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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday October 24, 2003

Members Present:

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Jack Anawak, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irgittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Hon. Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Mr. Patterk Netser, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Ed Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Hon. Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Rebekah Williams.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker: I would like to call on Ms. Williams to say the prayer this morning.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Good morning. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Ng.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 189 – 1(6): Informatics Improvements

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Good morning, my constituents and colleagues and family.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, we live in an electronic age. Computer help speed up communication between the Government of Nunavut employees, and they also assist the Government of Nunavut in its service delivery to Nunavummiut. This fast paced technology is changing daily and the Department of Public Works and Services Informatics Division is working hard to keep the Government of Nunavut systems at its best.

In 2003 we are upgrading the Government of Nunavut's entire IT network infrastructure from Windows NT to Windows 2003. This will result in improved performance and better system management. There will also be the benefit of costs savings and network administration.

Mr. Speaker, with the use of advanced techniques in Firewalls and security measures, the Government of Nunavut has been able to handle a number of computer viruses and network attacks better than many other governments and large organizations.

In addition to protecting the Government of Nunavut's system, we are concerned about protecting the Government of Nunavut's employees. This is why, Mr. Speaker, we are addressing the unwanted junk e-mail (spam) that is received daily by government employees. Over the next couple of months we will have a filter put in place that will automatically eliminate about 75% of this spam. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Minister's Statement 190 – 1(6): Education Responds to Community Needs

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. Mr. Speaker, one of the visions in the Bathurst Mandate is to base education on community needs. As Minister responsible for Education, I personally met with representatives from every District Education Authority over the past few months.

Mr. Speaker, these meetings were valuable. We need to hear from the communities. We need to ensure that programs and services maximize opportunities for Nunavummiut.

The Department of Education will ensure that the roles and responsibilities of the District Education Authorities and the school administration are clearly defined.

Mr. Speaker, I also heard the District Education Authorities address the need for a consistent level of education across the territory. The District Education Authorities want the student achievements raised based on the highest possible standards of excellence.

Mr. Speaker, to achieve this we must begin to collect the data. We must agree on the desired outcomes and we must develop realistic expectations. We must also ensure we have a process to continually monitor and assess the impact of our programs and services.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, in order to fulfill our commitment to raise standards and to fulfill our obligations under the decentralized model of education, the Department of Education has created eight positions that are to be located in Pangnirtung.

I'm pleased to announce that these positions will work in the area of programs monitoring and assessments. Through dedicated program monitoring and assessment the Department of Education will be able to provide vital information to maximize programs and services for our students.

Mr. Speaker, the communities identified their needs to strengthen education in Nunavut. I look forward to working with the District Education Authorities to improve education across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Minister's Statement 191 – 1(6): Breastfeeding Week Competition Results

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you and good morning, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on October 4th, there were gatherings in nine Baffin communities to celebrate breast feeding. There was a competition, a challenge, to determine which community could gather the most women breast feeding at the same time.

At 11:00 am on October 4th there were a total of sixty three babies in those communities breast feeding. Mr. Speaker, this number helped Nunavut place second in the national breast feeding competition and I congratulate all the women who participated.

>>*Applause*

Mr. Speaker, the winners for the Baffin Breast Feeding Contest were in Pond Inlet in category one, which is a large community with a total of fifteen mothers breast feeding and Grise Fiord, Mr. Speaker, in category two, a small community, with a total of five mothers breast feeding.

They are to be congratulated. The winners for the Breast Feeding Story Writing Contest were in first place, Madeleine Adams from Iqaluit, second place Sabrina Komangapik from Pond Inlet, and in third place Caroline Ipeelie from here in Iqaluit.

National Breast Feeding Week is celebrated across Canada. Mr. Speaker, the competition is coordinated by the Quintessence Foundation. Activities in Nunavut communities were planned by an advisory group consisting of QIA representatives, Community Health representatives, Canadian Pre-Natal Nutrition workers and elders and community members.

I was joined at the contest and fellow judge by John Lamb the CEO of NTI and Thomasie Alikatuktuk of QIA who is the President, and I would like to thank them for their support of this important event.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that Members join me in congratulating the winners and in recognizing all contest participants for their role in the healthy practice of breastfeeding. The fact that continues to be the number one choice of Nunavummiut is something we should all be proud of and this morning, we've distributed some breastfeeding t-shirts, smaller sizes for their grandchildren and larger sizes for yourself and special one for Minister Thompson.

>>*Laughter*

And the only reason that was Mr. Speaker was that we had two large ones left. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the women of Nunavut for continuing an excellent tradition of breastfeeding, which we all know is the best for our children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Ministers' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 631 – 1(6): Successful Search in Gjoa Haven

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the Members that we had a hard time in the community of Gjoa Haven last week. They were searching for an individual who was on the land, but we heard yesterday that the search was successful and I congratulate my community for a successful search and rescue.

I'm very proud of them. Even if the weather is bad or when the weather is clear they have been able to complete their search activities. I would also like to congratulate the individuals who were involved in the search.

I would like the Members to join me in congratulating them. The young person had survival skills and was able to stay alive and I would like to say thank you to his parents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Member's Statements. Mr. Havioyak

Member's Statement 632 – 1(6): Celebration in Kugluktuk

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and to all the Members of House for all the success of celebrations that took place this summer, July 9 to 15th in Kugluktuk. Mr. Speaker, over the last year, I have stood in this House more than once to promote the tenth anniversary since the signing of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement in Kugluktuk.

The anniversary was celebrated with singing, dancing and traditional Inuit games, including good woman and good man events. Uqaqtii, some of the games have not been played in decades. This was an excellent opportunity for elders to share their knowledge with the youth.

Uqaqtii, representatives from across the circumpolar world from Greenland, Nunavik and N.W.T. took part in competitions. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the Alaska delegation was unable to attend. Their participation was missed.

Uqaqtii, earlier we discussed our fear of losing our culture and language. Mr. Speaker, I was encouraged by this celebration. Your records will prove our traditional games are still alive and are vigorously pursued.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank all the volunteers, especially Mr. Bernard and the Inuit circumpolar games organization, and in particular, the people of Kugluktuk. Without volunteers, this event would have not have been possible.

Uqaqtii, I would also like to thank First Air, the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth and the Department of Community Government and Transportation, and all the other sponsors who made this event a success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 633 – 1(6): Ed Picco's Musical CD

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on this Friday, which is usually reserved by tradition for lighter and funnier statements, to comment on a very serious rumour that has rocked the community, and indeed Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, it is true that this Member has ventured into the recording industry. I can confirm that I recently recorded a two compact disk compilation of some of my favourite songs. The CD has been largely anticipated, Mr. Speaker, and has been much in demand.

Recently, when I debuted the CD with our newly elected Mayor of Iqaluit, and several Iqaluit residents including Pauloosie Nujaliaq, Brian and Jimmy Twerdin, and Minister Thompson's husband Tom, they were speechless.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I played it on the van stereo and Mr. Thompson, within 30 seconds, had to pull off the road as the CD had affected his driving so much. He commented that he had not heard anything like it before. Mr. Speaker, many of my Colleagues here know that I love to sing, and they will be pleased when I make copies and present it to them as early Christmas gifts in the coming weeks.

But, don't take my word for it, Mr. Speaker, on how good this CD really is. Here are some of the reviews that have already come in, I like to quote. Mr. Speaker, the American Music World Weekly magazine says, "Ed Picco is certainly unbelievable. It has to be heard to believe."

The North American Top 500 magazine, Mr. Speaker, says, "Ed Picco and his group cannot have planned such a musical debut." Mr. Speaker, overseas in Europe, the European Music Montly says, "Ed Picco's CD is out of this world, or any world musical experience."

Mr. Speaker, the album has debuted on the European top 500 and as soon as I can get a North American distributor, it will be available here in Canada and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the buzz is recently in Nashville, the music capital of the world, about our excellent role model, Jordin Tootoo. Patricia Bell from CBC, covering the games for CBC North could not believe the buzz around the debut of this CD in Nashville, the music capital of the world.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I have met the Queen and Prince Phillip, Hollywood actors, Brooke Shields, I played hockey with Ken Dryden and Ron McLean, but Mr. Speaker, the release of this CD, which was made in fun for my wife and kids is something I hope that they will remember and will have for many years to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter, applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 634 – 1(6): Meeting in Igloolik

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the weather is good today, I will be travelling to Igloolik and I would like the Igloolik residents to know about that and also when I get there, we will hold our meeting on Sunday 2:00 in the afternoon in Igloolik and I just want to warn them ahead of time so that they can think about what their issues are and also, I would like to say I feel for the people of Hall Beach.

But first of all, we have to; I would like to talk a bit about how we should be proud of ourselves because the way we live is quite amazing. As a male person, nobody is just like me in the whole wide world. Among the billions and billions of population who live in the world, yet I belong to them, too.

I have a life, I have feelings, I have emotions and those emotions and everything else in life has been given to us and it is awesome and I cannot feel anybody else's feelings and nobody else can feel my feelings.

If we want to live a healthy life, we try to live healthy every day, but I am very proud to see that we have been given knowledge, such as I have the knowledge that I cannot feel, ever feel my other people's feelings. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement 635 – 1(6): Jordin Tootoo Historic 1st NHL Goal

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is said that if anyone is interested in hearing Mr. Picco's CD, I think it is on the continuous replay in his office; it is always

there and it is clear that he has not figured out a way to get it quite through the whole building, otherwise there would be a mass evacuation of the building. Maybe he is getting a rough time in Committee of the Whole, if they put it on they will have to evacuate.

Mr. Speaker, as we know today is Friday and it is time for some good news. Mr. Speaker, on October 9th of this year, history was made as Jordin Tootoo stepped onto the ice in Nashville, in the game with the Nashville Predators against Anaheim Mighty Ducks.

Mr. Speaker, also another first was made last night when at 5:28 of the first period, when Jordin scored his first NHL goal. I congratulate him on that and many more to come.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, in his first six games, he has three points, two assists, and one goal, as well as a number of his trademark bone crushing checks that he is known for, and Mr. Picco can also attest that is something that runs in the family. I remember one time that he ran into me on the ice and fell right over. The surprised look on his face was quite enjoyable to watch, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, and as the Premier indicated, there are a number of hardcore Nunavut hockey fans who went down to Nashville on their own dime, a couple of weeks ago to watch Jordin's debut. Mr. Speaker, in my estimation there was anywhere from sixty and eighty people from Nunavut. There were people that came down from Alaska, the east coast, the west coast, Manitoba, and Ontario, came down specifically to watch Jordin's debut.

I went down and was extremely pleased to be there. The hospitality and the warmth that we received by the people of Nashville was just incredible. I extended a warm welcome to them if they want the same kind of hospitality to come and visit us here in Nunavut. I have a feeling that one gentleman, by the name of Bob Wolf, I convinced him to come up and visit to our fine territory.

Mr. Speaker, another first happened in Nashville when we were down there.

I seek unanimous consent to conclude my Statement.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his Statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. I was saying that another first occurred down there. The Mayor from Rankin Inlet, Mr. Lorne Kusugak, was down there, Louis Tattuinee, was down there as well. It was great to see them. Lorne performed another first down there. I think that it was the first time that Inuktitut was sung on the streets of Nashville down there. It was again another first I think. We will not say anything about the Newfienese that was sung down there, Mr. Picco. Probably not a first.

Mr. Speaker, in the interest of transparency I would like to take this opportunity to share with you and other Members, a few facts that the TV cameras did not reveal that night. Mr. Speaker, as you know the Minister of Health and Social Services is fond of new things, new hospitals, new health centres, new telehealth facilities, new expeditions. However, Mr. Speaker, I was quite shocked to see that the Minister also has a fetish for new Zambonis. This is something that I thought that only Mr. McLean has, given his admirable support for Recreational Facilities for Baker Lake and other communities.

Mr. Speaker, we know that the Premier is representing Nunavut on the national stage today, so I think that it is safe to reveal something. He had better not try to solve any inter-jurisdictional issues on the golf course. Mr. Speaker, the Premier's recent golf score make the deficit figures that Minister Ng announced this week, look encouraging by comparison.

Mr. Speaker, joking apart, the support demonstrated by Jordin was wonderful. All Members have spoken of the value of role models in the lives of our youth and I know that we are all proud of his success. I would like to ask all Members again to join me in congratulating Jordin, his parents, and his family for supporting him and achieving his goals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 636 – 1(6): Proud of Nunavummiut

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, you will have to excuse me, I have a very bad cold. Mr. Speaker, I too would like to congratulate Nunavummiut. Even though we have faced many, many challenges for many years as a child in the community, our parents, the Inuit parents, such as our grandfathers had worked very hard to survive and I'm very proud of that.

Because we're able, we have survived in Nunavut and have come a long way and now we can govern ourselves in Nunavut.

It seems like we're getting back the way our grandfathers used to govern themselves. At least now we can govern ourselves and I am very proud of Inuit. We have to be very capable even though we are the younger generation to follow suite from our forefathers and also our younger generation are looking up to us and they depend on us. We have to be quite proud of them and we have to be proud of all Nunavummiut. We should be very proud of Nunavummiut even though we have lived in a very challenging environment.

We now live in very different culture and we have been assimilated to a different culture and it has taken a very short time to get accustomed to it. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Are there any further Members' Statements? Moving on to Item 4. Return to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpreter): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize from my community and my constituency, from Cape Dorset, Mayor Mathew Saviakjuk Jaw. I welcome him to the House. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Alakannuark (interpreter): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize a resident from my community. She has been working in the local Housing Authority for many years. She's here for a meeting in Iqaluit and she's long time housing worker. I would like to recognize Tologaknak and her step brother Immanuel; I recognize both of them.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Item 5. Are we still on item 5? We move on to 6. Oral Questions Mr. Iqittuq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 617 – 1(6): Discount Prices on Bad Gas Issue

Mr. Iqittuq (interpreter): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding the fuel planning that I had requested, I know they had said that they will look into the matter now that the results are out and we know about the bad gas, and it was confirmed. I gave the Minister a notice few weeks in advance and his responds was that they had not reviewed the study. Then I found out that they didn't even have to review the result. My question is, that gas that we went through and those who have been bought it at discount prices, is that still possible? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpreter): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recently when he asked, I responded to him that in Hall Beach, the issues that were faced regarding bad gas, we had told him, to date, there are still many questions that require answers, that the Department

of Public Works still has to find out about and that I also responded that we are working with the Risk Management Division and Department of Finance.

We are working with those two divisions to try and deal with this matter, so I can't really say much further today, but I do expect in the near future we will know the next steps will be.

I don't have a response for it today, because we still have a lot of question to answer ourselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister it seems is saying that his officials will deal with it and then he'll respond. That's how I understood his response. Doesn't the Minister have the authority to direct his officials? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister. Mr. Kattuk

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not saying that. I'm going by what my officials are telling me, but I still have directions that I have given to the staff. We're still waiting for an answer, which is what I had said, that there are many questions to be answered. I've directed my officials to look further into the matter; they are dealing with that at this point so I can't respond to him.

And once we have those results then I can back to the Member with the information, Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that when we used the bad gas, samples were sent and they confirmed that it was of poor quality right away and they stopped using it. There are not too many questions surrounding the matter because obviously it's of poor quality.

So my question is because they reduced the cost of that bad gas and they were still selling that gas; the Petroleum Products Division already knows that bad gas was confirmed and so I am asking for those who purchased gas, can they be refunded? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. first of all let me say, that we've never had specific concerns voiced by the residents out of Hall Beach, that there was some damage to their snowmobiles. The only thing we heard about is from this Member. I don't have an answer for you but what I'm trying to say is I will have an

answer for you in the near future, and I don't have an answer for you today, until we find out all the facts surrounding the case. So I'm asking the Member to please be patient. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 618 - 1(6): Update on the Issue of Medivac Contract for the Kivalliq Region

Mr. Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, thank you. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. I would like to ask him what has he done regarding the medivac in the Kivalliq Region, medivac contracts, what is the status of that today? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there has been some more meetings held since the last update that we gave the House earlier; in Baker Lake the topic was brought up at that time.

There has been several regional meetings and I believe there was recently a mayors' meeting in the Kivalliq where the representatives of Keewatin Air actually laying out what was occurring from their point of view.

Right now, Mr. Speaker, the contract is still in place with the Keewatin Air and we are still working with Skyward on the scheduled medical travels. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the problems that we have in the Keewatin was in regards to medical emergency services was the lack of bathroom facilities on the plane that was being used. Are there any plans to ask the carrier to conform to the need for bathrooms? Qujannamiik.

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

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, indeed, that was one of the major areas in the contract itself. It was to improve services to the patients. We dictated in the request for proposals that any flight that was over one hour would indeed have bathroom facilities.

That there was, for example, if you were leaving in one community A and going to community B and that flight was over an hour, and then actually there would be facilities available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Anawak.

Mr. Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am somewhat at a loss; I guess most of the Keewatin communities you can travel by that airplane that they use in less than an hour. However, I think it is the portion from Churchill to Winnipeg, you take longer than that.

So, is there a plan in place to change planes in Churchill, I know that the portion from Churchill to Winnipeg is longer than one hour even though most of the communities in the Keewatin are shorter than that. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what we try to do on the contract is to work with the airlines to ensure that facilities are available and we have talked about it here in this House before where someone needs facilities because they were sick and stay, you know, in light in the situation that they needed bathroom facilities that they would be available on the carrier.

So, I can state to the Member, for example, if a flight was going from Rankin Inlet direct to Winnipeg, there had to be a bathroom on that plane, you know, flights going from Rankin Inlet to Churchill, from Churchill to Winnipeg, a bathroom would have to be on that plane.

And we have specified that logistically as well as administratively in the contract and as our understanding of the last review that was done just recently that that is actually occurring.

We have not had any complaints from any residents or patients from the Keewatin over the last three months concerning facilities on the plane and so on. Indeed, it has actually worked out quite well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 619 – 1(6): Update on the Fisheries Meeting in Ottawa on Quotas

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Sustainable Development. He recently attended a meeting in Ottawa and I think it was televised.

Regarding his meeting in Ottawa, I believe they were talking about fishing quotas. Could he provide some information on why he attended and what the reason was? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning colleagues and the people who are watching on TV. The meeting that I attended in Ottawa

involved the Senators and I was invited to attend the conference to talk about fisheries in Nunavut.

They wanted to get some information on the status in Nunavut and we had met with the federal ministers and to try to get some information from Nunavut Ministers or myself in regards to fishing in Nunavut.

We had a successful meeting and the senators who I met with will be in support of what we want here in the Nunavut region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I understand the Minister's response. But would also like to ask another question.

Has the Minister made any concrete plans or was it just for information purposes for the federal ministers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We understand what we want here in Nunavut in regards to fishing. We would like to work with the Baffin Fisheries Coalition, and they are 100% Inuit owned, we want the federal ministers to recognize that coalition in regards to fishing and that it's an Inuit owned body.

The reason why I went down to Ottawa for that conference was that I wanted to provide information and Mr. Ben Kovic was involved as well, and he is the chairman for the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

Because they are involved in providing quotas for the fisherman here in the Baffin region, this information will be beneficial for the people of Nunavut that I had given when I went to the conference in Ottawa and it was a successful meeting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue of fishing in Nunavut, and the people of Nunavut have been involved on the issue of fishing but they don't have a fishing vessel and the Federal Government has not given us a quota and there's a huge quota given to Newfoundland; I realise the waters belong to all of Canada.

Did they talk about having a fishing vessel and total allowable harvest for Nunavummiut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We mentioned those items that the Member mentioned, also mentioned to the senators, we only get 26% of allowable quota, to use the zones 0A and 1A as an example here in Nunavut.

The 51% that was supposedly given to Nunavummiut became 26% and that's the information I gave to the federal senators and mentioned to them that the other Canadian fishermen get about 80 to 90% or more.

But here in Nunavummiut we have only 26% allowable and then we mentioned that we would like some more support here in Nunavut to get a larger quota for the fishermen of Nunavut.

We wanted to be on the same playing field as the rest of fishermen in Canada, and we talked about the vessels as well for fishermen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the allowable quota and the fishing vessels, the Minister said that he went down there to provide information. Are there any concrete plans or any concrete responses that you have from that federal government in regards to allowable quota for Nunavummiut? Are there any decisions made at that time, about allowable quotas? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned at the beginning the senators that we met with wanted to get some support from the people of Nunavummiut in regards to fishing and allowable quotas.

I can show the Member the topics that I discussed and if Fisheries and Oceans would go before the senators, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans would be able to give information about what the needs are for the people of Nunavut in regards to allowable quotas.

They have reports on what I said during the meeting and this will probably be very useful for the senators to be able to get some information so they can support the people of Nunavummiut in regards to allowable quotas and fishing here in Nunavut. Those are the types of things we talked about but there was no concrete decisions made at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 620 – 1(6): Plan in Place for the 100th Anniversary of Roald Amundsen

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on October 22, during Members' Statements, I mentioned that I would ask the Minister of Sustainable

Development but he was not present and I would like to have the chance to ask him a question.

Last summer they celebrated the 100th Anniversary in Gjoa Haven of Roald Amundsen's voyage. Canada should recognize the north. It was used by the explorers in the 1800s and 1900s. As the elected representative of the people of Gjoa Haven I asked a question to the Minister whether there are any plans in place by the Department of Sustainable Development to continue the anniversary celebrations of that expedition by Roald Amundsen? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Sustainable Development had been involved in that celebration; we have contributed \$70 thousand towards the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of that explorer.

To date we have worked with the community of Gjoa Haven and we have worked with tourism in regards to that celebration that the people of Gjoa Haven took part in last summer. We will continue to support the celebrations that the people of Gjoa Haven will be holding in the future.

We would like to also support this endeavour to recognize what has happened in that community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the Minister responsible for providing support for the 100th year anniversary celebration. Mr. Speaker, I do like to ask another question.

I know that the Department has plans to identify that as a park and as a tourist attraction and he is working with the hamlet council of that community. He has also worked with me.

I know that this is the initial stages and the committee is making plans for this. Did any one of the officials or the Minister say that they could go down to the community to speak to the people? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Yes, we have asked an individual who is directing this program to go down to the community sometime in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You were invited to that community to make sure that you could see the area yourself, but you were unable to make it down to the community, so when do you expect to make it down to the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I would like to apologise to Mr. Puqiqnak for not being able to make it to his constituency, but the government official did make it down to the community.

Premier Okalik has gone down and he briefed me on what happened in that community. I don't know whether we are agreeing to get re-elected or not, but I cannot really give you a concrete answer whether I can come down in the future due to elections. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 621 – 1(6): Rents for Staff Housing

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation which is also responsible for staff housing.

Mr. Speaker, about a year a half ago in May, and then again last March I questioned the Minister on some issues relating to staff housing and rent and conditions of some of the units that are out there.

We know that there are people who have raised concerns that they live in some of the older, more decrepit staff housing units that are out there and they're paying the same rate as people who are put into the new, luxurious units compared to some of the other ones.

Mr. Speaker, we also know that some people are in staff housing but they can't afford not to be in staff housing. They don't have much of a choice; they can't afford a house. You know what the market is like here.

I'd like to ask the Minister if he could assure those people living in staff housing units, especially the older ones, that they will not be seeing their rent increased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Housing. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Speaker, I can't make that assurance today. I can the Member that there is an extensive review of the staff housing rental policy and all

issues surrounding housing; that's underway right now being led by the Housing Corporation and involving all departments and the Interdepartmental Housing Working Group and the plan is to bring forth a new policy to Cabinet in November.

At that time, obviously Cabinet will have an opportunity to debate that and make some amendments to the staff housing rental policies that we have. 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 in May, a year and a half ago, that one of the things that would be taken into consideration in developing the scale, that's been undergoing for quite some time now, it's almost taking as long to do that as it is to develop the staff housing policy.

Is he still going to ensure that the condition and the age of the units, as he had indicated in May would be a factor that would be taken into consideration in assessing the rental rates for those units? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, and other factors such as size of the unit, as well as income levels of the tenant; those are two of the main factors that will be a part of the proposed new Rental Scale Policy. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister had indicated that income levels and things like that will be taken into consideration and I know as the Minister Finance, he is probably quite aware of the subsidy program that was out there where any employee who was paid more than 30 percent of their income towards rent, would be subsidized that difference.

Back last year, the Minister also indicated that they are looking at streamlining and making the rental, staff housing rental stuff and rental housing more streamlined and consistent with each other.

I would like to ask the Minister if 30 percent is still the threshold for the housing subsidy and if it is, is it consistent with the social housing and income levels that are charged for rent, assessed for rent? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is the hardship allowance that the Government of Nunavut still has and that is still in place and of course, as I have indicated and the Member is correct, we are trying to bring the staff housing rent

scales more consistent with the public housing rent scales that we have and we will continue to move in that direction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the Minister has not forgotten those comments that he made last year. Mr. Speaker, knowing that the threshold for the hardship program that the Minister is talking about, 30 percent and knowing that the percentage that is used in the Public Housing Rent Scale is around 21 percent, hopefully we see something like that come into line, more in line with each other so that everyone is treated equally.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister when these effects, these changes where people may see changes in their rent come into effect, when that will happen. I know you had indicated that they are going to be reviewing it in November; is that something that we are going to see happen in this fiscal year?

Is this something that is going to happen in the new calendar year or next fiscal year? When will this happen and will the Members have an opportunity to review that Policy and comment on it prior to it going into effect? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first to correct the Member on the Public Housing Rent Scale; it is up to 28 percent right now. It will be an average of 18 to 20 percent.

But having said that, it is the same things that are more in line and yes, there is no anticipated date for the implementation right now. I can say that it will be fairly implemented.

Individuals will be protected in the phase in and if there are increases for employees and it is way premature right now to be speaking of implementation dates and impact until such time as Cabinet approves the Policy.

Having said that, once it is approved, I will let Members know and give them an opportunity to provide some feedback and input into our new Policies before we put them in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 622 - 1(6): Information Items on Government Subsidies, Grants and Contributions

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister for Sustainable Development, if he can provide a response that is. This is in regard to subsidies in Nunavut, to private businesses and the role of the Nunavut Government in these programs, whether they come from the Government itself or from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated or from Federal Government. Can he tell me how those were used in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In reference to the grants and contributions that are made available for Nunavummiut, we have to know which communities have been allocated grants and contributions and we have to make the CEDOs aware of that.

We try to provide them all the information to the best of our ability. When we provide grants and contributions we provide that information to the Community Economic Development Officers. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpreter): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could he respond to me again? The large already existing companies are given grants and contributions by the government and also by NTI, to provide an advantage for Nunavummiut.

I'm talking about new companies, it seems like they are not being supported financially although they're from Nunavut. They provide support to the larger companies. I was wondering if the Minister can commit to reviewing this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy that the Member from Uqqummiut asked me that question because it gives me an opportunity to inform the public that we have been reviewing the grants and contributions. I think it was last month that we tabled information jointly with the President of NTI, Kathy Towntongie, called 'Nunavut Economic Development Strategy'.

I know it's going to be beneficial to all the communities today and in the future. It will help us to envision what kind of support we'll be required in the future.

We will use the Economic Development Strategy and we will also provide support to the private companies and we have always provided support to date in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpreter): Thank you. It's good to hear the responses of the Ministers when we ask of them. However, it's hard to receive responses that we are seeking. There seem to be barriers within the work place. Can you look at what types of barriers there are that are preventing Nunavummiut from starting up their small businesses? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpreter): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Nunavut it is apparent that there are many grants and contributions given through the Baffin Business Credit Corporation. This is quite beneficial to businesses within Nunavut or those who are starting up small businesses and that is still continuing and I see it as being successful.

It shows through the reports what the progress is of those businesses that are starting up. Our Government Departments also provide grants and contributions and that is something else that helps.

There will always be room to improve with this program that deals with concerns as they come. It would be great to hear and work with those Members on those concerns. Thank you.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response. I would also like clarification regarding your joint release of the economic development strategy with the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated president. Were you also aware the types of programs that are delivered by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and how they benefit the people of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was recently in Ottawa with the Vice President of Finance for NTI, Paul Kaludjak, we met and with the Federal Departments and dealt with the types of delivery of programs and services for small businesses. We outlined the types of services that are offered for Nunavut for small businesses and that we are trying to keep in constant contact so that we do not overlap these services and programs.

It's quite apparent that in the future that we will have a better working relationship which would be of benefit to Nunavut.

I don't have the exact figure of how much Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has contributed in this area; however I do keep in contact with Mr. Kaludjak for future plans in providing these types of services to small businesses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 623 – 1(6): Foster Parents Guideline Handbook

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

I think it was yesterday when the Minister made a Statement regarding foster parents, and that they are coming up with a handbook for foster parents so that Health and Social Services and foster parents are aware of what criteria and guidelines to follow.

I would like to ask him who is compiling these guidelines. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the guidelines are being assembled and put in place by the senior members of the Department of Health and Social Services within our Social Services division. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the response. This handbook that I'm talking about, I was hoping it was done by both the Foster Parents and by the Department and I was hoping that was going to happen.

I would like to further ask the Minister that because they are beginning to do these kinds of things, are they are also thinking about forming a foster parents group in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday when I unveiled the information concerning the handbook for parents, I wanted to also add just a little chance to say that we are still in need of the issue around having more foster parents and lines of questioning like this will help us do that.

Mr. Speaker, there has been some movement towards setting up a Foster Parents Association. We believe it's not the mandate of this government to set the association up; however, after appearance, those who would like to have such an association, I have directed the Department to help facilitate that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I welcome that very much, that foster parents will be supporting each other; I say that because some of the communities don't have a social worker and they have foster parents in place.

They would need a lot of support, regular visits to the school, hospitals, nursing stations and the parents so I think if they have a Foster Parents Group in Nunavut foster parents will increase when they have that organization put in place.

Can I ask the Minister when he thinks this association will be operating? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my wife and I were former foster parents and there was no manual, there was no discussion with us when we were fostering a child.

Indeed, there was very little contact with us with regards to the needs of the child or the regulations and rules involved and that's one of the reasons why we brought forward the manual.

The second issue had been an association for foster parents so that they could actually get together to deal with some of the issues around foster parenting.

What I just said was that we would help facilitate that. We haven't had an official request yet from foster parents but we expect that once we have the manuals distributed, that will be one of the requests coming back and then we would hope to be able to help to facilitate that.

I would suggest to you Mr. Speaker, that we would know, given the next three or four weeks, once the manuals are distributed out into foster parents homes, into their hands, then we'd be able to see what the follow up is on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, I understand. Mr. Speaker, when I was in the Department of Justice, we used to give the alternative homes to offenders to come to meetings to get together to support each other.

Could the Minister commit to bringing the foster parents and go through this handbook together with the Department; maybe at that time they could start to discuss forming an association. Maybe this would be a good way of approaching this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think the Member has a good suggestion. After the session today, during the session most ministerial staff monitor the sessions and the question are being brought forward, including ours. I think that is a great suggestion and that indeed we'll try to facilitate that and see if we can find a common ground and common course for the foster parents as well as the association. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 624 – 1(6): Flying Options in the Kivalliq Region

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm like the brand new breath of a baby so please have patience.

As Jack Anawak stated earlier regarding Kivalliq Air for medical evacuations, when they leave Winnipeg, because it's quite far to go to Coral Harbour, whether it's going to Repulse Bay or Chesterfield Inlet, this aircraft, I was told, although First Air flies into Rankin from Winnipeg, they are rejected when they request to go through that airline and they are told that they can only go through the Kivalliq Air because that aircraft is so small.

It's inadequate, especially for elders when there is no bathroom and it's quite tiresome for these elders to travel through these aircrafts. Patients have requested to travel through First Air, through Rankin Inlet by jet and then to Repulse Bay and Chesterfield where there is not quite such a distance between these communities.

So I am wondering why they don't have the option of flying on the other airlines, on aircraft that is bigger? Why don't they have that option to fly the other airlines? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the first question asked me by the new Member; I'll try to give him a shorter answer.

Mr. Speaker, we did a contract, an RFPs with medical travel across Nunavut and one component was in the Keewatin, the component was for medical emergency travel; that's the medivac; if someone's having an operation and sent out and the other one was scheduled medical travel.

Mr. Speaker, the scheduled medical travel had to contain planes that are suitable to be used, based on the duration of the plane, and number one, patients, for security and as safety as well as example of elders who were uncomfortable the plane had to be large enough, so you weren't dealing with two or three seater planes, for example.

Mr. Speaker, on the issue around why the patients are not allowed on certain planes, that's something that I'll have to follow up and find out for the Member. If the Member could provide me in writing when this occurred or how many patients were involved or any other logistical or administrative information where we could review it.

If that's not the information that has not been given to me by the department, if there is any other information out there, I will deal with it and follow that up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 625 – 1(6): Fuel Spills and Lost Dry Cargo

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister of Department of Public Works and Services.

Mr. Speaker, there was a lot of controversy and talk when the eastern arctic supply for dry cargo, and the government signed new contracts back in January and February of this year. We've just completed our sealift pretty much everywhere in the communities of Nunavut. I don't know if the Minister has heard, but I have heard rumours again and I keep hearing a lot of rumours.

Can the Minister tell me, if in fact it's true that there was a fuel spill and dry cargo being lost and dumped in all the waters around Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk?

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding his question about fuel spills, I've heard it only as a rumour, as well as for the dry goods.

The sealift supply ships are still going into the communities, the season is not complete yet. Once the sealift season has been completed than we'll have a complete review of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On that he's also heard those issues in regards to fuel spills and dry cargo being dropped into waters. I know for a fact in Baker Lake, Sigany Transport dumped a set of forks from a loader in a bucket down at the end of the lake and I don't know what's happening there, but I also heard that there were some fuel spills in this region; by who, I don't know.

If the Minister is not aware of it, can he launch an investigation just to see who is responsible and what the damage was on all issues regarding fuel spills and dry cargo being dropped off ships and barges and tugs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the communities that had those unfortunate circumstances, my colleagues questions regarding the investigation, I will look into the matter so we can prevent it in the future.

What I can say is that I will committee my staff to investigate what the issues surrounding the Baker Lake incidents were and find out other matters if there were any. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad the Minister is going to commit to looking into that issue. Could the Minister also commit, I know it's not a major issue where you have to send people to every community in Nunavut, could he commit to this House to have the information before the sitting of this Legislative Assembly ends in November? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I'll have that information before this session ends. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Last on my list, I have Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 626 – 1(6): Status of Bad Gasoline or Fuel

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Public Works and Services in regards to the fuel that was not adequate. I just wondered if the Minister could tell us what the status of that is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Member tell me which community had experienced bad gas or fuel? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was regarding Repulse Bay. I have asked this question before on what the status of the report is about bad gas in Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have the information at this time about the problem that occurred in Repulse Bay. I just want to

state to the Member that I will look into his question and get back to him as soon as I can. At this time I don't have the information so I would like to apologize to the Member for not having the information. I will respond to the Member before the end of the session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to have unanimous consent to go back to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent go back to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors of the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Mr. McLean.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No I'm not going to recognise Mr. Edward Picco, the greatest singer in Nunavut and country and western today but I would like to compliment him on his CD and I'll probably have to listen to it one evening.

But Mr. Speaker on a serious note, I would like to recognise a young person from Baker Lake who is now traveling to Montreal to attend a Workers Compensation Board Canada wide meeting for young workers in Canada, and she was also very active in the youth groups and she's very vocal and I would like to recognise Lillian Mannik from Baker Lake.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Welcome to the Gallery. Moving on to Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Haviyak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 133 – 1(6): Above and Beyond

Mr. Haviyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table the article from the September-October 2003 edition of the Above and Beyond magazine. I encourage the Members to read through the article about the Kugluktuk circumpolar games, and enjoy the beautiful photographs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Are there any further of Tabling of Documents? If not we'll move onto to Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notice of

Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Akesuk.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 40 – An Act to Amend the Northwest Territories Business Credit Corporation – First Reading

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay that Bill 40, an Act to Amend Northwest Territories Business Credit Corporation Act to be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The Motion is carried and Bill 40 has had first reading. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Picco.

Bill 41 – An Act to Amend the Nursing Act – First Reading

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Sanikiluaq, that Bill 41, an Act to Amend the Nursing Act be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The Motion is carried and Bill 41 has had first reading. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Ms. Thompson.

Bill 42 – An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act – First Reading

Ms. Thompson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East that Bill 42, an Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 42 has had first reading. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

Bill 43- An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act – First Reading**Bill 44- Supplementary Appropriation (O and M) Act No. 1, 2003/2004 – First Reading****Bill 45- Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 4, 2003/2004 – First Reading****Bill 47- Supplementary Appropriation (O and M) Act No. 3, 2002/2003 – First Reading****Bill 48 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 4, 2002/2003 – First Reading**

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hudson Bay that Bill 43, an Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, Bill 44, Supplementary Appropriation (O and M) Act No. 1, 2003/2004, Bill 45, Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 4, 2003/2004, Bill 47, Supplementary Appropriation (O and M) Act No. 3, 2002/2003, and Bill 48 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 4, 2002/2003 be read for the first time. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 42, 43, 44, 45, 47 and 48 have had first reading. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 12, Bill 33 and Bill 46 with Mr. Puqiqnak in the chair.

I would ask Members that we agree we proceed directly into Committee of the Whole so that opening comments can be made before we take a short break for lunch. Do we have agreement?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Mr. Puqiqnak in the chair.

>>*Sergeant-at-Arms.*

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

Chairman (Mr. Puqiqnak) (interpretation): Thank you. When we're going to have Committee of the Whole we usually have a break but we'll continue on for opening comments. The Committee will now come to order.

During Committee of the Whole we will be dealing with Bill 12, Bill 33 and Bill 46. What is the wish of the Committee? Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue with the review of the 2004/2004 Capital Estimates starting with the Department of Education followed by the Department of Human Resources. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the Committee agree that we'll deal with Capital Estimates for the Department of Education?

The Minister can now begin with her opening comments. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Members.

I'm very pleased to be here today to discuss the proposed 2004/2005 Department of Education Capital Projects Budget.

The Department of Education 2004/2005 Capital Budget is \$26 million, 588 thousand.

Capital Budget is \$26 million, 588 thousand. This budget allows the Department to undertake 15 projects including, the 15 projects already underway and including three new projects at the planning or design stage.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairperson, over the past few years my department has developed and refined a comprehensive school facility database which enables my department to set the priority for each project based on rankings of the current facilities condition, utilization and program requirements. A similar database for all Nunavut Arctic College Community Learning Centres is being developed.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, we continue to gather information from hamlets, District Education Authorities, school operations, Nunavut Arctic College staff and the Public Works and Services as the fundamental product developing, managing, and refining our Capital Plan.

Mr. Chairman, this proposed Capital Plan includes two new schools and eight school additions, two new Arctic College facilities as well as the Territorial Library facility.

Construction will begin, continue or be completed in the communities of Cape Dorset, Hall Beach, Resolute Bay, Cambridge Bay, Kugaaruk, Arviat, Baker Lake and Whale Cove during this fiscal year.

We are proposing planning and design for the future projects in Iqaluit and Qikiqtarjuaq. We are also using on the job training for high school students in the construction phase in both Arviat and Whale Cove.

We have had to quickly adjust our plans to include the replacement of Joamie School and the challenge remains in addressing our current needs.

(interpretation ends) My Department's Capital Plan for the next five years will make a great difference in the educational infrastructure across Nunavut.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I'm very grateful to my colleagues who have understood and supported required budget transfers for Education's Capital Projects during delivery in this past year.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to discuss the Department of Education's Capital Budget for 2004/2005.

In Summary, I commit to making every dollar go as far as it can to reflect this government's investment in the educational process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister for your opening remarks. The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Health and Education, please begin with your opening comments. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Chair of the Standing Committee on Health and Education, I am pleased to have this opportunity to make some introductory remarks as we begin deliberations on the capital budget of the Department of Education.

The Committee on Health and Education was disappointed not to have the opportunity to review the draft 2004-2005 Capital Estimates with the Minister last month.

The Department of Education has been allocated approximately 25% of the Government of Nunavut's Capital spending for 2004-2005 for a total Capital budget of nearly \$27 million.

Since last year's review of the 2003-2004 Capital Estimates, the department's projected budget for the upcoming fiscal year has increased by just under \$10 million. Members understand that over \$9 million of this increase has been allocated to begin replacing Joamie School in Iqaluit, which burned down during the summer.

Members have noted with growing concern that an alarming number of schools, since the creation of Nunavut, have been destroyed by fire. Members would encourage the Minister to work with her department to develop strategies and make the necessary investments to ensure that assets such as schools and other properties are adequately protected.

During previous reviews of Capital budgets, the Standing Committee has raised the concern that amounts allocated for projects often differ widely from actual costs and time lines are frequently re-adjusted without clear and timely justification. The 2004-2005 Capital Budget is no different in this regard and Members again urge the Minister to encourage her Department to work towards more realistic time and cost projections.

Members of the Standing Committee are pleased that the Minister has followed their recommendation to establish partnerships to expand existing school projects and the Committee encourages further initiatives of this kind to establish or upgrade existing

community-based learning centres. There are many individuals who could take advantage of opportunities to upgrade their skills while remaining in their home communities.

Members were pleased to note the department's apparent re-focus on trades training with the appointment of a new Assistant Deputy Minister who would be working on trades and vocational training. Members encourage the Minister to collaborate with the Minister of Sustainable Development to secure further learning opportunities for Nunavut residents in the mining and trades industries.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. I am sure that individual Members will also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman of the Standing Committee. At this time we are now on general comments. You have 10 minutes to speak your general comments. Would you like to proceed with your General Comments now?

Mr. Speaker did not announce....Hold on.

We will have a forty-five minute lunch break.

>>Committee recessed 11:56 a.m. and resumed at 12:57 p.m.

Chairman (Mr. Puqignak) (interpretation): Thank you, for coming back this afternoon. Welcome back. Madam Minister, please introduce your staff. Madam Minister.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Pam Hine, my Deputy Minister at the Department of Education and to my left, Lorne Levy, our Capital Planner. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome to the House. We are going to be reviewing the Capital Estimates. Now that you have done your Opening Remarks, I would like to let the Members know we are now at General Comments. I will allow 10-minutes for General Comments for each Member. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, very much, cousin. First time, I think, I have ever been allowed to go the first time, so thank you very much. My comments are very brief. On my, almost five years of sitting in this House, I can honestly say, with a clear conscience, that Baker Lake has finally caught up and I think I speak for the community when I say all our facilities are now up to date.

Five years ago, it was a disaster in my community. The Nunavut Arctic College Learning Center was the oldest, probably in Canada, it was dilapidated, it has finally been replaced, I was up there the other day and all of the students are happy. So, I want to commend the Department of Education for a new learning center.

The new Jonah Amitnaaq School has been in the construction phase now for a couple of years, three years; it is a little delayed, but I go through that building at least once a month for a walk myself and I am very, it gives me a sense of pride that finally in that community, after having the oldest school in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, full of asbestos, whatever, whatever, whatever, it is finally going to open in probably within the next three or four months abiding no other major problems with the construction.

The Rachel Arnammaktiq Elementary School is a fairly new building; they did the extension on that about seven years ago. So I can sit here as an MLA and be very proud, very proud of the educational facilities that are now currently in my community.

I think that we were neglected by the old NWT Government and I think that I can speak for most communities that division was coming, and I think that there was a tendency not to spend as much money in Nunavut's part of the Territory as it is now.

In travelling around, in the Standing Committees, and I pretty well hit close to fifteen to twenty communities within the last five years, there is a tremendous amount of money and construction work going into most communities in Nunavut with educational facilities.

So I just want to say that it is nice to see the money being spent where it has to be, in educational facilities. I want to commend the Government as a whole, the current Ministers, the past Ministers, and just the Government as a whole. And Lorne Levy has been an excellent addition to your Capital Planning Department. And he has been nothing but a pleasure to work with. You have a very capable Deputy in your midst now and she has always been very good to work with in my tenure as an MLA in Nunavut.

So you have a very great team there, and you are a good leader. I just hope that the building of these educational facilities goes on in the future. That does not mean that we are where we should be. I know that there is talk about trade schools. Yes, we need trade schools in this territory.

There seems to be more emphasis down south on trade schools. There is a worldwide shortage of skilled trades people right now because a lot of them who were trained thirty of forty years ago are now retired.

So looking at the Capital Plan and analyzing it, we have put the money where we needed to. But now that we are pretty well caught up on educational facilities, and I am sure that there needs to be more built, it is time to look at building some trade schools in Nunavut.

I do not want to get into the debate on where to build them; I just think that they have to be built. I do not know where the money is going to come from as we are actually at a fiscal reality now of being, not broke, but we are almost there. So I do not know if you have to

go outside of the territory to encourage some companies to come in to the territory and build trade schools, or whatever.

I would encourage you to work with Nunavut Arctic College on building some trade schools in Nunavut in other communities, other than Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay. Look at the smaller communities that have facilities.

Overall I would just like to say how pleased I am in the way that this Government has treated my community in the education department in infrastructure and schools. I am hoping that I do not alarm my colleagues because they are probably saying, "Well, it is my turn now." I will be the first one to say that I have never said one word in this about another community not having a school, or speak it against it.

So whoever needs it, I hope that they get it the future. I would just like to say thank you and keep up the good work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Applause*

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for your gratitude to the Government. While we are at General Comments, I will get Mr. Havioyak next.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for coming to our Session. I know that Mr. Levy used to be in the Kitikmeot region, and I enjoyed his company while he stayed in the Kitikmeot.

(interpretation ends) I wish that I could say what my colleague was saying. I know that you recognized that there is more need for infrastructure in Nunavut. For the last two years, I have talked about community-based training.

When I look at the Capital Plan for 2004-2005, it seems to be, I could be wrong, I'm just saying what I see myself when I look at this capital plan, it seems to me the general training is going towards the regional level or the headquarters opposed to my comments for the last two years to community based training.

I want you to know, myself and your worship Anablak met with the Sustainable Development Minister a few weeks ago when we were sitting in the capital, but on the side we decided to meet with Minister Olayuk about the community issues, one of them being the mining training program. The reason why we talked about the mining training, he was involved, he's sort of monitoring what's happening in his area, but also we met with him so that he can pass on some information to you and encourage the government to concentrate more on the community based training.

A presentation to the Minister Olayuk by the hamlet and the mayor and his worker was exactly on that, the community based training for Diavik diamonds, what they were doing in my community, so they can explore as much as they can in that community.

The last three years they have been successful, and it's a way to go and a way to go train our local people. Just recently two or three weeks ago, we had eight graduates on the Security Training Program and all eight of them will be working with Diavik mines. I'm just saying that community based training has been very successful, hiring these trained people in that area, not only in security but also in the other training programs for example cooking, carpentry or introductory for welding, these types of things.

So I'm just saying that community based training is very effective in my community. The problem will be now, everything for the next two months, because the facility that they have been using until this summer, is going to be turned over to the Department of Justice to be used as a healing place, and that was the main centre where they have been training.

I'm just saying the department really has to look into this matter as where the mining company is making a good effort to hire local people, trained people but yet...

Chairman (interpretation): We're dealing with the Capital Estimates. Please try to keep your comments directed towards 2004/2005 capital estimates. Just a reminder to Members that we should be and keep in line with the Capital Estimates discussion. Mr. Haviyak.

Mr. Haviyak: I'm working exactly towards that in making these statements. I'm exactly going towards that part so, thank you

But anyway I am saying community based training is a way to go and we need a facility, a facility where a lot of these young people who want to train in those carpentry courses, but I would like to see that we build a training center for these people. It may be carpentry courses because a lot of these people, if they are not trained, they will not be employed.

But I think we have to understand that we need these facilities either in Kugluktuk or in our communities and I think if we can get a facility like that for communities because we do not see it in our five-year Capital Plan that I would like to see that if we can get a training center in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): We are dealing with Capital Estimates. Next on my list for general comments is Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you to the Department of Education and the staff of all, I know you all. Lorne Levy, I know, is a very capable worker; I think after two years I will be able to speak to him in Inuktitut and he will speak to me in Inuktitut and we will converse all in Inuktitut and that would be a dream, especially when we are dealing with the Capital Planning it would be ideal to speak in my language to him and I am proud of that.

With the renovation of schools, I have been able to benefit for the renovation in my community and it has really benefited the community. And as well, in Qikiqtarjuaq, it is also in the Plans in the future for the renovations or upgrading of a school.

Perhaps, to mirror my Colleague's comments, those who are completing school are increasing, but there are also further needs once they finish high school. I think, through the Capital Planning for the future, we should really start focusing on trades schools in the communities within Nunavut.

And if there is supposed to be a consideration, it is well worth it as in Nunavut and before Nunavut, during the Northwest Territories days, we have really advanced in the last three or four years and the communities needs for Capital has been met, although with the shortage of funds in the Government's Budget.

We could do a lot more, given if we had more funding available within the whole of Government and as people of the Arctic above the tree line. We do not have as many industries in the north, the communities of Kivalliq and Kitikmeot are more accessible to the south and we, in the Baffin Region, are not as accessible and the only way that we could have access to the south is through air and by sea.

And so, I think if there would be more room in the Capital Plans to ensure that we build more trades schools and vocational schools within Nunavut. Perhaps, in that area, we could start saving some money by stop sending students elsewhere.

I am very proud of the Department of Education, the Minister and the good work they have done to date and I further expect that in the Capital Planning for the future that Inuit specific schools will be considered in the future, folk schools for Inuit and those are some considerations we can make in the future for capital planning in the Department of Education. I have no problem with this years capital planning for this department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Capital estimates, department summary. Next on my list for general comments is Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you to the witness table. I also have some gratitude to show for the addition of the school in one of my communities, which I'm sure cost a lot of money.

Yes, it's good to show your gratitude when something is done to you and I think just keep me in line if I'm going all over the place and I think when we upgrade and renovate schools it only does good for the students because they're more eager to learn.

And but there's a but there unfortunately when our children and relatives, when you have to leave the family for further schooling it's quite difficult on anybody that would have to go away from the community because they have family ties in the community it's often quite difficult for students to go out of the territory for schooling.

And because we need to start training our people I think the best way to deal with this is to build schools, trade schools, vocational schools within Nunavut so that students can stay in school and complete their training and I think that should be our focus for the future so that we have well trained Inuit within Nunavut without having to go out of the territory for that schooling because a lot of times they end up quitting because they miss their family or what have you.

I'll use an example, my daughter, who is in school in Pangnirtung; she had to leave some of her children behind, some of her kids are with her and my son is going to school at a managerial course in Cambridge Bay. My other son is going to the trades school in Fort Smith.

In all cases they have to leave their children behind and it's kind of painful to see the children being left behind by the parents. If we were to have community based training then we wouldn't have to see that.

I don't see anything in the Capital Estimates in that regard, but I'd also like to mention that in Repulse Bay, I'm just wondering when it will make it to the Capital planning regarding the upgrading or the renovations of the school in Naujaat. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Capital estimates for 2004-2005. That's what we are deliberating on; next one on my list is Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am proud of Minister Thompson and her officials for giving us interesting comments. I have heard from around the table here that the department is doing very well.

When we envisioned our future, if we don't have a vision for the future, nothing comes out, but I'm very glad that the department has a vision for the future and at times we do have heavy equipment training program in Fort Smith which is outside of our territory.

And yes we need to get trade schools within Nunavut or heavy equipment programs and I know that I expect to see heavy equipment training in the north.

I live in Coral Harbour and I've also worked with the granular deposits and I know that we have a large amount of gravel in Coral Harbour. I would like to envision, for my colleague that there be a heavy equipment training program open in Coral Harbour because we require heavy equipment training programs within Nunavut. I just want to state that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are on general comments. I have no more names on my list. We'll move on to questions. According to our rules and procedures as a Chairperson for the Committee of the Whole, please make sure you go through the Chairperson when you have questions and I will allow each Member ten minutes to ask questions. Everything is being timed here. Are there any questions? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 9-4, what page are we going to start off with the Department of Education in Capital Estimates?

Chairman (interpretation): We'll start off with 9-5. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): On page 9-6, information item. This \$300 thousand on the top here, Minor Capital if you can clarify that what's that going to be used for so that I have a better understanding of it. Thank you

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This \$300 thousand on Minor Capital is usually used for things like fixing doors and windows if they need to be fixed. Thank you

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is it also used to draft Bills? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not catch his question, I'm sorry.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This Minor Capital of \$300 thousand is that also used to draft up Bills, because it's set aside. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Madam Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's for Tangible Assets also such as metals and materials such as gymnasiums; it is not used to draft Bills. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Joamie school burnt down here in Iqaluit, and there's Capital Estimates of \$9 million, 165 thousand dollars for the construction of the school this coming summer in the fiscal year of 2004/2005.

I'm sure that Joamie School had insurance. Have you receive insurance from there already? Or didn't they? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Madam Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. After Joamie School burned down, we had to make urgent plans and we had to find budget item for it. I forgot what you call insurance in Inuktitut. The insurance could not cover the whole cost. So therefore, we set aside ten million dollars because the insurance could not cover the whole cost. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Do you have further questions, Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): In order to have a shorter meeting today, I will have brief question. In the estimates, the 2004/05 for the Department of Education, for schools, it looka like there seem to be no plans for new schools, for the brand new schools. When do we see the plans for construction of new schools? I'm not talking about adult learning centers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Madam Minister, thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have a twenty year long term Capital Plan and we already reviewed them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Do you further questions, Mr. Nutarak?

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I'm trying to utilize my time line to ask questions. In Cambridge Bay, the library, the student accommodation they set aside an additional five hundred thousand dollars, was the rest of capital estimates too small? Is that why you need additional capital?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): In Cambridge Bay, on Arctic College student accommodation, we had to reopen that, and we had to make sure that will be funded in the Capital Estimates. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. Also for Sanikiluaq, there's funding set aside for six hundred and fifty thousand. Is that complete, is that why I don't see any line for that item anymore? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak is asking questions that he couldn't see additional information. When we go down to the Community Government and Transportation you could see their plans included are up to 2009 now. I just want to give you that information, Madam Minister.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This six hundred and fifty thousand dollars for Sanikiluaq, the pupil/teacher ratio was quite high so this is to start the school design for 2003/2004 and so it was approved to get a new school in Sanikiluaq. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I just wondered when the school will be built in Sanikiluaq. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Madam Minister

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The school, we would like that school to be completed by March of 2004 as soon as the construction and design is done. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The adult learning center in Nunavut. I know there's not much money for those community-learning centers for all of Nunavut. In some communities in Nunavut, the adult learning centers are very old and they have to get renovated. What are the plans for those adult-learning centers as the needs are in the communities?

Chairman (interpretation): Can I have order here please? Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Like I said that we have a twenty year plan as to what the plans will be for the adult learning centers as well as the school renovations or extensions to existing schools.

We have plans for all of the communities in Nunavut. In Pond Inlet, for example, the adult learning center has to be replaced and there has to be a design put in place for that school as well. We have a twenty year plan for those types of things. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The adult learning center in Pond Inlet has been seen, and it isn't very big. I just wanted to find out which year is there a plan for that adult learning center. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Pond Inlet, there in the future Capital Estimates, there is a plan for it in 2006 and 2007. The school

should be completed as long as the Members agree to the plans that we have in place at the present time. Thank you.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The only real question I have is on Capital. Over the last couple of years in my community, I have noticed the increased amount of vandalism on the outside of the schools.

So, I was talking to the Public Works people in Baker Lake and they replaced ten windows, those heavy plate-glass windows that cost \$5 thousand dollars in the last two years.

This brings me that to this, as much as I hate to admit it we are evolving and we are evolving in the territory with vandalism. We have some instances where kids, teenagers late at night are roaming and breaking windows and etc...and it gets to my question, I went and talked to the principle about it and it is, you know, we have by-law officers, we have RCMP, but then again they're large facilities and if you look at the Baker Lake facilities, between the two buildings you are looking at probably \$30 million dollars worth of assets on the two schools, if you have to replace them some day because of, I do not want to say that word fire or things like that.

But the point I am getting to here is I think we are to the point in this territory where we have to put surveillance cameras on the outside of the buildings as a deterrent.

The Northern Stores built a new store in Baker Lake ten years ago and we were all kind of cynical and laughing about it, but they put security cameras on the outside and inside of the building and it cut down their vandalism by about 200 percent.

I'm just saying that rather than get the District Education Authorities to take it out of their Operations and Maintenance every month or every year, that would be, yes, it was part of the Capital process, to have security cameras on the outsides and maybe just down the main hallway of the facilities as a deterrent.

Because in my experience, like I say in Baker Lake in the last few years with some buildings in the community and it may be something that the Government Offices will have to do in the future is implement security cameras on the outside of the buildings and just in the major hallways in case somebody breaks in and then you have the vandalism problems taken care of.

So, I'm encouraging you to look at security systems and I think a rough security system is around \$50 thousand dollars. I think that's a small price to pay on a \$15 or 20 million dollar facility.

So, I'm asking you as Minister and the capital planner and the Deputy Minister if you would consider over the next few years of installing security cameras on schools that want them, I don't like to see anybody forced, like I say it just seems to be more and

more happening in the communities when it comes to vandalism and you know, stuff like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will speak with the department of Public Works and Services to plan for the security cameras and surveillance cameras to be installed in the schools and I'm sure it is not just for Baker Lake, I am sure it is not just Baker Lake's concern but a concern of many Nunavut communities.

Especially when there was a vandalism or arson attempt in Coral Harbour and such things and vandalising the exterior of buildings, the exterior of schools such as the schools or the arenas, graffiti being painted on the exterior of the building.

I'm certain we have to make sure that this is not happening anymore in the communities. I have seen in my travels that there are some metal window protectors on the outside of the schools and that would be one of the good things to protect from vandals breaking windows.

Yes, Mr. Chairman I agree with the Member, I will make sure this is part of our capital planning such as surveillance cameras and protective metal on the exterior of the school windows for those of them in the communities that would like to have them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks for the answer Minister; I know we will work on doing that as quickly as you can. My only fear is that if it is delegated to Public Works and Services, it might be put down as a very low priority at this point and they will come up with the excuse that they do not have the money.

So, I wish that your department would take the lead on this and maybe show Public Works and Services that this can be done in a timely matter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's all my questions for today.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. McLean. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Public Works and Services Minister just nodded his head in agreement that he will be talking with his officials. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. McLean, anything else? Mr. McLean. Mr. Haviyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I mentioned earlier on something that wasn't mentioned here, the colleges Nunavut facilities, do you have some kind of plan or we might be putting the Arctic College facility that are needed, is there something in place that you can share with us or is there a plan to do one so you can find out where the needs are, are you finalizing them I guess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a 20 year plan for those facilities such as Arctic College and community learning centres but you have to understand that Arctic College has their own Board of Governors and have their planning for Capital Estimates.

I will be meeting with the Arctic College Board of Governors to find out from them; I talked to them in regards to those Arctic College facilities and community learning centres.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you Minister for your response and the Arctic college may be a better system. Just one more thing, again.

The start of this government in 1999, there was a project for Kugluktuk, the siding of the high school, which is great; that was done and I'm glad it's finally done; it's a very nice school because it has a nice siding now.

But on that plan, the original plan was to do one project which includes the library, but I am aware of the situation to date as where if we wanted to put a library into the school and that could be used by the community, it's not feasible because of the building codes and so on. I could be wrong on this but that's what happened. It sort of faded away, that the project faded away.

A community library could be used by the high school. The reason I'm saying this is, in talking with the District Education Authority a few days ago, one classroom is shared by the library itself and the classroom right beside it. Here is a classroom is beside the library and than here kids walking around trying to find their books inside the same room; it's very disturbing but I'm just wondering if there is some kind of plan that will be putting it back on the table for the five year capital that might have it.

Maybe that is another thing you can look at instead of being just dropped off by the Five Year Capital Plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have it in our plans and we are aware of the situation and we're aware of the problem in future plans we are hoping

to have a community learning centre in Kugluktuk in our twenty year plan and this is one of the issues that can be put into that plan, a library so we have it in our future plan already. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Anything else, Mr. Havioryak?
Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I just want to start off, with, I'm very pleased to finally see some of the project, I know myself over the last four years and prior to that, Minister Picco, lobbying for something desperately needed here in Iqaluit. I think we all remember the last year that students who were accepted and started taking courses through Arctic College here and ended up quitting and leaving because they didn't have a place to stay.

So I am very happy to see student accommodations in the capital plan again. Hopefully it won't fall off charts like it did in the past. What kind of insurance can we have that when something is not on there, are we going to see through the first stage and the next stage? When can we expect completion of that project to have students from throughout the Baffin staying in the new accommodations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitoq Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know having talked to students from out of town, I know there's a real need for student accommodation and this has been brought forward by different MLAs and Mr. Tootoo.

What Mr. Levy is showing me is that it should be finished 2006-2007, I understand that project is currently being designed so, we have started that and it's not going to fall off the chart. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And on that is the design going to include single as well as married accommodations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitoq Thompson: It may include one bedroom units, two bedroom units and three bedroom units. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The sooner it gets done the sooner you'll have more people applying for courses here so they'll be able to have more places to live and better themselves and give themselves a better education.

How many units are we talking about here? Is it 10, 5, 15 how many units are we looking at all together for this project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: We are possibly looking at 20 units. I know we are doing one in Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay and here. As I said earlier Arctic College has a board of governors and this usually goes through the board of governors but what my chart is saying we will work with 20 units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome news by Mr. Picco I'm sure. Finally seeing a lot of his hard work and complaining over the years coming through and actually taking place like the ground work at the new regional hospital up there.

The other thing on here is some renovations to the high school and it's only \$50 thousand dollars in the plans this year on that and I know questioning the former Minister of Education on the high schools that are over 30 years old.

In a lot of cases some of the features in those schools have exceeded their life expectancy and I'm just wondering what we are looking at changing. Is it just going to be a design and phased in over the next 2 years or when will we actually start seeing some of these renovations come into place?

Mr. Chairman, as you know and I'm sure the Minister and her staff are aware, there have been a number of costs with incidents of break downs, floods and things like that that have taken place up there over the last couple of years.

Those are costing huge amounts of money as well, so I'm just wondering if there is any way some of these things that are a high priority if they can be addressed sooner rather than later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that we have been working on this project for a while and I also know that Inuksuk High School is 33 years old which is like old.

And we are thinking that the project will probably cost us about \$19 million and right now we are planning on it and construction should start 2006-07 for the 4 years after that. If the Member needs more detail on this I'm sure Mr. Levy would love to sit down with him and tell him more about this project; it's on the go. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, 2006-2007 is still quite a ways away from now, by then it will be 36 years old, but as I had indicated, I know there are some certain components and I will refer to them as within the school that may be more critical than others to address and in the event of something happening with those components, it could end up costing us more money prior to the renovations being done in 2006-2007. I know that there was a report that was done and I know that the Department is well aware of the report showing the deficiencies not only in the high school, but also in Nakasuk School as well.

But it is some of those things that could potentially be a higher priority. If there is a way of looking at that, tracking some of those things, fix them now before they do cost us more money just to maintain and ending up having to fix the whole thing again in three years time.

I am just wondering if they could commit to taking a look at seeing if they could possibly, in fact, track some of those things in order to save us some money within the next three years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If Joamie School had not burned down, I think it would have made our life a lot easier and I know that Member is very sensitive to that, too. We will certainly look into seeing how we can make this a safe place to go to school, I guess because it is an old building. I will have my staff look into it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe, Mr. Chairman, that if Mr. Levy or Ms. Hine can provide me with a list or if we are going to need some time to go over some of those things and see what the critical areas are that have the potential of costing us more money than looking at seeing if we could find ways to accommodate those prior to three years from now, that would be great.

Going on, the Minister mentioned Joamie School and there is some money in there for the replacement of that and I am very happy to say, you know, I have been very pleased with the work that has been done to expedite the replacement of the school.

I do not know if any of you have driven up past the old site where the old Joamie School stood and all the structural steel is up there already and I would just like to ask the Minister if she can update me and the Members of this House and the public as to the schedule that we are looking at for the reconstruction of Joamie School. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Joamie School should be built and ready for occupancy or have an opening September of 2005. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I know I was up there the morning when the fire occurred with Mr. Levy and there were some discussions up there that morning as people wondering, you know, where the fire really got away from the fire department was in the crawl space.

And apparently and again, I do not, as you had indicated the other day that the final report is not out, but apparently that portion of the school was not sprinklered and I am just wondering if in the design for the new school that they are looking at having these places that are hard to get to for the firefighters sprinkled so that they do have that protection.

A little bit of water is a lot easier and cheaper to clean up than building a new school. So, I am just wondering if the new school is going to have a sprinkler system throughout the entire school. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's hopeful that there will be no further fires and I'm sure all the Members agree that something like this is not cheap. The design of this building will have adequate sprinkler systems to ensure that they would come on automatically. We're still waiting for the fire marshal's report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the contract for the school, as the Minister indicated it's going to be done December 2005. I noticed that steel matter is up there, has the contract been advertised or awarded yet for the construction of the school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Mr. Chairman. I'm going to have Mr. Levy answer that question. Thank you

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Levy.

Mr. Levy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have awarded the structural component of the construction and what we're doing at the same time is we're just now completed the final

design documents, tender ready, we call them documents for the remainder of the project and we will be tendering those very soon, before the new year, for the new calendar year we hope.

And at that point the successful contractor will take over the whole project including the structural part of it will become a sub contract of the main contract. The remaining materials will arrive on next years sealift, and will take them next school year to complete the project as the Minister indicated. Thank you

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Lorne Levy. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's good to see that there has been flexibility on how to set this up to expedite it by awarding them separately with the whole after, I hope to see some more type of this ingenuity in coming up with future projects to help reduce costs, and speed things up throughout the territory.

My last question going over 9-7 is in Cambridge Bay, the Nunavut Arctic College student residence there, I understand that contract hasn't been awarded yet; the funding has been increased by \$800 thousand over what it was supposed to be. I'm just wondering if the Minister can explain why there has been an increase of \$800 thousand on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): I'm tired Mr. Chairman, we are falling asleep. I'll have Mr. Lorne Levy reply, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Levy.

Mr. Levy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we tendered the original design we only received one bid; on the advice of the Department of Public Works we felt that the bid did not reflect good value for the project and at the same time we assessed whether or not costs in Cambridge Bay would be such as we needed to adjust the budget as well.

What we did was a combination of both; we did increase the budget because we had another project, the housing association project which was similar to be able to better compare costs and at the same time now we are taking two different approaches, we're working with the architect to try to find cost efficiency and re-tender and at the same time we're looking at what we call design to build approach and seeing if that will give us better value where we put the design and construction all in one package to get the best value for the government.

But we are committed to completing the project and felt we needed to adjust the budget upwards slightly, based on the housing.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Levy. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I do not quite understand all that; the tender I guess, Mr. Levy, is going to design and build so part of those costs are the proponents that would have to include the design and costs as well into their bid price is that what he indicated? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Lorne Levy.

Mr. Levy: Yes. I apologize if I made it overly complicated. We are working with the architect, the original architect, and there are some additional costs in that approach to re-design. But, we feel those costs will be saved in what we gain in construction.

Then we are also in this design and build; the second approach that is where we offer the opportunity to have both the design and construction done as one package and so there are some design costs in that. That would be correct.

Again Public Works and Services is advised us there will be savings in the overall project, using that strategy. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Lorne Levy. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a piece of advice in design is that if you have a square building rather than round building it's cheaper. Given that, Mr. Chairman, and recognizing the clock I would like to move that we report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): There's a motion on the floor to report progress. Agreed? Mr. Speaker may return to the chambers now. Thank you Madame Minister and her officials; at the next sitting we'll see each other again. Thank you.

Speaker: Returning to the Orders of the Day. Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Item 20: Report of Committee of the Whole

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your Committee has been considering Bill 46 and Capital Estimates and would like to Report Progress and Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a Motion on the Floor. Is there a Secunder for the Motion? Is there a Secunder for the Motion? Mr. Picco will second the Motion. The Motion is in Order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The Motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills.

Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder, there will be a meeting of the regular caucus at half past 2:00 p.m. in the Natsiq Room and further reminder that the Special Committee on the Review of the Official Languages Act will meet at 9:00, Monday morning at Nanuq.

Orders for the Day for Monday, October 27, 2003:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
 - Bill 40
 - Bill 41
 - Bill 42
 - Bill 43
 - Bill 44
 - Bill 45

- Bill 47
- Bill 48

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 12
- Bill 33
- Bill 46

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, October 27th 2003 at 1:30 pm.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 2:09 pm.*

