of large scale road project proposals, for example such as the Bathurst Road and Port project and smaller or just as important local community access road proposals.

Finally, I would also like to update Members on the Strategic Highway Infrastructure Program (SHIP). This program, which is jointly funded by Transport Canada and the Government of Nunavut, has a total of \$6.7 million available for new transportation infrastructure projects. Projects approved include new air terminal buildings for Pond Inlet, Gjoa Haven and Coral Harbour and a new access road in Chesterfield Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the department of CG&T it is my pleasure to wish all municipalities a safe and happy summer and to say we look forward to continuing the good working relationship we now enjoy in finding workable solutions to existing and new problems which effect our daily lives in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Minister's Statement 174 – 1(6): Skills Canada Competition**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Mr. Speaker, for the first time, a Nunavut student has won the Worksite Safety event at the National Skills Competition recently held in Waterloo, Ontario. Congratulations to Isabel MacDougall of Iqaluit who made Nunavut proud by winning the first gold medal for Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the Worksite Safety event involves three parts: a written examination, an oral presentation before safety professionals, and inspection and hazard identification at a mock workplace. Ms. MacDougall, whose oral presentation focused on ergonomics in the workplace, trained for the event using the WCB's Workplace Safety: Safety and the Young Workers' program.

The NWT and Nunavut is the only region in Canada that requires completion of a workplace safety program before competing in the Skills Canada Worksite Safety



Competition. Isabel's success at the competition can be attributed, in part, to this very successful program.

Ms. MacDougall was part of a team of competitors from across Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, 7 of whom came home with medals. Mr. Speaker, I am sure all Members will join me in congratulating Ms. MacDougall and to all of our northern competitors for their hard work and participation in the National Skills Competition. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Ministers' Statements. Minister Picco.

### **Minister's Statement 175 – 1(6): Nunavut Families Volunteer to Advance Lung Research**

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to thank the families who participated in an important study of lung diseases in Nunavut. The formal part of the study is now completed and data from the study will be analysed over the summer.

This research was made possible by the work of Dr. Anna Banjeri, a paediatric specialist, and 268 families with children under 5 years old from Iqaluit, Pond Inlet, Pangnirtung and other communities in the Baffin. These families took the time to fill in questionnaires about their homes and children and allowed their youngsters to provide a sample for this important study.

In addition, nurses in our health centres took the extra time to coordinate the studies, explain them to the parents, and provide the information and samples to Dr. Banjeri for review.

Mr. Speaker, the information collected is currently being analysed and is already providing important information on why Nunavut children suffer from lung infections at rates higher than children in any other part of Canada.

Our Department is proud to have funded Dr. Banjeri to do this important research, but we are even more proud of the role played in this research by our nurses and families in our communities. By choosing to participate in this study Nunavummiut are hugely improving our understanding of the diseases and risks which face our pre-school children.

Dr. Banjeri will present the results of the study in Iqaluit and the International Circumpolar Conference in Nuuk, Greenland in September of this year, and the results will be circulated back to the health centres and families which made this research possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Ministers' Statements. Minister Akesuk.

**Minister's Statement 176 – 1(6): Shrimp Quota Expansion in Shrimp Fishing Area 1 (Davis Strait/Baffin Bay)**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would first like to say hi to my constituents in Cape Dorset and in Kimmirut. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise the Members of this House on a shrimp quota increase that took place late last month in Nunavut adjacent waters.

On May 26, Fisheries Minister Robert Thibault announced a quota increase of 2,127 metric tonnes in the area of Davis Strait known as Shrimp Fishing Area 1. As part of that announcement, the Minister stated that 1,083 metric tonnes would be provided to Nunavut, an amount equivalent to 51% of the increase. The remaining 49% of the increase was provided to Southern interests.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister's decision to provide 49% of this increase to Southern interests goes against a key recommendation of the Report of the Independent Panel on Access Criteria (IPAC), which states "No additional access should be granted to non-Nunavut interests in waters adjacent to the territory until Nunavut has achieved access to a major share of its adjacent fishery resources." Minister Thibault accepted this recommendation on November 8, 2002.

This increase also goes against Article 15.3.7 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, which gives special consideration to the principles of adjacency and economic dependence.

Mr. Speaker, this decision increased our share of our adjacent Northern Pink Shrimp resource from 16% to 19%. The increase is surprising and ridiculously small given that Nunavut is the only adjacent jurisdiction to this resource. In comparable jurisdictions across Atlantic Canada, adjacent jurisdictions receive more than 80% of the allowable catch.

This decision is especially disappointing given Minister Thibault's acceptance of the IPAC Report last November. Mr. Speaker, we have put a tremendous amount of time and effort into the strategic development of our fishery over the past few years and it is extremely unfortunate that Minister Thibault does not share our vision of fisheries development in Nunavut for Nunavummiut. Rather, it appears he views our marine waters as a warehouse of resources to support southern fisheries interests.

And, during a recent meeting of the Atlantic Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers, everyone of my provincial colleagues supported the IPAC Report recommendation.

Mr. Speaker, I will be working closely with the Premier in the upcoming weeks to investigate all options, including exploring our legal options, in our efforts to reverse this unjust decision. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Ministers' Statements. Are there any further Ministers' Statements? Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

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

#### **Member's Statement 563 – 1(6): Keewatin Air RFP Medivac Contract**

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Health stated a few days ago that the Health Department and Keewatin Air are in discussion right now respected our request for proposal as we meet here.

The contract has not yet been awarded. In other words, Health and Social Services may be awarding a single air carrier for medivacs in Kivalliq. That is a possibility. This concerns me greatly, Mr. Speaker, for several reasons.

The first reason, being from Kivalliq, the shortage of aircraft owned by Keewatin Air are too few for medivacs. In fact, when we landed in the Rankin Inlet on the way here, the Perimeter Air from Winnipeg was flown in to assist Keewatin Air because the shortage of aircrafts.

From Winnipeg, Mr. Speaker, rather than from Kivalliq, like Skyward or Calm Air or somebody else. Mr. Speaker, I'm told that last year, it cost approximately 20 million dollars a year for medical travel in the government's budget. And if you have subcontractors like Perimeter Air, that this particular subcontractor has not formal contract with the government, therefore they can set their prices however they wish accordingly, that has been paid for by the source contractor. This adds to the government expenditures. In other words...

**Speaker:** Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, colleagues. Mr. Speaker, it sounds like the air carrier is once again, controlling the government budget, Health and Social Services, by doing that. We also hear, and I hope I'm wrong, Mr. Speaker, with the small population of Nunavut, we hear what people tell us, some times reliable and sometimes not so

reliable, however, that the nursing station, during a medical emergency, requested a medivac aircraft.

Our medivac airline, Keewatin Air, informed them that they have to wait six hours, when the skyward aircraft was sitting in Rankin Inlet idly. By her persistence, the aircraft was dispatched. She apparently paid for it though in reprimand for demanding the closest and available aircraft for the community.

What would the consequences have been if the patient had died? Are we reprimanding the front line workers now for saving the lives of Nunavummiut? Is the sole source contract more important than the life of a person?

I would urge the Minister and the government to rethink what the best interests are of Kivallirmiut and Nunavummiut, when it comes to medical travel and medivacs. I will be asking questions to Minister during question period on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 564 – 1(6): Marine Mammals Economic Opportunities**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about economic opportunities within Nunavut, in particular on marine mammal opportunities. Back in 1945, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, way before Nunavut was conceived and before some of us members were born, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans did a study in our marine areas to find out what kind of possible of economic opportunities there are with marine wildlife.

It seems like, as Inuit people, we don't seem to be getting any support. They don't even tell us what kinds of wildlife there is that can be used by economic development.

Mr. Speaker, my constituency is adjacent to a very large fishery for shrimp fishing and turbot fishing and other fish. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government has allocated quotas to the other provinces other than Nunavut.

When we are adjacent to that fishery management zone and they allocate those to our southern counterparts, I know that this has been done incorrectly. I know that we are falling behind in developing marine fisheries because we don't receive enough assistance from Department of Fisheries and Oceans and this has to be rectified so that we can participate in the development of fisheries in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 565 – 1(6): Recognition of Ranger Aqiattusuk and Ranger Manasie**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to two of my constituents from Resolute Bay and Grise Fjord.

(interpretation ends) They are Mr. Speaker, Pat Aqiattusuk from Resolute Bay and Manasie Noah from Grise Fiord are proud members of Arctic Rangers, the Canadian Rangers.

Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues in this house have served with the Rangers and they know very well, the important mission that the Rangers play in safe-guarding Canadian sovereignty.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, Pat and Manasie recently undertook a historic sovereignty patrol by skidoo from Eureka to Alert, the mostly northerly outpost in our country. Accompanying them were two officers from the Canadian Armed Forces.

(interpretation ends) This journey, which took seven days, covered hundreds of kilometres of the harshest terrain in Canada. It could not have been accomplished without the participation of Inuit from our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all the members to join me in congratulating my constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 566 – 1(6): Seasonal Employment Opportunities - Awarding of Contracts at the Local Level**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I would like to say my greetings to my family and that I do love you.

I rise today to talk about the seasonal employment opportunities. Especially through contracting, like construction of units or the construction of hamlet sewage lagoons and gravel pits and other services.

The private sector, small businesses in the community usually don't get the opportunity to get a contract from the larger companies because if I'm going to construct a unit or if Housing Corporation is going to construct units, you have to read this thick of documents in order to do your contract.

They have to read the whole thick information. And also, within the contents of the thick document, there are many barriers for small businesses to get the contract locally. It states a lot of criteria that they have to follow.

My colleague Mr. Anawak, when he made his statement, yes, as he has stated yesterday that there are a lot of capable people who can construct units, and that is a true fact. And the criteria in those big thick documents have to be followed, and of course they are criteria and we have no choice but to follow them.

But the designs of the homes, or the units, they just follow the blueprints to construct the home. As an Inuk person you can follow the blueprints. The blueprints state and give you directions as to how the unit or the house can be built. I'm just using this as an example. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, honourable colleagues. Yes, yes we should, the government should make it possible for the small companies to construct homes.

I know all the barriers why the small companies cannot get contracts because I was one of the people who tried to apply for a contract and I know that I need all sorts of funding and money and I have to pay a fee if I am going to run for the construction of a unit and I need insurance.

When you do not know all sorts of proper procedures it is very hard to try and run your business so there are many, many barriers that have been created. And the housing corporation, if they are not going to purchase all the units, they have to be purchased by the contractor, although there is already funding available within the government.

Yes, the Nunavut Government, if they work hard to support the communities this is possible. It is very simple. If we want something bad enough, when there is a will, it is easy and simple to achieve your goal if there is a will because people at the local level, they should be getting their input if they can do an RFP at the local level. If that is not possible they can do it Nunavut wide. Thank you.

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

#### **Member's Statement 567 – 1(6): Flight Schedules and Services in Kugluktuk**

**Mr. Havioyak:** I apologise, I did not hear you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise to speak on the concerns of Kugluktuk in terms into and out of Kugluktuk, to Yellowknife and Cambridge Bay.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Kugluktuk is served primarily by First Air, Kenn Borek will be flying into community three times a week starting in June, but they might not be able to continue this service beyond the summer.

Mr. Speaker, representatives of Canadian North were invited to make a presentation to the Hamlet of Kugluktuk. During that meeting Canadian North indicated that it would not be viable for them to schedule flights to Kugluktuk because there is not enough demand in the community.

Part of the reason it would not be viable because the medical travel contract was awarded to only one company instead of being shared between the airlines.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Community Government & Transportation announced in August of last year, the beginning of the major air service studies. Mr. Speaker, one of the goals of the study was to look at ways of providing better service to all of the Nunavut communities.

Mr. Speaker, that study was to have been completed more than five months ago and I would like to know when the result, I would like to know what its results were. Mr. Speaker, air services are important to people across the north and I will be asking the question on this issue to Manitok later. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 568 – 1(6): Dominant Air Carriers**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak today on an issue that I've raised many times in this house and in correspondence to the government.

Mr. Speaker, it will come as no surprise that I'm talking about the issue of dominant air carriers and the possibility of artificially created government support of monopoly. Mr. Speaker, it's no secret that a large percentage of airline traffic is paid for by the government both for staff to have travel and for medical travel.

Mr. Speaker, this being the case, if the government decides to award contracts to one carrier it would cause other carriers to go out of business. When there is only one service provider regardless of the service there is a monopoly.

Mr. Speaker, we all know what that means. That means in increase prices and the reality of Nunavut being held hostage to higher airfares. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Community Government & Transportation commissioned an air services study to be completed by the end of 2002.

We have yet to see the results of that study. According to the government's announcements, the study was suppose to take Inuit consideration to health department's medical travel RFP.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage the minister to ensure that the completed strategy is tabled as soon as possible. In addition, I would like the minister to commit to working with his colleagues, us, to ensure that a competitive environment is fostered.

Mr. Speaker, I will be raising questions at the appropriate time today. And on that note Mr. Speaker, I have to reiterate that this is the fourth largest community in Nunavut, Baker Lake, and were only serviced by one air carrier. The other six communities in this region have three air carriers going into them.

So, I'm urging the minister of health that when he's awarding the medical vac contract that he considers both parties that proposed to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

#### **Member's Statement 569 – 1(6): Adult Learning Strategy**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the new adult learning strategy that the minister of Education announced earlier this week.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I have spoken on this issue many times and we have consistently pushed for training that will be prepared our constituents who have jobs in the mining centre.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to hear the minister say that there will be five new mine related courses offered in the Kitikmeot region. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that my constituents in Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven will have to travel to Cambridge Bay in order to take part of these courses.

Mr. Speaker, its difficult to be successful with added stress of being away from home, friends and family while they are taking the training course. I'm also concerned that the costs associated this travel will fall on students and be a barrier for gaining important skills and qualifications.

Mr. Speaker, it would be best if people could receive all necessary training at home but I know that is not always possible. However Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage the Minister to offer this training in one of the smaller Kitikmeot communities.

Mr. Speaker, I will be asking the Minister of Education questions on this issue at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



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

**Member's Statement 570 – 1(6): Mad Cow Disease Impact on Country Food Producers**

**Mr. Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to appreciate the operators of the meat plant in Rankin Inlet, especially Brian Shindell and his employees. We are very proud of them and they are doing their marketing very well.

However, with regards to Alberta and Saskatchewan, maybe there are mad cow diseases. I know that there was only one mad cow that had to be destroyed. The United States has stopped importing beef from those two provinces. We know that, I know that there wouldn't be any mad cows with any of the caribou that was harvested in Coral Harbour.

If this is going to be situation for a long time, those employees at the meat plant in Rankin Inlet and the harvesters of the caribou in Coral Harbour are going to have their income seriously reduced.

The Sustainable Development right now should look into how many people will lose their jobs as a result of the U.S. no longer buying meat from Canada.

What can they do. They can sell muktaaq, or maybe perhaps they can sell caribou to the other communities that don't have any caribou. I would like to see Sustainable Development look into this as soon as possible because the Americans are not buying our beef anymore.

How are the employees within the caribou Rankin Inlet meat plant and caribou harvesters going to be employed. They're not in the administration because they're outside of that. They're doing industrial work.

The Sustainable Development is going to have to start looking for what other initiatives can be created. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 571 – 1(6): Improvement on Medivac Services**

**Interpreter:** His mic is off. We can't hear him.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): I'm sorry. I'm very sorry. I would like to send my regards to my sons and my son who is down at the hospital. He is recovering and I'm thankful for that.

I rise today because my son went out on a medivac just a few days ago and there are other people that do medivacs in the other communities, especially in Kitikmeot. With the medivac aircraft carrier, there is just going to be a main improvement because in Kitikmeot and Kivalliq, we have to the two regions and there should be an aircraft readily available for the remote communities especially.

Repulse Bay, for instance, would have to have aircraft come in from Winnipeg. This is going to take some time and that person may be dying or something might happen to that patient before the aircraft arrives.

In Kivalliq especially, it was indicated earlier that there are aircraft available in Rankin Inlet. They are fairly close to Repulse Bay. For that reason, I think the Minister of Health and Social Services should consider getting aircraft that is closest to other communities.

I would like to see the Minister work on this issue as soon as possible. I went through Kivalliq, I came in on medivac plane to come to Baker Lake to, if I had gotten sick on that aircraft I would have been medivaced to Yellowknife or to Winnipeg, although I was not sick.

There definitely is a need for improvement for medical travel and medivac planes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 572 – 1(6): Cabinet Portfolio Changes and Impact on Unfinished GN Business**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought it was not my turn right away, but however, very briefly, as a Member of the Legislative Assembly we tend to talk about any improvements we want to see within our Government.

Some are going forward and some are just idle and some are being studied and some are not being responded to. On improvements that are needed, when the Minister changes, when there is a turnover of the Ministers, it just disappears.

Sometimes when the Minister has actually done the work, they would go through, but however, this is for the betterment for our communities of Nunavut and I myself, I am asking myself: when are we actually going to see these Bills and what have we been doing the past four years that have actually been accomplished.

The September 11<sup>th</sup> incident highlighted the need for I.D. documentation. We were dealing with it and the Minister responsible for changed in the middle of it. This is just a comment to our Premier. Thank you.

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

**Member's Statement 573 – 1(6): The Need for More Staff in the Libraries**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to be able to finally rise today on a good news story related to the Department of Education. Earlier this session I spoke about the need to ensure that the Iqaluit Centennial Library has the necessary staff and resources to deliver valuable literacy and educational programs to community residents.

Mr. Speaker, the importance of literacy can not be underestimated. It is the foundation of a good education. Mr. Speaker, Iqaluit children, including my own, have benefited greatly from the time they spend in the library.

I know the staff and the library board there, very well and I know that they do tremendous work with very few resources. I have met with them on many occasions to discuss their concerns and needs.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to see that the department recently posted a job competition for the position of a program coordinator at the library. I am hopeful that the filling of this position will enable the library to resume the special programs that have previously been cancelled because of a lack of staff and other issues.

Mr. Speaker, I'm glad to see that the department is listening to the concerns of the community and congratulate them on taking action and I look forward to seeing continued progress in this area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 574 – 1(6): Golf Tournament in Cape Dorset**

**Hon. Olayuk Akasuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I would like to say happy birthday to my son.

Back in May, at the beginning of the month, there was a literacy golf tournament and there were some dignitaries invited. It was the Peter Gzowski invitational golf tournament.

The Premier and I were also invited and there were some very well know people. Sheila Rogers, Greg Mercer, Jonathon James, Alison Gzowski, Mike Stevens and Zebedee Nungak.

It was a lot of fun. Some elders were invited to play golf as well. It was very beneficial for the community to see that Peter Gzowski literacy program. They were able to raise \$30 thousand dollars for the literacy program.

It went very well. For those people who organized the Golf for Literacy, I would like to thank them.

We were teamed up and the winners were Greg Mercer, Sandy Kusugak, Silaqi Asevak and I. We won the golf tournament. I'm very happy that I was able to beat our premier because I'm a better golf player than our premier.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 575 – 1(6): Environmental Protection from Mining and Hydro Development**

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all Mr. Speaker, I would like to say, when we first arrived here to Baker Lake, Mr. Tulugialik music was very good because he was singing about Sanikiluaq. I would like to thank him for that.

What I would like to talk about the concerns from my community of Sanikiluaq. It's in regards to the protection of our environment, such as the land and our water.

In Sanikiluaq as you know, is on an island. That's the concern that the people of Sanikiluaq have in regards to the proposed hydro-development and the pollution that it might create.

In Sanikiluaq, there is wildlife there such as narwhales, ducks, and seals etc. We have a concern that our food that we get from our environment might get contaminated if there was to be a hydro-development.

The reason I'm saying this Mr. Speaker, is we have heard that the Cree people of Quebec and the Inuit made a agreement with the government that they would be perhaps hydro-development and mining and the forestry and that it might create contaminates to our environment and our food source.

About a week and half ago there was somebody that went to Montreal to voice their concerns against the hydro-development to go before the panel. Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

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

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you colleagues. What I'm saying Mr. Speaker is the impact on the environment could hurt all of Nunavummiut because the wars that go on in the east could destroy through the pollution that is carried in the wind and the water. This too is a concern of the people of Sanikiluaq as well. Not just the development but the things to do with war. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' statements. Mr. Picco.

### **Member's Statement 576 – 1(6): Constituency Meeting**

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first of all on a very personal note. It's very difficult when we're away from home and over the last couple of days my children were sick.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Brian Twerdin who took my son to the hospital the night before last and I'm very pleased that he's doing a lot better and so I would like to start off by thanking Mr. Twerdin and the people at the hospital.

Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday night I held another constituency meeting in Apex. The meeting was well attended and many issues and concerns were raised.

Mr. Speaker, some of the questions were in a domain and the responsibility of the city council. There were questions on the conditions of the roads in Iqaluit in general and Apex in particular, the annual over-flowing of ditches and culverts that are and could be Mr. Speaker, dangerous to small children. The issue of broken play-ground equipment at the Apex playground, and taxis that continue to refuse fares to and from Apex.

Mr. Speaker, issues around bad gas, the lack of playground equipment at Nanook school, better alcohol and drugs programs and a neighbourhood watch program were also raised at the meeting.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to say that after the meeting, I wrote the mayor on these issues and other issues and he has responded very favourably. As well, Mr. Speaker, I have contacted the Department of Education to see if playground equipment could be outsourced for Nanook School. I have also met with the RCMP to discuss setting up a neighbourhood watch program for Apex and Iqaluit and I hope to follow this up with a public meeting in June.

Mr. Speaker, as illustrated, a constituency meeting can help move issues forward and resolve concerns. I would like to thank the many people from Apex, Happy Valley and Tundra Valley who attended the meeting last Tuesday night and I look forward to seeing more constituents at our next meeting in October.

Mr. Speaker, finally, the public meeting for all Iqaluit residents will be held toward the end of the month and that is this month of June and I invite all Iqaluit and Apex residents interested, Mr. Speaker, in setting up a neighbourhood watch program to attend that meeting. Qujannamiik Uqaqti.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 577 – 1(6): Respecting Elders and Their Knowledge**

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank the individual that made me an ulu from Baker Lake. I collect ulus and thank whoever made me the ulu.

(interpretation ends)Mr. Speaker, I would just like to talk a little bit about something that I think we are all aware of and that is to respect our Elders and their knowledge because they are the closest to the people and also, they have a lot of knowledge to how their surroundings should be designed or effected if it has to do with buildings or roads.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, recently, I heard over the radio and was very sympathetic to the elder from Rankin Inlet, Ukjuk's cabin has been flooded every year, and they have tried to resolve the problem without much success.

I know that, as a Government, we can help out those people that are unfortunate, especially if they are Elders and the residents of Nunavut and we could also ask what ways we can help our people.

Mr. Speaker, that elder Ukjuk said that he was told that his parents, years ago, that he wanted, that he has to help other people in turn they can help him and that has been his motto ever since. I have worked with the individual and the people that could help Ukjuk.

The Elder and his wife live in that cabin, but they were not asked how they can be assisted. They said that if they could have a culvert placed where there has been some flooding that, we asked him if we can assist him and they put an eight inch culvert in that area.

Mr. Speaker, what I am trying to say is the residents, that we could work with the residents of any community because they have the knowledge of the areas, but the Elders are usually reluctant to ask for assistance and it is usually up to us to ask our constituents to find out. I would like to congratulate Mariano Aupilarjuk, Elisapi Ootoova, as well as others. I congratulate them all and other elders that can assist us if we ask for them.

I would like to say Mr. Speaker, that the elders have to be asked because they have great knowledge. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? Please proceed. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I wanted to say in my concluding remarks is there are not very many elders left in our communities in Nunavut.

They reluctant to ask for assistance and they also have a lot of very intelligent responses that they can provide us or some information that they can provide us. What we have to do is ask our elders to find out what is the best way that we can do things.

Even though they can say some very intelligent answers to our problems, they don't volunteer their services because they don't feel that they're in a position to give us advice.

I just want to say that we have to have an open mind and to listen to our elders for advice more often. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

#### **Member's Statement 578 – 1(6): B-B Gun Shooting Accident**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a statement for people to be in a safe environment when they go out travelling.

I phoned home last night and my daughter answered the phone and she answered in a state of shock that my brother got shot in the head and it really scared me when she stated that. He is okay. My son is okay, but he got shot by a B-B gun.

It was an accidental shooting with a B-B gun and it was scary at first when I first heard that. But, I just want to advise the parents in the communities and in Nunavut to be careful this summer and to make sure that the children do not handle dangerous things such as firearms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Item 3. Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? If not, we'll move on. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. McLean.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg my colleagues to bear with me for Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I want to see how my memory serves me.

First of all, I would like to recognise the pages. They're all from Baker Lake and so is the Sergeant-at-arms. Diane Iyago, Justine Killulark, Ryan Paungrat, Natasha Nagyougalik and I got Jordon Pudnak and Casimir Tunguak.

They've worked hard this week. They've passed a lot of notes. So I would like to recognise them.

>>Applause

Also, I'm going to sweep the room here, Nancy Sevoga, world renowned artist and print maker, David and Betsy Aksawnee. David is the current president of the Hunters and Trappers Organization. Lucy Iyago and Winnie Tapatai, by the way Nancy's mum and sister. Leena Tapatai.

Rebecca Walker who ran the student Parliament this morning and it was very noticeable that the Minister of Health was not in attendance so; there was probably a reason for that.

Joan Killulark who has been a very long term CHR, Barb Mueller our mental health specialist, Silas Kenologak Hamlet Employee, Marion Putumiraqtuq, Allan Hart that has been here for I think forever, as the Nothern Stores' Manager, his wife Nancy Hart.

Paul Kabloona manager of the Jessie Oonark centre, Atutuvaa, Ruth Tugak, Sampson Arnauyok, Sara Peryouar has been a teacher and Neil Mautaritnaaq who is currently the AEDO, Lucy Andy and Andy got top prospector of the year award, Norman Atangala who said the prayer and also hosted a very delicious supper that I missed, it is too bad.

Philip Putumiraqtuq, who is a KIA rep, his daughter Sheila, Frank Tootoo who just wandered in the door our new director of Sport Nunavut, Peryouar, who is no stranger to anybody.

Aber Andy, Pia Qaqqaq who is a teacher here, Jasper Peryouar, and I want to apologize for anybody that I missed. Oh yeah, Nancy Tupik who used to live here and is now visiting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rarely recognize anyone when we are meeting, I would like to recognize someone from Kugluktuk, my wife. She came here with me, Magaret Aviak-Havioyak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



>>Applause

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

**Mr. Anawak:** Thank you, I just wanted to recognize a couple of people. Who just sat behind me Sean Maley my constituent, Sandy Kusugak, who is just my constituent because her house is just on the corner, and of course Charlie Panigoniak who's house is just on the side of the road, on my side of the road, also I would also like to recognize.

(interpretation) Although Mr. McLean had already recognized some members Allan Hart had moved in from Repulse Bay, I just wanted to make that point because he had lived in Repulse Bay and he is also been my long time friend. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual who used to live in Coral Harbour, Rosline Hope, I think she is here and also they had lived in Coral Harbour before they had lived in Baker Lake.

Pia and Jimmy Qaqqaq and I am sure they are here, I do not think Jimmy had moved, Jimmy is here but I do want to recognize them.

There are many people here that I would like to recognize, there are many people here Churchill Vocational Centre, all of them, I would like to recognize all of those who attended Rebecca, Jobie, Kenaligak and Silas, There are many people who went to vocational school with us in Churchill and also I would like to say that only three percent of Churchill students are unemployed, thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Mr. Puqiqnak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize my colleagues here who are always pestering me. I would like to recognize my own cousin, although I rarely call him by his name, Paul Attutuvag, my first cousin. I would like to recognize him and I'm very pleased to see him here and also yesterday we were fed very delicious food and the food that I use to eat when I was a child when we use to live inland when I was a child growing up.

So, I was very pleased to get the food that I use to eat and I felt sleepy afterwards and I would like to thank that individual for feeding us thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize one individual although I recognize many people around here. Leena Tapatai, she sitting here and she's a good friend of mine.

Also for those of you or if you would like to go have some eggs, she had collected some eggs in Arviat, after the meeting you're invited to go have some eggs. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, just very quickly. I know there were some questions and later on in the question period about the airlines so I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the representatives from Skyward who are with us today in the gallery as well as representatives from that wonderful Inuit owned Nunasi Corporation airline Canadian North...

>>Applause

...welcome board members from Nunasi. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Iqaqrialu was at one time a board member of Norterra one of the subsidiary companies of Nunasi Corporation and that's why I started clapping. Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to welcome to the gallery a constituent Mr. Doug Stenton. He's with us here today.

And I'd also like to welcome Mr. Alan Hart. Now things have changed. Glen said he's been here about 20 years. I think Al and I, and I can stand and be corrected, but I believe he came here 81 or 82 after he left Hall Beach, right? That's right. So it's about 22 years.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to welcome Alan. Things have really changed in the 20 year period because I went to the Northern yesterday to cash a cheque. I've never had a problem cashing a cheque before but they would not take my cheque in Northern.

>>Applause

But Mr. Speaker, I understand that it's not just Ed Picco they're doing this with; it's a policy of Northern Stores across the country now. So, something new everyday we learn.

Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome one more person to the Legislative Assembly. She's been here, she in the gallery, she's in the back, she's

working very hard for all of the members. She's our own legislative coordinator, Ms. Eeta Kanayuk, welcome to the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Picco. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, since we're doing so many recognitions today, I was going to save it for tomorrow but I'd like to recognize the hard working Inuinnagtun interpreter/translators, the two of them. My constituents from Cambridge Bay, James Panioyak and Henry Ohokanoak and also John Koomak formerly of Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I've run out of constituents while I was waiting. (interpretation) I would like to recognize your mayor and I would like to thank him for being here and also our elder whom I have worked with Mr. Peryouar and I would like to thank him for being here and all the elders who are attending here and I'm very pleased that they're here.

Yes, my constituencies have been recognized. I did want to recognize them. George Metuk, although he was recognized and also Nancy Tupik although she's originally from here but she's living in my constituency and also behind me David Akeeagok, he has just moved into my constituency area. Thank you. You'll be one of my constituents and also Eeta Kanayuk, and then a Member of ours he recognized her first, although I wanted to recognize her first and also Lauranne White, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize her and also the media. John Quirke and also Pat Best, Peter Kilabuk's Executive Assistant and also a couple of individuals that are in the gallery and Alex Baldwin, I would like to recognize him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for recognizing me. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I would feel left out after all these recognitions if I did not recognize somebody. Especially the gang from Skyward, Canadian North, long time friend from here, Joe Niego, Mr. Northern from South, Allen Hart and a very special friend of mine, originally from Arviat now living in Baker Lake, and he is a very special friend and very special skills and talents and his name is Jasper, Jasper come over here and stand up. You made everybody in Arviat back home.

>>Applause

### Speaker's Ruling

Before we proceed to Item 6. I wish to rule on the issue that I rose earlier this week during Oral Questions. As Members know, the Legislative Assembly is in place where language is a fair amount of importance. Words are tools, you must choose them with care and deliberation.

In our Assembly, the task is perhaps the most difficult in all of Canada. In this House, up to three languages are spoken each day during proceedings. Our task as Legislators would not be possible through the tremendous work performed by our professional interpreter/translators.

The issue that arose this week goes to the very heart of this challenge to Members speaking during our proceedings. One Member spoke in Inuktitut, the other in English. Both Members relied upon the interpretation provided to determine the meaning and intent of the others words.

As Speaker, I have been called upon to determine whether one Member broke one of our cardinal rules, the requirement that we not make accusations about another Member's truthfulness or honesty. In attempting to determine whether this occurred, the Chair examined with the assistance and advice of our interpreters, both the original and interpreted audio records of the exchange.

After reviewing the records, I am satisfied that neither Member made an accusation about the truthfulness or honesty of the other Member. I will certainly grant that both Members may have strong and different views about the other's position on a matter of public policy.

Neither Member appeared would appear to accept the factual premise of the other's arguments, but that is exactly what debate is all about. The Chair is simply concerned that debate not involve an accusation that another Member lied or was untruthful or dishonest and I am satisfied that this did not happen in this case.

Nuance and context are in part of our language, without them, the words that we use would be meaningless. In this case, linguistic differences lead to a basic misunderstanding of the intent. I would therefore rule that there is no points in privilege. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

## Item 6: Oral Questions

### Question 562 – 1(6): Update on Photo Identification

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to, we'll try and deal with Minister's statement and I will be asking my question to the Minister of Community Government & Transportation, Culture, Language, Elders and Youth and also responsible for Recognition of Status of Women, so that I'm sure what kind of portfolio he holds.

I'm sure everyone is sure of what kind of portfolio he holds. As I have stated earlier on, Mr. Speaker, during the September 11<sup>th</sup> incident in the United States, the Federal Government made a rule that we need to have identification cards in order to be able to travel.

No matter where you go, you needed photo identification after that incident. I had asked this question to the previous Minister, in regards to the requirement of identification cards so that everyone will have the knowledge of where individuals come from. The Minister stated that they would be working on photo id.

I have reported that the photo id camera in Pond Inlet doesn't really work. The competitors at the Arctic Winter Games did not know where to get their photo id because our camera didn't work too well in Pond Inlet.

My question is, for individuals who need photo id, can the Minister for Community Government & Transportation update me what the status of this is or have all the photos been taken for id. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think there were three questions and I will try and respond to them all at the same time.

Mr. Speaker, our requirement for photo id, for those individuals who are requesting it, yes this is ongoing and in regards to the members question and also I have reviewed the process. Anyone who is living outside of Nunavut, if they require photo id, they can still apply for it and it's still free. For the first time, if they're 12 and under, they can ask for photo id at the office. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister talked about his office. What kind of office is he talking about, the offices within the community or is that the office in Iqaluit or Qamanittuaq? I was wondering if the Minister was willing to clarify that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In New York, no. At the local level, they can go to the office. Some offices are situated in the Hamlet offices where the photo id cameras are. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At times, I wait for the technician to turn on my microphone, so I apologise.

If anyone at the community would like to get their photo id, do you have cameras in all the communities. God cameras that could be used for passport pictures or what kind of cameras do they have? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had asked the same question to my officials.

If we want to make these available and if we want to have photo id cameras I was told that not all the communities have photo id cameras.

But at this point my officials are now looking into what kind of camera that they should be using and also if it's an official photo id, the Federal Government require some ids and as we speak, I have asked my officials to get some cameras for the communities and how we can expedite the process. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He indicated that there was going to be good cameras that are going to be ordered because some of the photo id cameras in the communities are very old. They're outdated.

Would the Minister and his officials start giving photo id cameras to each community because I myself tried to get photo id but it was impossible to get it. Can they be used for passports and can they be actual official passport cameras? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the passport officials, because the passport people want a specific kind of photographs, and they can either be passports because these photo ids are not going to be replacing for passports.

There may be some problems and some of the photographs, because the photos shouldn't have any shadows and they have to be very clear. For an ordinary camera, it's going to be impossible.

We know for a fact, some of these cameras are fairly old and outdated but we're still working on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 563 – 1(6): Task Force on Community Healing**

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

(interpretation end) Mr. Speaker, on March 24, this house approved a motion to establish a Task Force on Suicide Prevention and Community Healing. Mr. Speaker, the task force was to be established no later than May 1, 2003.

No member in this House voted against this motion. Can the Minister update this House on what steps have been taken to establish this task force and who has been appointed to participate in it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a lot of work has been done on the committee and the committee motion.

As well as looking at the scope of the project itself, I was at the Nunavut Association of Municipalities meetings in April, and I was asked by the mayors, because of the turn around time, to give them enough time to give them an opportunity to appoint more people, to more consultation with communities and so on, to extend the time.

I did that. And we gave them extra time to provide input. Mr. Speaker, I also wrote all the mayors, all the presidents of Inuit organizations, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, KIA, Qikiqtani Inuit Association and so on.

I wrote the public sector unions seeking input. We've done broad consultations. We've had several names that have been put forward and a concern raised by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for example was the timing.

Would I be able to run this committee in the summer when a lot of people would not be available, where they would be out on the land and so on, was that the best time to start some of the work that we wanted to do.

So, that's where we are right now Mr. Speaker. There was a delay. Part of the delay was to give communities and hamlets more time to respond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you. My papers are flying around here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My further question is that it is good to hear that the Minister had some work done on this and I think that this issue is so very important that communities should not have to wait this long and this motion was a Government motion and it needs to happen.

Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell this House exactly when, this summer, September, October, will this happen and how many people will be on this Committee? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, under the terms of references of the motion as well as the Mandate and I believe I thought the motion was actually quite credible and it was supported fully.

We believe six Members would be part of the Panel, taking into suggestions and the consultations we have done. And I am just reading off a note here, in all cases, the concept was supported, although the communities of Arctic Bay and NTI expressed misgivings about the time of year. They felt that, again, the timing was probably a bit off and was not realistic. They also said that there should be some ongoing structure established to deal with suicide related issues.

So, if the Committee is going to go out into communities, you need to be able to put social services and other mental health with it because when you go into a community, you start raising things that have happened in the past and that can be stressful and we need to be able to make sure if the Committee is going to go into the community that they do that.

So, the quick answer is, Mr. Speaker, we are looking at six people to be on the Committee consisting of an Elder, the youth and so on based on the Committee motion and we would hope to have the Committee up and running in the next couple of weeks, that is the plan right now.

Again, in the Committee motion, the motion stated that all resources, financial, administrative and logistic that needs to be put in place for the Committee would be done so.

I have to look at it as the Department to see what those cost implications are logistically and administratively and financing to make sure then that the Committee has the resources to do the job and do it right. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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



**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It would be good to know why the Minister did not inform the Members of this House when the motion was from this House it was a House motion, it had been delayed and we did not know anything about it.

Can the Minister tell us why this did not happen because it was not NTI's, it was not Arctic Bay's, and it was this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if, we took the motion very serious and the motion was shortly after the last session. This is first time we have actually got together as a Committee, as a House to discuss this and other issues.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that there has been any foot dragging. If we are going to put the Committee in place and be what the House wanted and I was one of those Members that supported that motion, not only to be realistically, but to be able to do logistically, administratively, and financially, the work that should be carried out by that Committee and why should I expedite it and rush it?

Let us make sure when the Committee is in place that it makes a difference for people in Nunavut. The issue of suicide is too serious to rush, to put together a Committee to go out and do something half heartedly or half done.

So, I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, by consulting with NTI and some of the good work that Caroline Anawak and other people have put into the project, who have been consulted with our regional Inuit Organizations, going to every Mayor at the NAM meeting, those things are important.

So, the people of Nunavut have an opportunity to have input. So, that's what has caused some of the delay. Plus we want to make sure that you have the resources. I can't send a committee out to a community and all of the sudden raise all kinds of expectations, dealing with the issue of suicide and then not have support mechanisms in place for people who have raised a lot of serious concerns and issues.

So, Mr. Speaker, if the governments going to do what the House has asked it to do, lets do it right. If that takes a little longer Mr. Speaker, so be it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Williams:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This motion was done in March, just set a task force not a committee. I have the motion in front of me that was done in the House.

My further question is that can the Minister commit to having the task force set up by the end of June and then he would only be two months late. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes that would be the intent right now, to try to have the task force name and again we've had submissions of names from all across Nunavut and I want to go back just logistically and maybe explain some of the stuff here.

We just came out of a national task conference where we had a huge amount of work put into a national suicide program where staff and Health and Social Services were involved in it as well as we just had our own Nunavut wide suicide conference at the same time.

So, Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of work done. This task force as the member has asked, I would have to hope to have it up and running and in place and named by the end of the month. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Members just before we proceed. You've used up 20 minutes and we've gone through only two members. So, today let's try to get everybody in with a question. I'd asked that regular members to be precise and concise with their questions in their preamble and the minister to do the same. Thank you. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

#### **Question 564 – 1(6): Community Access Road Program**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's been four years in a row and three ministers in a row that I've asked the same question in the Legislative Assembly.

And my question today is to the Minister of Community Government & Transportation. Mr. Speaker, in the past in the NWT in the transportation department had a community access road program that was really successful in the Kivalliq region.

I'm not so sure about the Kitikmeot region or the Baffin region but it was very successful. It was very successful in this community. And every year I stood up and being very patient with this government and asking if they would look at implementing a community access road program and to date, nothing.

This is four years later. So, can the new and current minister answer my question in the House today, is there going to be a community access road program this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Right now there aren't any money available right now for our community access roads and there is hamlet, we still do need one only one. We still don't have any specified community for access roads funding. Thank you.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My headphone is getting a lot of static here and I never got the Minister's answer. Can he confirm that there is a program in place this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I also want to point out that not only does this government want to produce more access roads with some of the Government of Nunavut funds. But we also want to make sure that we take advantage of the Federal programs that are out there that we can take advantage of to help the communities build access roads.

We are working right now as it is within the government to help the municipalities to build roads that they can and also take advantage of the federal programs. But to say that I will have one access road program within the government this year would almost be indicating that I'm not willing to take the other dollars that are available from the federal programs.

So, I want to make sure that I do not block off any opportunities from any federal dollars either. But I will definitely take into consideration, of wanting to simplify the access roads program with in the Government of Nunavut. Thank you.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, so can the Minister answer me today, if a municipality in Nunavut put a little proposal together showing what they wanted to do in regards to building a community access road with a dollar figure, would his department look at and if it was reasonable, approve it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Approving it is another thing; however, if any municipality wanted to put forward a proposal, it would get its due consideration. Thank you.

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

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell me if there's a monetary limit on what a municipality can apply for this year and what the deadline is. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess the deadline is more within the time of the year when the ground is accessible, if it's either snow covered or not but I'm not aware of any limits of dollars for access roads, because where possible, again, if it's

something that cannot accommodate in the Government of Nunavut, we roll up to the federal program. I will commit to forwarding this information to the member. Thank you.

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

**Question 565 – 1(6): Power Subsidy Program**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I haven't yet had the pleasure of posing any questions to Minister of Finance this week and I know that he's missed it dearly, so I would like to take this opportunity to ask him a question in his capacity as a Minister Responsible for the department that runs the power subsidy program.

Mr. Speaker, according to the department's 2003/2004 business plan, \$4.75 million dollars has been budgeted for the power subsidy program. Over the past few years, the department has indicated that it is reviewing this program for changes.

So I would like to begin my question by asking the Minister to explain to this house what the intent of the power subsidy program is and how it's calculated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the intent of the power subsidy program is to help support private home owners in their power rates.

How it works right now, the first 700 kilowatt hours of a private household are subsidized to the Yellowknife rate, the Yellowknife base rate which is what we inherited when the program came over from the Northwest Territories and we decided to keep it in place in respect of the power subsidy program as we move towards amending it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister had indicated that they're moving towards amending it.

Is there a process in place if any changes are to be made to the subsidy that the department has to go through? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is no public process per se. It's a government subsidy, a government program, government policy.

From our perspective, obviously, once we've figured out where we want it to go, we would put it through the cabinet Financial Management Board.

Of course, with some input from the appropriate standing committee regular members, possibly, given the impact to all consumers, in every constituent through out Nunavut, before we were to change anything.

What we're looking at quite frankly right now, Mr. Speaker, is obviously having it based on a Nunavut rate and as a result of that, there would be some changes on the amounts and the structure of the whole program but by and large, the whole intent is still is to provide some affordable power rates to consumers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, well then I guess by the Minister's response, one could assume that there has not been any reductions or changes to the subsidy amount since the creation of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, no not in respect to the amount of subsidy provided to home owners. There have been changes in the amounts of subsidy that the government has paid out but that based more on volumes of individuals eligible to receive the subsidy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's good to hear that and I just wanted to get that clarified because I've been informed by a constituent of mine that there had a been a change to the subsidy. The last power or fuel rider subsidy that came off last March of a little over 3.4 cents per kilowatt hour.

Once that rider was taken off, the subsidy had decreased the same amount. So I would just like to clarify that that was not the case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the rate for the subsidy was set by the government and in the instance where there was a fuel rider in place that also was a factor in the determination of the subsidy amount given to home owners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Haviyok.

**Question 566 - 1(6): Airline Transportation Study**

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my statement, I mentioned the study on the government service department, the former Minister of Community Government & Transportation has put out a study.

So on that study I just want to point out, on that study, the focus was on the recommendation from the study, enclosed the results of the current Department of Health and Social Services medical travel for requests for proposals. Can the Minister tell me about the conclusion of the study to date? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess can answer the question this way that the study was in fact, or has been completed, but my department has been in the process of getting the documents translated and as I updated the house earlier, I will be releasing the documents very shortly.

I am confident that this will give the members and the public, as well as the air carriers a better understanding of what the findings were in this study. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister. (interpretation end) I should ask again. Is that in the upcoming session or during this session in Rankin Inlet or in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry Baker Lake.

**Speaker:** Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It will not be here in Baker Lake because of the documents that needed to be translated and finalized. So, I've committed to releasing this, today's June right? Sometime before then end of this month. Maybe in a week or so, I will be releasing the documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 567 – 1(6): Medivac Services – More Than One Airline**

**Mr. Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague from the Nanulik riding in his statement mentioned medivac and the problem with medivac system right now.

It's very important that the medivacs are efficient and to have more than one air carrier. Are there going to be more than one medivac planes. Not just one company but different companies because if you use one company it becomes a problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the government had completed the RFP. It took us over a year to do it with KPMG and we did an RFP in medivac and emergency medical travel, medivac being scheduled travel and medivac being the emergency medivac of patients, when you actually send a plane in and take an individual out.

Mr. Speaker, in the case of the Kivalliq the RFP was completed and we have been in discussions with Skyward over the last couple of days. Mr. Best, had discussions and there has been an issue raise where a southern based company was subcontracted as one of the members mentioned which we investigated and we are trying to put in place under the contract and we have a right to do this to make sure that any contract or subcontract or the contract itself meets our conditions and our specifications.

And I would suggest to you Mr. Speaker, that over the next couple of days we'll be able to confirm this and make sure that at the end of the day that the very best services are available to the residents of the Kivalliq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm not interested in explanations about the lead up to the finalization of the discussions. My question was is the minister prepared to divide the medivac contract in the Keewatin region in order to better serve the people of the Keewatin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we're not in the business of being subjective. It's not for me to evaluate and say what is the very best for the people.

What we've done under the RFP, selected based on the ability of the plane, the number of equipments on the ground, the medical staff to have to go in a medivac plane and the cost, Mr. Arvaluk talked about \$20 million dollars. I think last year our cost of total medivac was \$37 million dollars.

So, price of course has to play into it too. And we heard from the members. The members said if there is a flight over an hour for example, there has to be a bathroom on the plane. And we've done that on the scheduled travel. And the emergency medivac travel, a contract based on price and all the other contingencies have been put in place and I went to Kivalliq Air.

However, there is an opportunity here for Skyward or any other airline that's on the ground based in Nunavut that can provide services to us when that need is there.

So, for example, if Kivalliq Air didn't have a plane available, then it would go right next to the Skyward if they had a plane on the ground and so on. That's usually what happens. Bringing in a southern based firm that we have just heard about falls outside the scope of the work and the good intention that was put in place by the RFP and that's why we said that will not be permitted.

And that way, Mr. Speaker, we are providing the best service for all the residents of Nunavut, but particularly here in the Kivalliq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister is making it sound so simple. You could just say if there's another plane, we'll get another plane from the Kivalliq region.

That has not happened in some times in the past. We just heard about a medivac that had to be done outside of Baker Lake where, as my colleague from Nanulik said, the nurse demanded that a plane based in Rankin Inlet come and get a patient.

That nurse was reprimanded for going outside of the agreed upon airline. If it doesn't cost anymore, or maybe even less to contract out or divide up the contract because they don't need to necessarily, the second contractor or the two airlines don't need to necessarily bring up airplanes from way down in Winnipeg for a medivac here, it should be a simple enough decision to just say we'll divide up the contract in order to best serve the people so that we don't get into a situation where planes are six hours behind when a plane could have been gotten from a community an hour away.

All we're asking is that in order to better serve the people of the Keewatin Region in their medivac contract, will the Minister agree that the contract should be divided. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we're endeavouring to provide the best service possible.

What I have just said is that Kivalliq Air has won the RFP and if you want me to just cut that contract up and divide it amongst two or three companies, then you're causing other logistic and administrative and financial problems.

So, what I said is if the airline of choice is Kivalliq Air, and they aren't able to use a plane, then they should go to Skyward, as Mr. Anawak has pointed out. Why should they go to Winnipeg or Thompson and bring in a plane if there's a plane on the ground.

That in it self will expedite and be expeditious in providing the service to the patients. And so what Mr. Anawak is asking for, he will be receiving and we did not know, me as Minister did not know that an outside firm had come in and that's why you have these



opportunities for debate, to bring these types of issues forward, like some of the members have done in written form. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Anawak:** Mr. Speaker, then the Minister should have known that those things were happening within his department.

It is inexcusable to not find out, to not know what your department is doing in terms of having a preferential airline over another because the airline doesn't happen to have the contract.

All we're saying is in the interest of the patients and the people of the Kivalliq Region, and because of events that have occurred in the past because of utilizing one airline for the sole purpose of medivac, will the Minister agree to consider dividing up the contract.

Because, even if it's too late now, he did not go around asking me, asking the people of the Kivalliq Region, who better know the region than anyone else. He did not do that nor, did his officials and decided on one airline.

So, will the Minister agree that he should have asked us and secondly to take a second look because this was done without the participation of the people around this table? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Mr. Speaker, I brought the RFP to cabinet several months ago. Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day, I can't be on the ground in every community in Nunavut.

That is why you have managers, that is why you have staff and if something outside the scope of the contract something is occurring, that is why you have, that is why a contract is audited, Mr. Speaker.

So, in this case, we are aware of this, we are working on it and I have said, Mr. Speaker, I do not know how more plain I could make it, but Mr. Speaker, if there is another opportunity for a second carrier and Skyward or any other if it is Calm Air.

And if they had a plane to go out, then that by all means use it at the same price that we have negotiated under the contract. That is the way the contract runs. This is not something new that has happened yesterday. There is precedence here.

So, Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day, we will have those airlines and the concern that Mr. Anawak and the other Members have raised have been addressed and they are being addressed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 568 - 1(6): Renewable Resources**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I hope my question will be clear and I hope that I do not frustrate anyone. As I was making my Members' Statement in regards to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, that Department has been here since 1945 in the arctic when they first started working in our oceans.

Perhaps they wanted to service us and provide some assistance, but I do not see any assistance coming today, but I would like to ask the Minister for the Sustainable Development, as the Minister, do you have any jurisdiction for the renewable resources or marine areas? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For renewable resources, we do have jurisdiction on renewable resources, but as I have stated earlier on, that I meet with the various entities and the Federal Government has the jurisdiction for the marine areas.

Our Department at times negotiate with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and also we work cooperatively with Nunavut Wildlife Management Board in regards to marine areas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is in regards to the marine wildlife because most of Nunavut communities have shrimp, turbot, and other fish and there are economic opportunities with these grown fish and it can have an impact Nunavut-wide.

In regards to economic opportunities, I would like to ask the Minister with the Federal Government and Department of Fisheries and Oceans and your Department, can you commit to me in order to protect the economic opportunities of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will work with those Departments and entities and also we will continue to work through correspondence and we also work with Baffin Fisheries Coalition and we have worked together in order to make future plans. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question. According to the way you have been working cooperatively with these Departments and entities, would you be willing to update us regularly on these? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, as I have stated before, yes, as the Minister for that Department, yes, I will be providing briefing and information to the public in regards to this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Sustainable Development Department perhaps can update my constituencies in order to proceed with this in an expeditious manner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we try to provide all the information that is required through press releases. Yes, we will work diligently to serve the people of Nunavut and to inform them so that they can have the information that they require. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

#### **Question 569 – 1(6): Training Strategy**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is going to be self explanatory.

Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Education. Mr. Speaker, earlier in my member's statement, I said I was very pleased to hear there will be mine related training courses for people in Kitikmeot.

Mr. Speaker, the minister is aware that my colleague, the MLA for Kugluktuk has also had concerns and questions regarding training to prepare our constituents for work in the mining sector.

Mr. Speaker, my question is how will the Department of Education determine where these mine courses will be offered? When these training programs start where will these training courses offered? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister for Education. Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it's becoming evident that there is going to be a mining company opening up. I know that there have been mine exploration in Nunavut for diamonds and also we are aware that mining is developing in Kitikmeot region.

And also in Keewatin region, they now have found gold deposits in Keewatin. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we still haven't made a decision yet where these mine courses will be offered. But we understand the Kitikmeot, Qikiqtaaluk, and Kivalliq regions will need to get employees from these three regions and we need to prepare the training program for the mining sector.

Mr. Speaker, we still haven't made a decision on where the mine courses will be offered because there are various courses in the mining sectors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral questions. Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I only heard you call my name Mr. Speaker. I apologize and I would like to thank the minister of Education for her response.

Mr. Speaker, will the department assist students with the cost of transportation for the mining related courses and I know that the mining and accommodation should the courses be offered outside of Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak and Kugluktuk.

Mr. Speaker, will the department assist students? What kinds of assistance will you provide for the students taking the courses? Will the course be made available in Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we still haven't found out as to which individuals will be attending the mining related course and Mr. Speaker, for the accommodation and the transportation we still have no idea how much it would cost. To date, we still don't know where the students will be coming from. But, Mr. Speaker, I can say that we can provide assistance services to the students anyway we can with the assistance of the Department of Sustainable Development.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps through the cooperation of Inuit Associations or regional Inuit associations and look at how best we can do these.

If there is going to be information required, they have to be translated into Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun and likewise, this would be the case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Department has been assisting Nunavummiut in training programs but my constituency on behalf of Netsilik, Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak, Mr. Speaker, yes, I understand.

Please be patient with me Mr. Speaker because I want to explain this before I get frustrated. Mr. Speaker, in the Kitikmeot there had been some training programs. In the Kitikmeot east, the constituents had requested that I ask that question. There had been some training programs in the western side of the Kitikmeot around the Netsilik area. This training program would take place.

They're wondering if that training program could take place in the eastern side of the Kitikmeot. I would like to ask the Minister if you can find out what kinds of services and see if they can do the training in that area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond by saying that I understand at times that the Netsilik area is quite far from Cambridge Bay. Due to the distance, Gjoa Haven and Kugaaruk residents find it very difficult to their training programs outside of their community so we will see if we can work with private companies to do the training.

We can also look for funding especially from the federal government because they can provide some form of assistance financially. The communities within Nunavut, we would like to provide them with what they want. We will have to look at what kinds of services the communities have and what kind of heavy equipment they have that could be used for training.

Mr. Speaker, in the Kitikmeot Region, I will ask those questions and get the input from the Kitikmeot Region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister has stated that she would do a study and I would like to thank her for that.

The mining company employees, the companies now are briefing the Netsilimiut communities. I'm not just thinking about the other areas and I know that there are old DEW lines too in the Nattilik area.

They also could be used as the training program because they need to be cleaned up. Perhaps if the minister could tell me when this will take place, whether this could place this summer. Are they within your plans or this coming fall? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the Keewatin Region, yes, this process has been happening very fast because their applications have already been planned.

I don't know when but once I find out when it will be, I will announce it to the member. Thank you.

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

**Question 570 – 1(6): Awarding of Contracts**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works about the contracts.

Do you prioritize the community contractors or do you prioritize the contractors from outside the community in regards to contracts. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you colleague. For the contractors, we tend to look at the communities first. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm asking do you give, if there's going to be contract being made, if community contracts are given priority first. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't ask who wants to do the contract. We tender them out in the smaller communities . Thank you.

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

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the communities, for instance, because they are the community based contractor wants to help their own people; I would like to ask the Minister, will he be tendering them out to the communities.

**Speaker:** Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government in accordance with our policies, we have to be careful with this issue to the contractors. In reference to his question we look at what would benefit the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Question 571 – 1(6): Use of more Airlines for Medical in the Kivalliq Region**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been waiting for a long time.

(interpretation end): My question is for the Minister of Health. When the Nunavut Power Corporation requested a 10 percent fuel increase for a fuel rider, URRC recommended 7 cents per kilowatt hour the minister stated yesterday or two days ago there will be no increase. He was listening to people by forfeiting \$15 million dollars that the Power Corporation would have got. That's asking people, because it's going to cost the business people, especially in Iqaluit, if the increase was awarded.

Mr. Speaker, my question is, on the patients in Nunavut especially in Kivalliq less important because it doesn't deal with money, it deals with lives. Can the minister tell me if he can reconsider before awarding that more than one airline will be used for medical evacuation and medical travel? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** The minister responsible for Health and Social Services. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member is correct. There is more than one airline being used across Nunavut. In the Kivalliq region in particular as an on need basis there will be more than one airline used as need arises. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister issue conditions criteria's to the proponents and say here its what it is going to cost, here is the fixed price that the government determines how much they will pay. Not more, no less, invite the airlines in Kivalliq that if you want medical services for us for medical emergency here is the price. Whoever is available can be called by the front line workers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. That was a part of the RFP that was put out, was the conditional price as well as the criteria and so on. They all form part of the RFP as well as the award. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** So I just want a clarification that he said yes that there will be invitation to the airlines that whoever is in the Kivalliq that's running the airline will be given that opportunity by the order of the department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I have that clarification?

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the RFP has been awarded and on the secondary basis on the RFP if another airline is needed then that will be facilitated. So, I can confirm that for the member, as well as having the criteria the standards and so on in place which forms part of the RFP contract. If they are not being followed and the contractor has been found in void of that then that can be, that will be dealt with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be asking written questions tomorrow on that. So, thereby I will not only have four questions.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister already mentioned this, \$37 million dollars last year for medical travel. Yes, there will be airlines needed as he mentioned. Not if, there is airline needed will he give equal opportunity to all the airlines in Kivalliq for medical travel and medical evacuations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, after the primary carrier, if the primary carrier is not available, there are feasibility issues.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we've had discussions with Skyward the gentleman sitting behind you. He has sent me many letters. He has contacted mayors and so on so forth. We have Canadian North, they've done the same thing, First Air and so on. This is not something new on the airline basis.

Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day, you want to make sure that we have the best service available for the patients and we want to make sure that we have the best place available for the patients and we want to make sure that we have the best price available for the Government of Nunavut to pay and those things should come together.

That's the conversations on the work that went forward on the RFP. They have been over the last couple of weeks Mr. Speaker, according to the member. So that's the answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Member's will note that by the clerk's clock, question period is now over. Item 7. Written Questions. Written Questions. Mr. McLean.



## Item 7: Written Questions

### Written Question 014 – 1(6): Status of the Proposed Manitoba Kivalliq Road Link

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I got two Kivalliq issues here that we don't seem to be getting any clarification or information on.

Written question 1, is to the Honourable Ed Picco, Minister of Energy. As of June 1, 2003, orders of status of the proposed Manitoba/Kivalliq Hydroelectric Transmission Project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. McLean. Can we have those documents picked up. Pages. Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. McLean.

### Written Question 015 – 1(6): Manitoba/Kivalliq Road Link

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My next question, and like I say, the residents, the long suffering residents of the Kivalliq Region, I'd like to get an answer on as it goes to the Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Minister of Community Government & Transportation.

As of June 1, 2003, what is the status of the proposed Manitoba/Kivalliq road link? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. McLean. Item 7. Written Questions. Are there any further Written Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### Written Question 016 – 1(6): Priority Hiring Policy

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, my question is going to be to the Human Resources Minister.

From June 1, what is the status of what the government wants, and number 2, when do you want to prioritize when they are doing the hiring and June 3, how many beneficiaries of Nunavut Land Claims Agreement were hired in indeterminate terms and contract positions in Government of Nunavut's departments, boards, agencies and Crown Corporations.

Number 3, on January 1, 2003, to June 1, 2003, how many non-beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement were hired for indeterminate terms, contract positions in the Government of Nunavut's departments, boards, agencies and Crown Corporations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Item 7. Written Questions. Are there any further Written Questions. Item 8, Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Item 11: Reports of Standing and Special Committees**

#### **Committee Report 005 – 1(6): Report on the Review of the 2001-2002 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Report of the review of the 2001/2002 annual report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I move the report of the standing committee be received and adopted by the house pursuant to rule 91 (3) (a) and that it be entered into the records as read.

**Speaker:** Do members agree that the report of the standing committee be received and adopted by the house pursuant to rule 91 (3) (a) to be entered into records as read.  
Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Tabling of Documents. Minister Kilabuk.

### **Item 13: Tabled Document**

#### **Tabled Document 124 – 1(6): Nunavut Heritage Centre - Feasibility Study - Final Report**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (FLOOR): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am happy to present to my Colleagues the Feasibility Study Report on the Nunavut Heritage 2002 from the Department of Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Are there any further Tabling of Documents? Item 14. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Item 14. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Irqittuq.

### **Item 16: Motions**

#### **Motion 023 – 1(6): Extension – Bill 20 an Act to amend The Access to Information and Protection to Privacy Act and related statutes, 33 Tobacco Control Act, 35 Wildlife Act**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move Seconded by the honourable Member of Kugluktuk that notwithstanding rule 68(1), the Reports of Standing Committee Ajauqtiit, Government Operations and Services and Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development on the reviews of Bill 20, an Act to amend

The Access to Information and Protection to Privacy Act and related statutes, Bill 33, Tobacco Control Act and Bill 35, Wildlife Act be extended until such time as the Committees have concluded their reviews. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Irqittuq. The motion is in order to the motion, to the motion. The question has been called, all those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Item 16. Motions. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Havioyak.

### **Motion 025 – 1(6): Appointments to Standing Committees**

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The motion 25-1(6), appointments to the Standing and Special Committees. Whereas Section 38 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act provides that the Legislative Assembly may establish Standing and Special Committees and whereas Rule 89 (2) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly provides for the striking Committee to recommend Members to serve on the Standing Committee and whereas the Legislative Assembly has chosen to make revisions to the membership of the Standing Committees.

Now, therefore, I move Seconded by the honourable Member of Iqaluit Centre that Jack Anawak, Member of Rankin Inlet North be appointed to the Standing Committee on Health and Education and Community Empowerment, Sustainable Development.

That Peter Kilabuk, Member of the Pangnirtung be appointed to the Special Committee to review the Official Language Act to replace Jack Anawak and further that Peter Kattuk, Member for Hudson Bay be appointed to the and alternate to the Special Committee to review the Official Language Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. The Motion is in Order to the Motion. The question has been called, all those in favour. All those opposed. The Motion is carried. Item 16. Motions. Item 16. Motions. Mr. McLean.

### **Motion 024 – 1(6): Extended Adjournment**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am moved Seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay that notwithstanding Rule 4 for when the House concludes its sitting in Baker Lake it shall be adjourned until Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003 in Iqaluit.

And further that at any time prior to October 21, 2003, if the speaker is satisfied, after consultation with the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during an adjournment, the speaker may give notice and thereupon, the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and shall transact its business as it has been duly adjourned to at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. McLean. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Item 16.

Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters, Minister's Statement 126-1 (6), 164-1 (6), Tabled documents 117-1(6), 118-1 (6), Bill 34, Bill 38 and Bill 39 with Mr. Irqittuq in the chair. Before we proceed to Committee of the Whole we will take a 20 minute break and I would like to meet with all the members in the Teacher's Lounge. Thank you.

Sergeant-at-arms.

>>*House recessed at 4:12 p.m. and resumed at 4:42 p.m.*

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

**Chairperson** (Mr. Irgittuq)(interpretation): Thank you for returning. Can we begin? Committee will now come to order. We will be dealing with in Committee of the Whole, Bill 34, 38, Minister's statement 126-1(6) and 164-1(6) and 167-1(6) and 117-1(6) and 118-8(6) and Table document 117-1(6) and 118-1(6). What is the wish of the committee? Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee would like to continue with the discussion on the minister's statement 126-1(6) and from there we would like do Bill 34, Bill 38 and Bill 39 and continue on with ministers statement 164-1(6) and tabled document 117-1(6) and tabled document 118-1(6). Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Agree? Is the Minister bringing her officials? Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Yes.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, the minister and her officials. If you could please introduce your officials. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My official is Regina Aupaluktuq from the Kivalliq region from the Department of Human Resources.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Welcome minister and Ms. Aupaluktuq. We finished off with general comments, at this time you can begin with the questions. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have heard this from our colleague yesterday and the day before and it is good to hear. I like to hear those kinds of things. I can understand it may take some time.

(interpretation end) The Minister stated there's about 800 job descriptions which needed to be reviewed. That was on March 13<sup>th</sup>. I can understand that it's going to take some time to do those job descriptions.

Can you update us on that? I know you're new as a Minister on this but just for my information as to where they are today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have hired two staff to review all the job descriptions. They did 800 job descriptions and it's still ongoing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's been three months. Could you give us an idea? Is half of it done. Could you give us an idea how they're doing. What progress have they made since then by having to hire two individuals to do this for the department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This project will probably take two years to complete. I can tell you that there has been some progress in reviewing the job description and that's to look at any artificial barriers.

It's a long process and I can't tell you right now where we are with that. We just know that it's a process and that it's ongoing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I could go another way. I'll give you an example where the artificial barriers were there.

When we have an example again, an administrative position, or a junior management positions for example, where the job descriptions say they need to have the university degree to work in that community in the area of administrative work.

I had two very qualified workers, like I have said in the passed that couldn't get the job because they didn't the university degree but they could have done the job as administrative support workers or maybe administrative officers, maybe financial officers.

How, I guess the question would be, the skills that are put on the job description, I know that it's new but it's, like I hear you say it's ongoing. Do we have some kind of plan where we could say yes, we will change the job description in certain positions because they only require certain skills to do that job which don't need a university degree.

Let us say for example, in Public Works, they needed a carpenter, that again they are going to say they need a Journeymen Certificate. Those types of things that can be looked at very seriously. Say, no, maybe they do not have the requirement, maybe the Inuinnagtun have the skills to do that work.

So, that is what I am trying to get at this. How do we get rid of those papers off the way so we could have Inuinnag people working in those places where they have the skills. Thank you..

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

**Hon. Manitik Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the Land Claims Agreement, it requires us to design or remove systematic discrimination of Inuit trying to get into jobs and the two staff that we have hired with the help of my other staff are going to look at all of the job descriptions to make sure that there is removal of artificially inflated education requirements, which the Member is talking about and also removal of experience requirement not based on essential consideration of efficiency and skills.

So, we are starting to use skills and abilities that the Members were talking about yesterday in their statements. That is where we are heading in this one. We will use more of the skills, experience and abilities for the jobs. That is what we are doing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you. Like I say, this review is going to take several years, a couple of years. In the meantime though, we are going to be running into some applicants that have the skills.

Can you waive some of those job descriptions where they say university degrees needed just to get administrative people, because like you said, it is going to take two years.

So, meantime, let us look at this, how we can get those Inuinnaqtun working between now and two years from now. So, it is regard look at those people now to, so we can get them working from that community. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitik Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are already using the skills and abilities and the use of competence is for the jobs with the new positions that are coming out now, we are doing that already and all of the vacant positions. So, we have changed our methods. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, while we are talking about employment that are available or job descriptions, while we are talking about job descriptions, perhaps it might not be included in here, but I touched upon it a little bit in regards to health.

The employment that is available for the Inuit people, for instance, social workers or counsellors, RCMP and court workers or teachers, maybe if they are going to go into the job descriptions, then they would have to be rewritten to be directed at the Inuit, employing Inuit and to train them once they get in the position.

Because of the fact that they are employees of the Nunavut Government and they live in Nunavut so that we don't get people from southern centres coming off the plane and

based on their education working in Nunavut communities and not really knowing the culture. Thank you, Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to Mr. Anawak's comments it's very understandable to me because some teachers are that way. What we're going to do is deal with those under Human Resources.

Marion Love knows about those kinds of things and that's part of her job and she's been doing some job descriptions and we will amend them, change them, especially when it come to social workers or councillors that have to know the Inuit.

So, when they come into a community we can give them orientation and information. That's part of what we're going to be doing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Anawak** (interpretation): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, if we can make some changes to the job descriptions for those positions that I mentioned because of lot of people like. Its been said that the Qallunaaq comes up here to the north and they can write after being here one day they could write some information and then if they've been here a short time they can write a book.

They only think about their jobs and the guidelines or the manual that they have to follow but they don't even bother with the people that are more important to their job such as they have to work with the hamlet and with other people in the community. They just focus on their work following the guidelines of the education that they have received and not thinking about the culture of the people that they're working for.

Just this spring I heard about an individual that had a child taken away, I'm not saying that they shouldn't be taking children away from the parents but they have to be able to understand the culture of the Inuit before they decide that they have to take a child away from their home.

And when we're talking about counselling, some elders even though they only speak Inuktitut could be utilized to be advisers and the Pond Inlet MLA keeps on sayings that there are no Inuit family counsellors.

If we're going to start that, to employ Inuit they have to be able to have respect if you're a non resident of Nunavut, they have to be able to start respecting the culture and the values and the morals of the Inuit people in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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



**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, its' self explanatory here. Yes, and I will give direction to my officials. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. Also, in regards to my statement made yesterday, and I know that we can't complete it during oral questions but listening to the Minister's statement, they were clearly pointed out but part of the issue here, should focus more on long time northerners even though they're not Inuit beneficiaries. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I almost forgot what to call you so I apologise. Since you are the chairman I would like to thank you.

We've been discussing this matter and there are many long time non-beneficiary residents. Whether they are your daughter-in-laws or son-in-laws. At times, through job opportunities, rather than being interviewed, they are appointed.

Once they know that they are capable, they can be appointed. According to Article 23, Inuit have the priority to be hired and that the majority of the staff of Government of Nunavut has to be Inuit beneficiaries.

In spite of that, there are long time residents of Nunavut who are not beneficiaries and they have been appointed to their positions. And according to the experience and skills and this, as a government, we understand that we have to be aware of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Anawak**: Yes, it's nice to say that you recognise the need but the fact remains that those time northerners have absolutely no guarantee that they'll be considered any better than somebody getting off the plane from Toronto in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet or else where.

I don't think anybody here objects to the utilization of Article 23 to get more Inuit. Granted, that's basically all we're pushing for. But, I still think that there has to be some special consideration given to long time northerners who are either inter-married or just happen to have live up here for the last 25 years.

There is absolutely nothing, it's nice to be nice and say directly appoint that person because he's been around for a long time, but those long time northerners have absolutely no recognition of their longevity in the north.

Surely there's has to be something we can do to put them in, at least, in a spot in between the person getting off the plane from Toronto and an Inuk, on paper because we have an awful lot of those people out there.

I know the Minister, she's married to one, and I'm married to one, long time northerners. But would our spouses be considered, under the present system, our spouses would be considered the same as anybody, getting fresh off from Toronto.

I don't think nice words are enough to give some protection to those people that have committed a long time to, in most cases help us out up here in Nunavut. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the items that we're working on to make changes, is that the applicant have some traditional customary laws and community dynamics, family dynamics, the language, the kinship in terms of extended families that will be put into the job qualifications.

We're now basing more on skills knowledge and abilities and responsibilities. So, of course if a person is just coming out of Toronto and a long time northerner were interviewed, based on this, the long time northerner would be preferred if they had the skills to do the job. That's one of the changes we're doing in this new method of job description. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Anawak** (interpretation): Last one. I appreciate the fact that the long time northerner would be preferred but that still does not give any guarantee that he or she will be preferred if the person getting off the plane happens to have some knowledge of the north, knowledge of the culture and tradition of the people up here.

So based on ability, that person having lived up here for 30 years, would stand no better chance than a person getting off the plane unless it's on paper that long time northerners would be given preference over short or people getting off the plane.

So, I still feel there is a need to put something down on paper in order to protect people like our Minister of Health and Social Services, our Minister of Finance, so that they can get jobs better than somebody getting off the plane from Toronto. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the member is concerned and I think our obligation is to the land claims agreement and that's Article 23 or whatever.

We have to have Inuit working in the jobs, but what we're doing is, the job descriptions are going to be based more on merit and abilities and skills and also with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit incorporated.

I think the long time northerners would have a better chance at getting the jobs than a person just coming off the plane. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Human Resources, while they're changing the job descriptions, are they making notes which jobs require use of the Inuktitut language.

For example, there aren't too many government employees who can speak Inuktitut. I know Lucien Ukalianuq from Justice, who is unilingual, Mark Aluaq from Education, they have a very important job that have been recognised.

They don't necessarily need to be bilingual to do their job. Are you collecting that kind of information, for example, jobs that don't require too much writing, for example, George Metuk's job.

Although if you are a unilingual Inuktitut speaking person, you can do that job. And also, my aunts who are unilingual Inuktitut speaking people. Like Japanese people they work on Sony mechanics even though they can't speak any English. They work on vehicles, such as Toyota. I was wondering if the department could start considering if there was a position open, for example, for Public Works, Human Resources Department, if you see the job description, are you making any plans that this job could be taken on by a unilingual speaking person?

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Departments, each Department write their own job descriptions when there is a job opportunity and we look at their skill level and qualification. The Department of Human Resources do not write the job descriptions and the requirements, but we are able to give assistance to the Departments.

But in regards to the question, yes, we can look into that because there are eight hundred job descriptions. During the review of those job descriptions which positions do not require bilingual people and which job descriptions could be taken on by unilingual speaking people. Yes, we can look into that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I forgot to shut off my microphone. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Yes, that is what I am saying, that is my question. That is what I have asked. Can your Department, for example, if the Public Works or the

Department of Sustainable Development, if they wanted to get a Renewable Resource Officer in Igloolik and that they need to go through the training of Environmental Technologies, I do not know what that is, I do not know what a technology is, and they need the Environmental Technology and they should have university level. The Department of Human Resources, would they be able to say: You, the Department of Sustainable Development, why do you not look into this so that they can write the job description?

Even though they may be unilingual Inuktitut speaking people, but providing that they have the experience in the Renewable Resource Officer, whether it be the Department of Sustainable, whether it be the Department of Public Works, whether it be Department of Community Government and Transportation.

If they are going to require a university level for all of the job descriptions because their grandchildren are in Vancouver, they want to bring them to Nunavut, so, they have this kind of idea and especially in Iqaluit, there are quite a few people moving into Iqaluit like when they come from different Provinces and they work in Nunavut and they invite their friends from other Provinces to work.

I was wondering if you can start diverting job descriptions so that we can allow the unilingual speaking Inuktitut people in the workforce. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For example, the Department of Public Works, if they wanted to hire an employee, whether it be the Department of Public Works or Sustainable Department, if they wanted to hire a person, they would write the job qualifications and the description, which is outside of our jurisdiction within our Department.

But the Department of Human Resources can give advice to the Department and that is our mandate. As a Minister, I would like to see a strong Government Mandate given to the Human Resources and remove and like, we can take such recommendations, like take this off and replace it with the current rule or law.

The Department managers have more authority to write job qualifications and descriptions when there is a job opportunity.

We are just advisors as and usually Human Resources just consults and we're just advisors to the departments and we have less authority than the managers or staff. If we can be given the mandate and the jurisdiction to work on these, we would be able to do that. That's part of the problems we experience. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your government you have executive and intergovernmental affairs. This department's function is to have a central control of the government to ensure that all the departments within this government abide by the policies, policy directives.

For example, to make sure that they're utilizing Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. When any department is still helping a policy or a program, education program for example, or legislative proposals that the bills that are before us, the EIA reviews them and determines that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is follow. Make sure it doesn't affect Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit adversely or negatively.

When you have in your department some kind of authority like EIA from the cabinet directing all the departments so that Human Resources department can determine whether the job description requires Inuktitut speakers only for some particular jobs.

I mentioned for example the Justice department had Lucien Ukaliannuk to look through to make sure the justice papers reflects the custom laws, traditional knowledge, etc. etc. Mark Qalluaq from Arviat is working on the curriculum development for the Department of Education do not require English speaking or university degree in Cambridge Bay or elsewhere.

These are the necessities of the jobs that they're holding. I wonder if other, how many other jobs in the government are in a similar situation can we have a watch like your department like EIA, you don't need a university for that job. Rewrite it and keep rewriting it until we the Department of Human Resources like it. Reflect the goal or policy or direction of this government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My department needs to be given authority over other departments for making changes in a job description because right now we have trained staff within the department of Human Resources for reviewing the job descriptions but however, the department manager of the division or the department that have written the job description has the authority to change anything in that job description.

I don't have any authority as the Minister of Human Resources or my staff. We can only advise to make changes in those job descriptions that are written by the departments. If I were given the authority to tell the departments and given the authority to do it to make job changes, the job description changes, I can do it. We can do it in the department.

Right now, the other problem we're having is that the departments are hiring their own casuals. We don't have any control over that. So, of course, non-beneficiaries are getting into reception jobs because Human Resources doesn't have authority over that either.

Sometimes, non-beneficiaries are in those jobs, through a casual appointment for four months, then extended for a year and then get trained that way. If we can get control over job descriptions, not just as an adviser and also have more authority and control of casual hires, mainly in headquarters in Iqaluit, we can get more beneficiaries in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** In this Committee of the Whole, we can ask any minister. Maybe I should be asking the premier of this government if he is open to suggestion to review as to how to enhance opportunities for unilingual Inuit.

Through that suggestion, Human Resources become a, I don't know what you would call them, a watch dog, kind of, responsibility to reflect the article 23 of the land claims agreement. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you asking the question to the premier. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do try to help each other to get more Inuit beneficiaries.

Some times we do appoint Inuit beneficiaries. We're just following these procedures. We're trying to abide with Article 23 and to give the other departments more money in order to abide with Article 23 because we're going to have to try and catch up with Article 23 to have more beneficiaries in the work force within the government.

I don't think we're half ways yet. We still have a very small percentage of beneficiaries working under the Government of Nunavut. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else. We have one minute. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we're talking about job descriptions and job opportunities.

Regardless, if Inuit don't have a university degree or they are unilingual, I'm asking, this is what we're talking about right now. As Members of the Legislative Assembly, the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is trying to be used Government of Nunavut and they do have an Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs making sure, I'm asking the premier, can you consider if you can if you can have a watch dog, making sure that within each departments either Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs or Human Resources, I don't which department, regardless, if he or she doesn't have a university degree, because there are a lot simple jobs that require university degrees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is pleasant to hear. We are trying to look for the best way to find employment for the beneficiaries, the Inuit, the Elders, because the Elders know a lot more, although they are not educated formally because they do know and they are good advisors to us although they do not have certificates or diplomas.

But in accordance to the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Inuit Traditional Knowledge, they are very useful. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): It should not be for pleasure, but it is necessary that we use it. Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to say, I think that it seems that we are talking about people that have not been formally educated I would like to, I can sew, I can make jackets, I can make socks and I can work with beads very well, but I am not a teacher, but as long as a person can sew very well, that person can be teaching at the school.

If a man is a good hunter and be able to make good qamutiks, he or may be not a teacher, but he can teach his own children and grandchildren and Mr. Chairman, this is what we are using today.

We all have grandchildren in schools because they are being taught in Inuktitut at schools. I think there are, I would like to say that more Inuit who are not high school graduates, it seems to be that they used to be in the workforce.

I think each community should be evaluated onto which people would be ideal for this certain kind of a job and if the training is necessary, then give them an opportunity to train them.

For instance, an Elder, regardless if he is Qallunaaq or Inuk because he is an Elder, he is sixty years old. They know how to do counselling very well, sixty-sixty five year olds are very good counsellors. And if some age group like that do not want to be counsellors, they can do something else.

Those are things that I would like to ask the Minister: How a person can become, how they can be evaluated more because due to the fact there are limited jobs available right now.

If I can be clear in making inventory with the people to the Minister to find out about how we can do this properly.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It seems that we are doing an inventory like that in Northern Store or Coral Harbour. Within the Article

23, we have to abide with the Article 23 and get the Inuit into the workforce and the Inuit training should be intact and I think all of the Government Ministers for a given how the Inuit should be trained more, these were our tasks and they are trying to do their best up to date.

Trying to determine who has what abilities in what community is sometimes difficult, there are some people or some communities that may not want to be evaluated on to what skills do they have and what skills they don't have although there are skilled people, qualified people, sometimes very qualified people tend to lose to a person who is not as qualified as he/she.

We are wide open, we are very open to the people, for those people who wants to apply for a certain job. I think the population is about 26 thousand now not counting the children and maybe there is 15 thousand who are under the age of work force and if we can look at because we are very open to the people and who maybe interested in applying for jobs but it would be beneficial to have the community people evaluated onto their skills and with their qualifications. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question. The jobs are advertised through Nunatsiaq News and New North and housing is not provided. When we do have job opportunities they are posted for about two weeks and sometimes to the communities have to wait for about a week or two later because of the fact that the weather is so bad. How does your department notify the other communities that are remote and how often do you let the communities know that there are jobs available?

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

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to that question, because we don't use aircraft, we don't mail, we use faxes or e-mails we send them to the municipalities in Nunavut and the hamlets and the schools post them out and whoever has e-mails can see the job opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask a question. Maybe first of all I like to ask a question for the teachers or other people like nurses or doctors, nurses and teachers especially.

What qualification do they require to work in the community, in the smaller communities? What qualifications are required to tell the teachers and the nurses what qualifications are do you look for?

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



**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They're different. For instance, for a doctor, doctor needs to have gone to university for six years. Maybe for nurses for two years university or to take nursing in the nursing school for two years and then they have to go for further training and it differs depending on what you're trying to become. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For those people who are skilled and qualified within the communities, and they have to be most qualified and they have to graduate in order to get work.

In smaller communities, for carpentry and welding and so on, we have skilled people although they are not fully educated. Even when a person who is fully graduated is working, they're not doing a better job who is under qualified who doesn't have papers because, because they are not a graduate, they reluctant to work.

Some people are reluctant to actually open up and tell them that, okay I can actually do the work but I don't have a certificate or diploma, we have to consider these. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the Education, I think they're in Pangnirtung now, and Rankin Inlet there are Career Development Officers in Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay.

They can ask the people how can we help get you into a career that you would like to enter. If a person wants to become a mechanic, they can go to a career officer. But, then the career officer would then tell their client, we use adult educators to go to each community, or smaller communities and they can talk to the people and they teach how to fill out resumes.

And they teach maybe perhaps with the career development officers maybe we're not notifying the communities enough that there's career development officers. Maybe perhaps they're not doing their jobs probably or they're not known. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will say if I am not sticking to the topic let me know.

There are some jobs available such as working in the fisheries and working in the meat market or the meat processing plant. All those things that could be created in the communities and employ beneficiaries.

These are the types of jobs that could be gained by the beneficiaries. If those were also target of, it's just a comment I'm making about those various other businesses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any comments on that Ms. Minister. No. That's it. Mr. Alakannuark, is that it. Mr. McLean. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one question. When they're reclassifying or redoing these job descriptions, and my colleague across the floor brought it up that I think there should be some substance in non-Inuit that are born in the north and that live and non-Inuit that spend half their adult life up here.

They shouldn't have a priority over Inuit and females and disabled, but they should have a little bit more of a chance of getting a job over somebody that comes off a plane from Toronto, Winnipeg or Vancouver.

I'm not saying a large part, but they should have a little bit because my experience up here as a long term non-Inuit applying for a job before Nunavut is that you get people in the Human Resources Department, and I'm not talking about the current Human Resources Department in Nunavut, but the old Human Resources Department in the Government of the Northwest Territories, that sort of had a chip on their shoulder and they were only in the territory for two or three years looking at a long term northerner and saying you know, this person doesn't have the skills to do the job.

I'm just saying that when you're doing these job descriptions, I'm for a priority rating of Inuit, females, disable, but you know, give the people that have committed to working here from the south and have spent half their adult life or have been born up here, an opportunity to have a job over somebody coming from the south., immediately from the south.

I would like to see that in the job descriptions, or some type of advantage. Or you might already have it now. Is that in there now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** I'll pass it to our premier. He wants to answer it. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Go ahead Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have looked at it legally. It would be difficult because in order for preferential hiring to take effect, there has to be a history of discrimination or a disadvantaged group and we don't have that history here for non-Inuit long time northerners for them to have a preference over anybody else.

So, it would be a potential challenge that way. As the Minister said, there is nothing preventing us from adding on qualifications, preference for experience in the north, in Nunavut in particular, so I think the Minister answered that quite correctly.

But in terms of trying to prioritize it, it would be difficult because for Inuit, we have been disadvantaged and we still are and it's quite easy to defend a court challenge in those circumstances. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I still have some names on my list. Two people. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Premier already gave us information and the job descriptions are going to be written and changed and we're not going anywhere with this at this time, but what we're saying to the department is for them to go ahead and write the job descriptions at this time.

We have a lot of other things to do and it's almost 6:00, so I would like to say, if we can just work until 6:30. Does it have to a motion Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. The member is asking if we can report progress at 6:30. Agreed. Okay. We will do that. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Just to let the members know to not make too much of comment because you already made some general comments. Ask your question. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, as Nunavummiut, I would like to also make a statement because I'm Inuk and I am limited in my education and I have not gone through a formal education as high as I can go but I just wanted to congratulate the people or the department that are there at the witness table who are Nunavummiut and the minister and her officials.

I know that you have parents as well and you have knowledge of Inuit Qaujimaqatugangit, not all but some. I think you understand the Inuit way of doing things. Also when we talk about Inuit Qaujimaqatugangit we have to try to make it into a reality. A written, solid reality, not just to talk about it. As Canadian citizens that live in the arctic I just wanted to mention that.

I respect the people. I respect the schools and I respect the learning centres because they teach the Inuit people in the communities. But for those people that have not had any education they have to, we have to start giving them jobs.

Like I'd like to be able to speak my piece as well Mr. Chairman. For example, Inuit Qaujimaqatugangit has been used by the Canadian Forces already. We could use that as an example because that's what they do is they are taught by Canadian Rangers when they go out to do their exercises out on the land.

I would like to ask the minister a short question. Whenever we have been a government for about four years and the Inuit people that don't speak English could write Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun.

If we were to go to a community hall here in Baker Lake, Gjoa Haven or Kugluktuk where ever we go there are signs in English and there is hardly Inuktitut written signs in those areas. We have to be able to use Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and have signs like that.

So, my question to the minister is, like the Canadian forces have been using Inuit at arctic rangers for a long time now for their survival skills in their exercise. So, according to Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit we could put signs in the community halls that are just all in Inuktitut.

See if they can utilize those people, those people that could write Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun to hire them to write science for people that do not even know how to speak English. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I just want to let the Members know or remind the Members that we are talking about 126-1(6) Minister Statement, job descriptions and reviewing the job descriptions. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We want to be able to utilize more of the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit that is why we are rewriting the job descriptions to make it easier for the Nunavut beneficiaries to be able to acquire jobs with the Government of Nunavut.

And maybe I misunderstood the Member, but as far as I understand the Minister's question is that there should be more Inuit hired to do what they know in the Inuit language.

There is also people that could train the unilingual people and there are also people that can teach a course in Inuit traditions and or they can be the Inuit as counsellors. My staff can provide trainers to give orientation to people that are coming from the South that are getting into positions here in Nunavut Government.

I would like to be able to respond to the Minister in a proper way, maybe I did not respond to him in a proper manner. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I do not want to rush the Members on this topic of job descriptions, but we have to be mindful of the time, because tomorrow we have a meeting at 9 o'clock and the charter planes have already been ordered and we have a schedule to meet tomorrow.

I realize that it is not very good if we have to rush. I just want to remind the Members that they already had ten minutes for general comments. At this time, it is time for the

questions from the Members. So, I just wanted to remind them that. Thank you. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, for those people that have not had a formal training, there is a Department that deals with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit according to the Bathurst Mandate and we have social workers in the communities that have been working for about seven to ten years in each community and they are still using the policies and the manuals or directives of the or the manuals of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

And they have to follow certain Legislations whereby they take away children because of the job that they have to do. And this type of job that the social workers have in taking away children hurts the family members, but my question is: Is there a way that we could have a social worker in a social worker's office even though they do not have a diploma they know the community members and the Inuit ways of doing things, to do the work of a social worker. I just wondered if that had been considered. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The individual who will be working, I'm trying to get clarification, would that individual be orientating an Inuit culture and values. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): I'm not talking about teachers but I'm talking about individuals who live in the community and are already an Inuk. For example, in Gjoa Haven, there are unilingual speaking people who are 55 years.

If we hire them for the social worker position, would that be allowed? Would they allow an Inuktitut unilingual speaking person to fill the position because we need to use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit?

You don't necessarily have to go through official education or you don't necessarily need university level to hire those in the community level. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Now I understand.

Yes, I alluded to that at first. The department, when they are opening job positions, they don't go through Human Resources. We don't write their job descriptions or qualifications.

The social workers, like the elder advisor, who would work with the social workers is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health and Social Services. It's that department that writes the job descriptions and the qualifications.

It's not our department that does that. Each department writes their job descriptions and qualifications. For example, for the Department of Sustainable Development, if they wanted a renewable resource officer, we don't write their job description, it's the Department of Sustainable Development that writes their job descriptions and qualifications and they give it to the Department of Human Resources and then in turn the Human Resources Department reviews the job description and the qualifications and then we make suggestions and advise them but we have no authority or power so therefore, they don't listen to our advise and that's what has been happening within this process.

And we have no authority within the Department of Human Resources. Although we are responsible for Human Resources and it's the departments that open job descriptions and qualifications.

As I was saying before, I feel that the Department of Human Resources should be given more authority to write the job descriptions and qualifications because our department now, just gives advise to the departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you. If this was resolved, I'm sure that we wouldn't be sitting here and discussing job descriptions but this requires some improvement in order to better serve Nunavummiut. That's why we're deliberating on job descriptions.

I would like to expect to see, yes, we expect to see that the government Ministers who hold these portfolios should be sensitive to our needs and requests. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): That was just a comment. I have no more names. Last name on my list. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the comments from the members are very good and the premier and the Minister are responding very clearly. Now I understand that the Department of Human Resources policy has not changed since we created Nunavut Government and we have not changed the policies for Human Resources.

I would like to say, rather than asking question. I would like to move a motion that the Department of Human Resources, I know that as Nunavummiut how perhaps strike a committee that could review the job descriptions.

If I can make a motion in regards to that because the beneficiaries only the beneficiaries should necessarily have a lawyer and just Nunavummiut look into this and find out what

the views of members are whether we need to change the policy or not. If we need to change that then we can make an informed decision even though we make long comments but the employees or staff will follow the criteria or policies because the officials have to follow the policies or regulations so they could apply or do things legally.

Perhaps the Nunavut Government, we are the Government, why don't we look at Human Resources, why don't we strike up a committee that will review the rules or the acts. I don't know when the appropriate time would be to move that motion.

I would suggest that to the minister and the premier. My question is to all them. How would the procedure be if I wanted to do that?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee that is responsible, I have not appeared before the Standing Committee because I just held, this portfolio is quite new but what we hear from around this meeting we'll try to initiate them and the premier is in support, we will, the ministers, the cabinets will have a retreat in Sanikiluaq and that's part of our agenda for that retreat.

I would prefer to go by way rather than coming up with a new policy or regulations I have not even seen the Standing Committee. I would prefer to appear before the Standing Committee first. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): It's clear Mr. Iqaqrialu, do you have a question?

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's clear, she responded to me very clearly. I was just wondering would you have the power and authority as the Department of Human Resources to rectify some of the issues that we have raised. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have the authority. We are the Government of Nunavut. Yes, we have been given the mandate and I'm sure that we're going to act on your concerns and the issues that have been raise. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I have no more names on my list. Mr. Anawak. Please make it brief.

**Mr. Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, very briefly, I just wanted to ask a short question because I forgot to ask a question when I was questioning the minister in regards to the Aboriginal people or the beneficiaries of Nunavut. I have

adopted children aboriginal and they cannot be enrolled to Nunavut or they cannot be beneficiaries.

What about those individuals who are not beneficiaries, what if they have been raised, although they are Inuit from Nunavik area, will they be treated the same as the individuals coming from the Southern Provinces?

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

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we can consider that also. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else? Do you agree that the Minister Statement 126-1(6) is complete? Thank you. Ms. Thompson, are you finished? Are you going to be making any closing remarks? What is the wish of the committee?

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not even raise my hand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue on with Bill 34, 38 and 39. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Premier do you have opening comments? Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have brief opening comment to make. It is my pleasure to appear before this Committee, Mr. Chairman, to speak about the amendments on The International Sale of Goods Act, which I introduced to the Legislative Assembly on March 28, 2003 and which received second reading that day that it was referred to this Committee.

Nunavut has much to gain from active participation in international trade. I believe that this amendment is necessary to keep Nunavut in step with other jurisdictions in matters relating to such trade.

(interpretation ends) Our current International Sale of Goods Act, which was duplicated for Nunavut at the time of division is outdated and lacks certainty and efficiency. The principle objective in amending this Legislation is to unify International Sales Law in order to eliminate disparities and facilitate the smooth flow of commerce for Nunavut.

We are a new territory, but already there is a growing interest in the world community in the uniqueness we have to offer both in terms of commodities that we can make available as well as the ones we seek to import from others. This trend is likely to continue in the future.



The limitation convention and an amended limited convention, which are included in this amendment provide for a legal process for the adjudication of the disputes that involve international contracts for the sale of goods between states that are parties to these conventions.

(interpretation) Failure to proceed with this important amendment will have the effect of Nunavut being out of step with various jurisdictions in matters relating to economic activity and commercial development.

It would be a mistake to inhibit the potential for such development for Nunavut. These are my opening comments. I will be pleased to respond to any questions that Members of the Committee may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Will you be bringing your Officials to the Witness Table? Please bring your Officials to the Witness Table.

Thank you, for appearing before the committee. Could you introduce your official please? Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, to my right is my deputy for the Department of Justice, Nora Sanders. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Welcome. The chairman of the committee, do you have any opening comments. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the standing committee Ajauqtiit reviewed Bill 34, to Amend the International Sale of Goods Act.

Mr. Chairman, we have no concerns in regards to this Bill. Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recommends the passage of Bill 34 and my committee was very pleased with this Bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Bill 34, an Act to Amend the International Sale of Goods Act.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 1. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 2. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 3. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 4. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 5. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 6. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 7. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 8. Agreed? Turn the page.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 9. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 10. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 11. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 12. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 13. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): The Bill as a whole, do you agree? Do you agree that Bill 34 is ready for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you as well.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): And you too, Thank you. What is the wish of the committee? Ms. Williams.

**Ms. Williams** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to move onto Bill 38, Supplementary Appropriation. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are you in agreement. Does the Minister have any comments? Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Yes Mr. Chairman, thank you. We've appeared before the committee today to discuss Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 2003/2004. Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the supplementary appropriation act is to allow the Government of Nunavut to carry over \$29 million, 386 thousand dollars in capital projects from the 2002/2003 fiscal year to this current fiscal year.

This approval will allow for projects that were in progress to continue this year. In addition, an amount of \$2 million, 294 thousand dollars is required for the replacement of the Chesterfield Inlet Residential Care facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you for coming down. Can you introduce your official please?

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, appearing for the first time as the new Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of Finance, to my left is Mr. David Akeagok. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Does the Committee have anything to say? No. Bill 38. Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 2003/2004 do you have the same copy?

You can start page 4. Capital estimates, not previously authorized. This \$77 thousand dollars has not been previously authorized. Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not a real question but there is an error in Inuktitut. The Inuktitut version will have to be corrected.

Under \$77 thousand it says that the government it says Naujait when it should say Kiinaujait and therefore should be understood properly. That's all I wanted to say. There are corrections to be made in Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Questions. It'll be corrected. Are you in agreement with page four? Turn the page five. Human Resources. Not previously authorized. Directorate. \$150 thousand. In agreement? Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I just noted on the first page that we just agreed to on this one then the other ones it says, the net effect in government operations will be nil, that this funding has been transferred from prior years capital appropriation.

I was wondering the minister can indicate what capital projects didn't happen. Where did this money from? It was from prior year's capital. Was that just left over money that wasn't spent? Or what projects that didn't happen as a result.

Because I know we approved previous year's capital and expected all to be done so if this money is coming from then, then which projects aren't going to be done as a result of this money being transferred. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the capital carry overs are the same projects that have been approved last that the portions of it might not have been completed for whatever reasons is being brought forward to the current year to finalized. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else on page 5? Total Department. \$150 thousand. Are you in agreement? Turn the page. Not previously authorized. Justice. Capital. Not previously authorized. \$177 thousand. Community Justice and Court Services, \$177 thousand.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Community Justice and Corrections, I am sorry, they are not written down properly. Community Justice and Corrections, \$142 thousand. Total Justice and Corrections, \$142 thousand.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There are some errors, I do not think I will be able to read them properly in the Inuktitut version. \$319 thousand dollars. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Page 7. Public Works and Services, Capital, not previously authorized, Technical Services, \$614 thousand dollars, questions? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Technical Services, \$614 thousand, are you in agreement?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Petroleum Products Division, \$3 million, 870 thousand, questions?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Department with Petroleum Products, \$3 million, 870 thousand dollars.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total, Department, \$4 million, 484 thousand, are you in agreement?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Carried. I am just looking over them. Department of Community Government and Transportation, Capital, not previously authorized, Community Government, \$11 million, 795 thousand, are you in agreement?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Community Government, \$11 million, 795 thousand dollars, are you in agreement?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Department of Community Government and Transportation, not previously authorized, I am sorry, Transportation, I thought it was Housing. \$3 million, 43 thousand dollars.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Transportation, \$3 million, 43 thousand dollars.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Department, \$14 million, 838 dollars, agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Turn the page. Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, not previously authorized, Directorate, \$143 thousand, questions? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Directorate. is not written out properly. \$136 thousand dollars. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): I think that \$143 thousand dollars, they were going to make renovations to the Trigram building, and staff would move in. Why weren't the improvements done, Mr. Ng, to the Trigram Building? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in fact they have moved in but in there is some residual work that hasn't been completed yet and that's the reason for the need for the carry-over Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to go back to \$136 thousand dollars for heritage; it doesn't specify which community it's going to. What community is it going to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I don't have this specific information. It's a specific community heritage project, program under Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. I don't know if the Minister has more detailed information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Without understanding it, I don't want to approve it. Because if it's going to be distributed to different communities, then I would approve it, but without understanding it properly, I wouldn't want to approve it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Who is going to respond? Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure if it's specific to heritage centre programs where they, based on applications, disperse the funding or not. I think from the reading on it, that's what the case may be. It's not specific to a project per se.

It's not targeted money, not to a specific community but to communities throughout Nunavut. So if we don't approve it, obviously there would be less available to communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. To my understanding, are you saying that this money will be distributed to all the communities.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't say it's going to all the communities or to one community. What I'm saying is that it's in the pool, in the program based on accessibility and based on the evaluation of proposals that come forth, that Culture, Language, Elders and Youth would disperse this funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Without properly understanding it, although it's supposed to be for heritage, for a museum, can we delete this before we approve it and we can get back to it with the proper understanding of where the money is going with heritage? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to make a clarification. I'm glad that they're back here because they didn't go ahead because of the different projects. It will be for different projects. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Which areas? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): I'm sorry. I cannot specify where it's going to because I don't have the papers in front of me because this had already been pre-approved. I'm sorry I cannot elaborate on it, I just wanted to, that \$136 thousand dollars was for different projects. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm reluctant to approve what we're talking about and what this money is going to be specifically used for because it doesn't specify what they're going to be used for, what kind of project it's going to be used for.

It's kind of scary. I'm reluctant to approve it. When are we going to find out exactly where this money is going to? When is it going to be specified where it's going to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you want to respond, Minister Kilabuk. No. Minister Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can make a commitment that once Culture, Language, Elders and Youth has the money identified of where it's going to go, I can advise members prior to dispersal of those funds. I would think if they've had the application process under review, it wouldn't be that far away now given that we are almost into ordering season.

Let's remember here, we're talking smaller projects. I mean, \$136 thousand dollars. Their total capital, even after this carry over \$400 thousand dollars. I means it's not like we're building one cultural centre in one community. They're small pots that are going to go to different organizations to help out heritage organizations, elders, etcetera. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe Mr. Iqaqrialu and I and the government are probably misunderstanding each other.

What Mr. Iqaqrialu is trying to say is that he doesn't really understand, the response would be that this is just a carry over from last year. That's all it is. Maybe he just misunderstood it. That's all. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand now, from James's explanation.

But \$136 thousand dollars is still a lot of money when you come from a small community. In the smaller communities, we receive about \$40-50 thousand dollars and \$136 thousand dollars is a lot of money. Will we get more information as to which communities it is going to be distributed to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any more questions on this page. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.



**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total heritage. \$136 thousand dollars. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Community programs, \$89 thousand dollars. Agreed. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. \$89 thousand dollars, carried over of the community elders' center project. What stage are they at, at this time with the elders center. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe this would probably into the same category as the one we just discussed and that it's a contribution program. The money wasn't spent. They're bringing it into this current year to allow them to spend it and yes once we have the information similar to the other one I will provide that to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that there is not going to be any projects or programs for the smaller communities but it'll probably go directly to places where they have elders centres.

Would you be able to give us information on which communities or the centres that this pot of money goes to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Anything else? Total community programs. \$89 thousand. Agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Department or total Community Programs. \$89 thousand.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Department. \$368 thousand agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Turning to page 11. Department of Education. Capital. Not previously authorized. Corporate Services. \$3 million, 239 thousand. Questions. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Corporate Services. \$3 million, 239 thousand. Agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Department \$3 million, 239 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Turning to page 12. Department of Health and Social Services. Capital Not previous authorized. Directorate. \$7 million, 212 thousand. Questions. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Directorate. \$7 million, 212 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Department. \$7 million, 212 thousand. Agreed? Sustainable Development. Capital. Not previously authorized. Program development and delivery. \$993 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Program Development and Delivery. \$993 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total Department. \$993 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Turning the page to page 3. Going back to page 3. Capital. Not previously authorized. Total, \$31 million, 680 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Bill 38. Supplementary Appropriations in your binder,

Supplementary Appropriations Act No. 1, 2003, 2004. Turning to page 1, bill 38, Supplementary Appropriations Act No. 1, 2003, 2004. Page 1, clause 1, agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 2. Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 3. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 4. there is a schedule. Vote 2, capital on Page 2. Capital, Total Supplementary Appropriation, \$31 million, 680 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Total. \$31 million, 680 thousand. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Going back to Page 1, Clause 4. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 5. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 6. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 7. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Does the Committee agree to the Bill as a whole. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you agree that Bill 38 has been concluded with and is ready for Third Reading, agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. What is the wish of the Committee? Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): We would like to continue with Bill 39.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Bill 39. Does the Speaker have Opening Comments for Bill 39? Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd also like the Clerk to join me. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to have the opportunity today to appear before the Committee of the Whole to introduce Bill 39, an Act to Amend the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act.

Mr. Chairman, as all Members are aware, this House passed the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act during the early part of 2002. At that time, many Members took the opportunity to speak out on the issue of how best to ensure that our system of Members' Remuneration attracts good people to public office.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate a point made during our deliberations at that time. There are many independent commissions and bodies have pointed out over the years, the position as an elected Legislator is unique in our country. It is a unique job with unique responsibilities, demands and burdens.

I am confident that Members will agree with me today when I say that it is vital that the people who choose to make the sacrifice adherent to serving in public office should not be unduly penalized for their commitment to the well being and success of their communities.

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to make it clear that the changes to the Legislation today will not result in any increases to the amounts to which Members may be eligible. Rather, it provides enhanced flexibility for Members to choose the options that best fit their circumstances and those of their families.

Mr. Chairman, we all know that making the transition back to private life is never easy. I believe that this is a fair initiative that provides a measure of security for former members and their families and it is an appropriate reflection of our commitment to ensuring that the best of our communities continues to view public office as a worthy and viable goal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't know the person who is sitting next to you. Could you please introduce him for the record please, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For those that don't know Mr. Quirke, this is John Quirke, Clerk of the assembly to my right and to your left.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome speaker and clerk. General comments. If there are no general comments, questions from the members. If there are no more questions, do you want to go clause by clause.

Bill 39. An Act to amend the Supplementary Retiring Allowance Act. Page, 1. Clause 1. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 2. Comments. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 3. Comments. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 4. Comments. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 5. Comments. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 6. Agreed? Turning to page 3. Clause 7. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 8. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 9. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Clause 10. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Opposed. Carried. Bill 39, as a whole. Agreed? Do you agree that Bill 39 is ready for third reading. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to thank the Speaker and the Clerk for appearing before us. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): I move that we report progress.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress. Do you agree?

**Speaker:** Item 20: Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman. Mr. Puqiqnak.

### **Item 20: Report of Committee of the Whole**

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the committee has been considering Minister's Statement 126 – 1(6) and would like to report that Minister's Statement 126 – 1(6) is concluded, Bill 34, 38 and 39 are ready for third reading.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder for the motion? Mr. Picco seconds that motion. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Item 21: Third Reading of Bills.

### **Item 21: Third Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 34 – An Act to Amend the International Sales of Goods Act – Third Reading**

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Mut'na, Mr. Speaker. Seconded by the honourable member for Hudson Bay, that Bill 24, and Act to Amend the International Sale of Goods Act be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Just for the record, that is Bill 34, not 24. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 34 has had third reading. Item 21. Third reading of Bills. Mr Ng.

#### **Bill 38 – Supplementary Appropriation Act (Capital) No 1. 2003/2004 – Third Reading**

#### **Bill 39 – An Act to Amend the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act – Third Reading**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move seconded by the honourable member for Rankin South/Whale Cove that Bill 38, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 2003/2004 and Bill 39, An act to Amend the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 38 and Bill 39 has had third reading. Item 21. 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 to members that there is a Canadian North square dance and feast at the community centre starting tonight at 7:00. Orders of the day for Friday, June 6:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
  - Motion 26-1(6)
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Minister's Statement 164-1(6)
  - Minister's Statement 167-1(6)
  - Tabled Document 117-1(6)
  - Tabled Document 118-1(6)

20. Report of Committee of the Whole.

21. Third Reading of Bills.

22. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. In accordance to the authority provided to me by motion 2-1(6), this House stands adjourned until Friday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House Recessed at 18:55 p.m.*



