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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday October 29, 2003

Members Present:

Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Jack Anawak, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Mr. Patterk Netser, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, 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 Mr. Netser to say the prayer this morning.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Good morning. Mr. Premier, Members. Item 2. Ministers' Statements.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 200 – 1(6): Cambridge Bay Childcare Society After School Program

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to congratulate the Cambridge Bay Child Care Society After School Program for being recognized as Canada's top community based after school program by the Royal Bank of Canada Financial Group.

>>*Applause*

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, over 400 applications were submitted from across Canada but only 47 were chosen to receive this honour. As a result of this recognition the Cambridge Bay Child Care Society After School Program will receive a grant from the Royal Bank of Canada for \$25 thousand, 500 dollars. This grant will help the costs of offering their child care program.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to know that we have quality early childhood and after school programs available to Nunavummiut. Quality programs help our young children develop and grow into successful and productive adults. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 201 – 1(6): Nunavut Fire Prevention Strategy

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the minister responsible for the activities of the Nunavut Fire Marshall's Office I would like to announce that we have chosen this week to focus on fire prevention in association with the release of the Nunavut Fire Prevention Strategy.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, developing the Fire Strategy required significant consultation with communities and individual fire department members and the expertise of various agencies.

We involved partners to help address the required Fire Response Process and to develop the recommendations necessary to ensure enhanced Fire Department capabilities.

Our goal is to provide training to all community volunteer Fire Departments. The strategy maps out how we will provide support services to integrate fire protection with community development and study how as to how we can improve community fire protection of infrastructure.

(interpretation) The strategy sets out how we will assist with organizing effective community Fire Departments and provide inspection, monitoring and evaluation services. It also explains our commitment to supporting public fire safety and intervention programs.

Mr. Speaker, closely associated with this strategy is the Nunavut Association of Municipalities Insurance Exchange or also known as NAMIX. NAMIX is a municipally driven self insurance program providing liability coverage for the communities.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, NAMIX is sponsoring a loss control workshop this week in Rankin Inlet. Representatives from all communities have been invited to attend and improve their skills related to developing and implementing community based fire prevention and loss control programs.

Mr. Speaker, we are also cooperating with the Department of Education and community Fire Departments to sponsor a territory wide fire prevention colouring poster design and essay contests in schools.

The theme for the contest is "When Fire Strikes, Get Out and Stay Out". This touches on a few simple but life saving lessons. Install smoke detectors and test them regularly, and develop and practice home fire drills.

Mr. Speaker, I expect the new Nunavut Fire Prevention Strategy will serve as an effective means of addressing and enhancing current community fire response capabilities. It is a key element in our efforts to protect lives and reduce property loss due to fire. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 202 – 1(6): Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday October 22, I appeared before the senate standing committee on Fisheries and Oceans along with Ben Kovic from the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

Our purpose was to discuss the strategic development of our fishing industry particularly as it relates to issues of quota allocations and benefits to northern fishers.

During the session I took the opportunity to highlight some of the key challenges we are facing in our attempts to develop a viable and sustainable fishing industry in Nunavut, particularly in relation to the unequal sharing arrangements that exist in our adjacent waters for turbot and shrimp fishery.

I also highlighted other key issues such as marine infrastructure, science, training and emerging fisheries development.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the Fisheries senate committee were very supportive of our cause and they have committed to work with us to help address the key challenges that we face.

They will be releasing a report in the near future on the results of their study and I look forward to providing each of you with a copy when I receive it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ministers' Statements. Are there any further Ministers' Statements? Mr. Okalik.

Minister's Statement 203 – 1(6): Labour Standards Act

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the Minister for the Department of Justice regarding the labour standards program, which is administered through the Department of Justice.

It has come to my attention that some Nunavummiut may not be aware of the rights of workers and the responsibilities of employers who are governed by the Labour Standards Act.

(interpretation ends) The Labour Standards Act regulations set up the minimum conditions of employment in Nunavut. Employees or employers cannot offer and employees cannot accept benefits or conditions that are less than what is allowed in the Act.

Employers can of course provide benefits and conditions that are better than those described in the Act. The Act covers several areas including hours of work, minimum wage, vacation, pregnancy and parental leave.

I would like to make it clear that employers must follow the rules when it comes to setting out how many hours their employees work and how much they get paid.

Employers also must uphold the provisions of this Act when an employee requests vacation or leave.

(interpretation) Both employers and employees have obligations and rights arising out of this legislation and it is important that all be aware of these.

As part of this, there is a Labour Standards Officer who is responsible for conducting inspections to ensure businesses are in compliance with the Act.

There is also a Nunavut Labour Standards Board that consists of five members including a chairperson who is appointed by the commissioner to hold office for a specific term.

The board is an independent body established to hear appeals and decisions of the Labour Standards office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Minister's Statement 204 – 1(6): More Full Time Nurses in Nunavut Communities

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to announce that over the past several months the Department of Health and Social Services has been able to recruit thirty three indeterminate nurses in communities all over Nunavut

>>*Applause*

Mr. Speaker, I want to give a short break down of some of these positions. We have recently hired eight indeterminate full time Community Health Nurses. Two supervisors of community health programs, one Clinical Nurse Instructor, five General Duty Nurses, three Public Health Nurses, two Home Care Coordinating Nurses, eight Home Care Nurses, three Registered Psychiatric Nurses and Mr. Speaker, we have filled another Tuberculosis Specialist position.

In light, Mr. Speaker, of the national shortage of nurses, this indeed is a success story. The addition of these full time nurses Mr. Speaker, helps to provide a secure and continuity of nursing services at the community level and assists the Department of Health and Social Services in bringing care closer to home to Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, we are working hard to fill all nursing positions in all Nunavut communities. I am proud to say that part of the solution to our nursing shortage is being answered right here in Nunavut.

The recent awarding of the Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship was an idea that was brought forward and raised and advocated on behalf and for the Premier. The Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship to five nursing students is a solid step towards building a home grown health professional workforce and improving community health and Mr. Speaker, sustainability.

The scholarship is administered to beneficiary nursing students who have the best overall academic performance among all beneficiary students in each of the four years of the nursing program and Mr. Speaker that includes theory, courses, and clinical work and practicum sessions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Picco. Ministers' statements. Minister Ng.

Minister's Statement 205 – 1(6): Second Liquor Distribution Centre

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to announce that a second liquor distribution center is being created in Nunavut and will be located in Rankin Inlet.

This will be an opportunity for the Nunavut Liquor Commission to capture the revenues that are currently flowing to other provincial and territorial governments and agencies that are not coming back to Nunavut.

The distribution centre will also allow us to develop better statistics on the amount of liquor being sold in our territory. Mr. Speaker, by creating a second liquor distribution centre, we do not expect that the sale of alcohol in Nunavut will increase as those sales are already taking place.

It will allow for the liquor commission to better account and track the liquor being sold in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, two new positions will be created in Rankin Inlet to operate the distribution centre.

Currently, this plans to be fully operational by the summer of 2004. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Ministers' statements. Are there any further Ministers' Statements? If not, we'll move onto Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 656 – 1(6): Promoting Inuinnaqtun Language

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say hello to my constituents from Kugluktuk, and my two grandchildren and my family.

I rise today to say thanks to all the Members that we have new people who will be doing Innuinaqtut speaking programs in Kugluktuk. I have been promoting languages in Innuinaqtut in our communities in the Kitikmeot region.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognise these people who will be promoting the languages in Innuinaqtut and those translators programs and that. Also, the people who are promoting the Innuinaqtut language in Nunavut Arctic College, that there will be training programs.

I would like the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth to support these programs in Nunavut Arctic College. I want the House to know that these programs are running in our community.

Also, these Members, they want support from the Government of Nunavut and also the school teachers who are promoting languages and also interpreters who are working in our community. They want to support their communities in promoting their Innuinaqtut language.

Also, the elders who want to support these programs, I want you to realize people, I want the government to recognise you who are trying to support the Innuinaqtut languages in schools.

These are the people, Alice Anablak, Millie Quliqtana, Ida Ayalik McWilliams, Rosemarie Mijuk, Greg Okak, James Paneoyak, Carl Aitna, Frank Analuk and Henry Ohokonoak. Also the employee here, Emily Angulalik is one of them.

These are the new people who are starting to support the language and I want you to support the people who are trying to promote the Innuinaqtut language in the Kitikmeot Region. These people are going to support the Inuinnaqtun programs.

(interpretation ends) I want the Members to join me wishing the committee every success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak

Member's Statement 657 – 1(6): A Need for Infrastructure in Gjoa Haven

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't think you would reach me right away. Mr. Speaker, as elected representatives of our constituencies we are told to convey their needs.

Mr. Speaker, there is rapid population growth in some of the communities that have been decentralized. Mr. Speaker, one of the main problems we have is that the infrastructure cannot keep up with the growth and so on.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about the need for infrastructure in Gjoa Haven. Gjoa Haven is in need of office buildings. The hamlet has become quite innovative by adopting many existing buildings.

For example, Mr. Speaker the Aboriginal Head Start program is being held in one of the elementary classrooms because there is no other place to hold it.

Mr. Speaker, the local daycare operates as a daycare during the day and classroom for literacy program in the evening.

Mr. Speaker, the elders have a small facility they use but it requires renovations. This facility that is used by the elders and doubles as the Heritage Museum and Visitors Center. This facility is full of large cases that take up much of the space.

Mr. Speaker, the worse problem is that... Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to complete my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleagues, some of them are very disruptive.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, the largest part of the problem is that the hamlet has been using their own staff housing as temporary classrooms that are used for five to ten week programs.

This becomes a problem when the positions are filled, and housing is needed for the new staff.

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot more buildings needed in Gjoa Haven such as home care facilities, women's shelters which has been requested on more than one occasion, a swimming pool which we have been our requesting for quite a while. We also need bigger community hall. At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will be asking questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 658 – 1(6): Problem with Power Bills

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to show you this booklet. Mr. Speaker, the communities in Nunavut are thousands of miles apart and far from the capital city.

One issue that I would like to bring up is that in some of the communities we've had some problems with the Power Corporation where they send out the bills and they arrive at the community too late and because of the late payment for the power the Nunavut Power Corporation cuts off their electricity.

The Power Corporation, I think, could fix this problem because as I said earlier, the people of Nunavut pay a lot for their monthly expenses. The working class at the end of the day, after paying all of their bills are left with pocket change that will not see them through two weeks.

Here, we have this beautiful booklet with people of Nunavummiut on the cover, but the Power Corporation and their Headquarters are not operating properly because we have had too many people who are getting their power cut off for late payment.

There is a lot of room for improvement in that office and I do not think that enough information is going out there to the general population. At the appropriate time I will be asking the Minister some questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 659 – 1(6): Supporting Local Businesses – Rankin Inlet Health Facility

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Rankin Inlet Health Center contract award and the impact of this project on the community of Rankin Inlet. Let me start by emphasizing my total support of local businesses like most Members in this House.

Mr. Speaker, some Members of this Assembly have continually asked the Government to support local businesses. It has been one of the strongest messages to the Government since 1999. The message has been loud and clear.

Mr. Speaker, Rankin Inlet is a growing community and a growing community needs opportunities. Members may have recently read the news that our business community is shrinking again with the loss of lots from long-established companies.

Let us face it, Mr. Speaker, if we do not support our local businesses, they will disappear along with the jobs they create. Southern based companies do not face the same challenges of a local business. We must support local businesses.

Mr. Speaker, all of the local businesses in the communities need help. It has become increasingly difficult to try and bid against large corporations without taking on partners. However, for this project in Rankin Inlet, the local company is responsible for large parts of the recruiting, training and construction opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, a massive contract can have a major impact on the local economy. It has become evident to my constituents that in some cases, it is impossible for a local contractor to bid against some of the larger companies from outside the community, especially when the project is on a large scale.

Mr. Speaker, the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet has expressed support for this decision as it is the community's expectation that they would receive the maximum benefit from an investment of this size.

In addition, a larger portion of the money that will be spent will remain within Rankin Inlet and Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Mr. Speaker, as a Member of this Assembly, I'm very pleased that the Rankin Inlet Health facility is becoming a reality.

I have always been a strong supporter of local businesses and I will always continue to be a strong supporter of local businesses when ever and where ever I can. I would also like to thank our Premier, our Members, some Members in this Legislative Assembly who have supported local businesses.

Some don't, but many of us do in this Legislative Assembly. We support local businesses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause.*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 660 – 1(6): Repulse Bay in Need of Community Hall

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank all the Members and send my regards to my wife, my children, my grandchildren and my great-grandchildren. I don't know how many grandchildren I have, but I send them my regards.

I also thank my children and my wife for waiting patiently, even though my wife has been ill for some time now.

I would like to talk about some of the Nunavut communities where some are more developed than others. Since that is the case, there are communities that do not have adequate community halls or gymnasiums which is a problem for the youth in those communities.

The gyms are very good for not only the youth, but also for all community members because it gets them into a social environment. Also for exercise and so on, it mentally conditions them for the better.

For those have-not communities, it is up to us as the Government to give them more support. Using for example, Repulse Bay, where, when the community hall went up in flames, the hamlet council worked extremely hard to get an alternative facility that could be used by the young people.

I would like to state my support in getting those smaller communities adequate facilities, community halls and gymnasiums. It's up to us as a Government to help those have-not communities. I'm also pleased that Kugaaruk has been getting a lot of support from this house, including the Minister.

Repulse Bay is one of those have-not communities and I see them as the orphans of Nunavut, where they're not getting any of the basic needs that they require. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak.

Member's Statement 661 – 1(6): Knocking on People's Doors

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The bouquet of flowers is in the way of the Speaker.

I would like to make a brief Members' Statement. As Inuit, we go and visit other people in the community, whether they are friends or whether they are our family members, we do not bother to knock, and looking at the other way, the Qallunaaq always have to knock on the door. We thought that this was the case all the time. Although some of them are not like that.

What I am trying to say is that the RCMP in the communities, enter a home without knocking, maybe because they know that it is the Inuit way. Although some are not like that, some of them either knock, or some of them do not even bother to. Sometimes they make a mistake and go into a different house.

As Inuit we just enter our family's home, our friends, but it should be noted that if you are working and you want to enter a home, you have to be polite, and knock on the door before you ask to come in. That is what I wanted to say. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Ms. Williams

Member's Statement 662 – 1(6): Crime Prevention – A Need for Probation Officers

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to thank the Member who provided an answer to the letter I wrote a letter in June.

What I want to talk about today is in regards to crime prevention, and community probation officers in the communities, something that Mr. Puqinaq had mentioned yesterday.

Ever since I was elected I have been pushing to have Community Probation Officers. I have been working on this for 14 years before I became a Member.

It is a very challenging job. You have to look after people who have just come in from a Correctional Facility, and this has to be looked at by the Department of Justice and for them to make sure that there are enough probation officers in the communities, instead of saying that we do not have enough money to hire those individuals.

The probation officers help individuals who come out of jail to become a member of the community and it also helps in terms of crime prevention for those people coming out from the jails; it can also make the person who is incarcerated come out a little bit earlier.

For the smaller communities in Nunavut there are no probation officers and it should be the job of the Department of Justice to make sure that those positions are put in the smaller communities. At the appropriate time I will be asking the Minister in this regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 663 – 1(6): Book by Reverend Mike Gardner

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a long time Iqaluit and Nunavut resident, the Reverend Mike Gardner, has recently completed a self-help book entitled "Getting Ready to go to the Hospital".

Reverend Gardner, who is retired, has served for many years as a Pastor to the hospitals, boarding homes and patients. His book is in English and Inuktitut and covers a range of frequently asked questions by patients and escorts.

He also deals, Mr. Speaker, with issues of boarding homes. Mr. Speaker, this book also contains medical terminology and questions that a doctor or a nurse may ask by pointing to the Inuktitut question and response.

So, in the book, Reverend Gardner has taken frequently asked questions. Are you hungry? Are you in pain? And it is in Inuktitut and if there is no one available like an interpreter or a translator, then the patient can actually point it out in syllabics and the English translation is there and the patient would be able to communicate.

So, Mr. Speaker, this has been done for the first time and, Mr. Speaker, I think it is also important to point out that Mr. Gardner did this on his own. He did not get funding from the Health Department, he did not get anything from the Government of Nunavut, and he did it on his own.

So, I think we should be congratulating Mr. Gardner for seeing the need out there, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Mike Gardner has put much time and effort into this book and it is available by contacting the Anglican Diocese and Office in Yellowknife. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you and this House join with me in thanking the Reverend Mike Gardner for his continuing good work on behalf and for all Nunavummiut.

I want to point out, Mr. Speaker, that Reverend Gardner wrote the book in English, then he translated it himself and the book has not been widely available and indeed, Mr. Speaker, a lot of people do not know it is available. He also has some hymns and prayers for people who are going to the hospital.

So, I know I think it would be a great comfort to many residents who are travelling. So, I would like to take this opportunity again, Mr. Speaker, to thank Mr. Gardner for doing something, again, above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

Member's Statement 664 – 1(6): Belcher Island and Sanikiluaqmiut

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to talk about when we first became elected to the Legislature, and I have talked about this numerous times, about James Bay.

The people of Sanikiluaq have not used that part of the shores in Hudson Bay near the Belcher Islands that much, but they would like to be able to use that for their hunting area and I would like to congratulate the people from Inuilirmiut that they are in support of the people of Sanikiluaq.

The Belcher Islands would like to be protected by the people of Sanikiluaq, even though we do not use them that often, some parts of it. But, Mr. Speaker, what I am trying to say is that the Belcher Islands will have to be protected and we would like to always use it for the rest of our lives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

Member's Statement 665 – 1(6): Gratitude and Regards to Pangniqturmiut

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature know what I am going to talk about, Mr. Speaker. Sometimes people request something wherever they may live, especially when something happens and I would like to say, at this time, Mr. Speaker, sometimes they wait a long time even though they want something when something serious has happened.

I was recently in Pangnirtung for three days and I saw for myself, the Inuit patiently waiting while there was something else going on.

I would like to remember Abraham and Meeka Arnakak and the family. They will be burying a family member today.

They have helped a lot of people when the same thing happened, when something happens in the community, when there is a death in the family and I would like to recognise them.

Mr. Speaker, I would not like to forget the people who are in the hospital from Pangnirtung. They were recently sent down south for medical treatment and I would like to think about the families of those individuals and I send my regards to them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 666 – 1(6): Community Access Roads

Mr. Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the end of October, at the time that I used to go on the dog-team and riding skidoos, I am now living in a house. I finally put my boat out this morning into the water.

>>*Laughter*

I would like to talk about something in regards to transportation. The government made an agreement with the Federal Government to fund \$500 thousand to do a study on the Manitoba/Kivalliq highway.

I know that this would be of great benefit to the people of Nunavut if there was to be a highway built. I know that this is going to progress by itself, hopefully soon, but some communities were given funding in regards to transportation infrastructure.

Say, for instance, if they want to make an access road in their community to go out to the hunting grounds and fishing places and to get some fresh water, it's a great benefit to the people in the communities when they receive funding for access roads.

I think there is an access road in Whale Cove that's about 30 miles and I just wanted to let the Department of Transportation know that there are many benefit to communities when there is an access road being built.

It's a comfort for the people of the communities when they can use it for hunting and other recreational purposes. I just want to make sure that this funding is continued by the Department of Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 667 – 1(6): Decentralization for Communities

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's pretty grim today Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the need for stability in our work force. Mr. Speaker, we often hear the concern expressed about capacity short-falls in our departments. We're all very aware of the difficulties in recruiting people for specialized positions, such as nurses who the Minister of Health did a Statement on today, engineers and biologists.

We know that in order to retain good people we have to provide a degree of certainty and stability in their lives. Mr. Speaker, like other Members in this House, I am in complete favour of decentralization and I agree that bringing jobs and opportunities into the smaller communities is a worthy goal.

However, I'm concern that the actual implementation of the decentralization, has in some cases, become a numbers game where some positions are shuffled and lives are disrupted simply to meet the miracle target.

Mr. Speaker, we know from the Government Inuit Employment Statistics that Government of Nunavut has never come close to reaching the full capacity. This problem is made worse with a climate of uncertainty and unpredictability.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that I do not oppose decentralization. However, I do not believe decentralization itself will be a success if it is done in a way that it alienates our workforce and makes hasty decisions based on arbitrary targets. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Moving on to Item 4. Return to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 646 – 1(6): Liquor Warehouse Contract

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Finance in regards his Minister's Statement today.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the Minister put out RFPs earlier this year in regards to establishing a liquor warehouse in Rankin Inlet and I also note that this RFP went out not on government letterhead or not noting the Minister responsible to forward on there.

I noticed also in the Ministers statement that he does not indicate who the proponents were that will have the contract with establishing the liquor warehouse.

I'd like to ask the Minister if he could inform this House as to who was the successful contractor on this RFP contract. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Ng

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is a letter of intent to enter into a lease with KPM of Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe the Minister can indicate who the KPM is? And also, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the Minister if he can indicate how many proposals the department received for this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Ng

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand the KPM is an acronym for Kivalliq or Keewatin Property Management.

My understanding is that there three proposals received. They were reviewed by a Committee, which included the Public Works and Services representatives, and Finance department representatives. And the recommendation was made to award to KPM based on those recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, can the Minister indicate to us who the other two proposers were?

Speaker: Mr. Ng

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No I can't because I was not involved directly in reviewing of that; the recommendation came directly from the Committee that oversaw the review of the proposal that we received. But I can obtain that information if the Member is interested and respond to you later. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 647 – 1(6): Rental Assistance for Homeowners

Mr. Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if other people are in the same situation but I would like to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services, in the Northwest Territories days we were building quite a few homeownership programs and if you had built a house and lived in it for five years, then it would become your own.

As we know, those people who own homes have either moved on or built other new houses and have either rented it or leased it to their children and if their children are not working.

I'm wondering if the Minister can find out whether these people that are leasing or renting these houses who are not working are on financial assistance, would their houses be taken back? Can we get them if they are not able to make payments for rent or lease? I am wondering if the Minister responsible for Income Support can look into this. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When people are in financial hardship and can't keep up with fuel bill payments or rent and are not generating any income, if they can't keep up with the rental payments we do have

assistance programs through income support and I will look into the matter that the Member is referring to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Anawak.

Mr. Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why I brought this up is because we all know that there are many homes that are owned by Inuit and because they've been living there five years, that there are quite a few of those types of homes.

The danger here is that the homeowner, if they were to move and left that home to their child and the child did not have any income coming in either because that owner has other rental properties in other communities and are unable to keep up with the payments, but when the children who are living in the house, are unable to pay due to lack of employment or what have you, I'm wondering if there is an assistance program through the income support program and I'm glad that she said there is.

I'd just like to clarify that the children who live in these homes cannot keep up with payments that have depended on their parents home and they don't want to lose that home, there is a concern there.

Is there a program where they can be assisted for that type of problem? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The parent who owns the home who has left the unit to their children is required to document that the unit will be now leased over either to the son or the daughter who will be responsible for the unit.

They need to have this in writing to confirm that they are in fact taking care of the house on behalf of the parent and if they are not working and are on income support can apply through this program. They need that letter to confirm that they are in fact residing in that house and if they are not working, that they have no means of incomes, then they can get support through this program and that is according to the criteria. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 648 – 1(6): Location of Power Headquarters

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I smile to you; I was just about falling asleep. My question is directed to the Minister of the Power Corporation, where is the Headquarters located? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Minister responsible for the Power Corporation, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the official Headquarters of the Power Corporation is in that wonderful community Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, for that clarification. What is your Headquarter staff doing in the communities regarding the billing of power bills and what authority do they have? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They have all the authority that is vested in their employees of the Power Corporation. The issue that the Member talking about in the state of the billing.

We have had problems, Mr. Speaker, at the Power Corporation with the billing software, which collates and collaborates the invoicing of customers' power bill.

Just this morning I met with I think three Members and talked about I think billing charges and so on with their power bill in different communities. So, we are, we are aware of those issues as well as concerns with the ways data input has been done.

So, Mr. Speaker, you can be, right now, up to you know, between thirty and sixty days late on some of the Power Corporation bills between the payment time and when the bill is received and that is why we always specify and try to let our customers know that they should keep receipts of payments when they are made.

So, I hope that helps clarify the question for the Member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He says that they are at times up to sixty days late and I am wondering, due to the correctness of that information, the Nunavummiut were hearing is that they are quite regretful for the creation of Nunavut because they have lost a lot of respect and the problems that have risen due to the creation of Nunavut.

And once Nunavut was created, we seem to have lost a lot of our respect and our rights as Nunavummiut and especially, the consumers have lost respect in the system and so, I would like to get more information regarding the billing process within Nunavut for power, for homeowners and other consumers; how many months is the billing period or how long is the notice period for these bills and how long will it take for the notice until their power can be cut off if they are late paying their bill? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I answer the question, particularly, I just want to say a couple of things. First of all, Mr. Speaker, on the creation of Nunavut, on April 1st, 1999, every person in this room knows that we did not even have a building to meet in; we were meeting in the Cadet Hall and the Legion.

It was only two years ago, Mr. Speaker, that we started our own Power Corporation. We believed at that time it was the right move to make. In this case the Member's home community of Clyde River, and he knows better than anyone, the capitalization costs of a new power plant in the community based on what Yellowknife used to do, in the Northwest Territories Government, meant that the power rates in the Member's community, to pay for this new power plant, would have gone up 150%.

Because we had our own Power Corporation in the Government of Nunavut, there was no increase in Clyde River on their bill.

>>*Applause*

That has to be pointed out. Mr. Speaker, there has been some problems with the Power Corporation, in setting it up, we have not had a rate change since 1998, that is five years. There is no business in the world that continues to operate on a profit, selling the same product to the same place as they did five year ago. That is important to point out.

In every case on the Power Corporation it has not changed since the Northwest Territories on the billing. People get sixty days notice, thirty days notice, and a two week notice, and a forty-eight hour notice before the bill is cut off.

And I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, if the Power Corporation has made a mistake, and they have made mistakes in the past for someone's power has been cut off, should not have been cut off, and they have copies of the receipts, or invoices paid, then we have to interceded on their behalf, and they have been credited back that money.

Mr. Speaker, the people in the community working for the Power Corporation have a very tough job. They receive notification from either the Baker Lake Office, the Rankin Inlet Office, the Iqaluit Office, or the Cambridge Bay Office, and say that Ed Picco has not paid his bill. He has received a ninety days notice, a sixty days notice, a thirty days notice; he has received a forty-eight hour notice, please cut off his power. If Ed can show that indeed, no, Ed has paid that bill, I've got my receipt from my invoice, and so on and so forth; they will not cut the power off.

So that is the framework that is in place. I think that it is important, Mr. Speaker, to point out that if there has been a mistake made, and if the Member is aware of an individual who has paid and the power was cut off, then we can move in there.

However, Mr. Speaker, the Power Corporation has been running like Bell Canada cutting off people's phone bills if they do not get paid, and that is the way it is in the year 2003.

Also, Mr. Speaker, when we get closer to the winter months, we do not cut off the power. It is against the law to cut off the power when you get into the months of November, December, January and February. In some cases where someone has a bill that is \$2,000, or \$3,000, they actually put a regulator on the account where they actually have power, but it is for the furnace, the washer, the dryer, the fridge and the stove, and not for any other peripheral.

So I hope that helps answer the Member's question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): I do not think so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am quite well aware and I have worked with him through the process and acquiring the Nunavut Power Corporation. There could have been a thirty to forty percent increase in the power rates at that time, and I was involved in that process, so I am very aware of it.

That was then and this is now. Today, I am asking him specifically what presently is being done. He said that even if they have a bill of \$3,000, they will not cut off the power. That is not true. Why is he saying something that is not factual?

At times in my community, they have a bill for less than \$100, and their power is cut off. Much mistreatment is happening in my community and I am sure that I am not the only one. They have power bills that are less than \$100, and they have to get their power cut off.

I am wondering if he can say something more factual. My colleague here, I can use an example in Toonoonik, he had a bill of \$93, and was threatened that his power would be cut off if he does not pay it the next day.

That is the type of treatment that we are putting up with. When is he going to rectify this matter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Picco, just before you proceed, I would like to caution the Member on comments and words that refer to the Minister's integrity. Words like honesty are not correct. I don't believe that's your intent, but they're not words that we permit in the house. Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the Minister Responsible for the Power Corporation, I'm aware and made aware of cases where your power is being cut off at people's residences on a daily basis at times.

Mr. Speaker, it doesn't matter what the amount of the bill if someone cuts off your power. And I'll give you an example. It doesn't matter if you're in Nunavut or anywhere

else. If you haven't paid your phone bill and it's only \$10 dollars and you haven't paid it for six months, they'll cut you off.

If you haven't paid your visa bill and it's only \$50 dollars and you haven't paid it for six months, you have no credit coverage. Mr. Speaker, the power corporation is in the same situation.

If you have a bill for \$50 dollars and you haven't paid it for 90 days, that's three months, then the power corporation is in the position to collect.

Mr. Speaker, everyone, every person, every citizen of Nunavut owns the power corporation. Everyone of them. It's ours.

Mr. Speaker, that corporation needs to collect money owed to it, whether it's \$50 dollars or \$3,000 dollars. Mr. Speaker, I have just met again with some Members this morning, I've asked our communications, Mr. Jobie Inooya to phone each community and go on each local radio station and explain how the billing is done and so that we can have it articulated properly and he can answer questions and so on.

Again, that's a part of the communications strategy so that people in Nunavut can understand. That would not have happened if we were still governed out of Hay River, I can guarantee you that.

Mr. Speaker, I can tell the Member if he has a copy of a person's bill that had their power cut off because they only owed \$50 dollars in a one month period or something, I would be more than happy to make sure that's rectified.

I can tell you Mr. Speaker, in all seriousness and honesty, in every case that's been made known to me and we have interceded where we have made mistakes. And we've tried to correct those and we have corrected them.

We're not going to cut someone's power off in the middle of January and put them in hardship. That's why Mr. Speaker, because we haven't cut people off, they've continued to add to their bills.

Their bill might have been only \$100 dollars and we couldn't cut them off in December or January or February. When March or April comes, they might owe \$800 or \$1,000 dollars because you never cut them off the first time.

That's okay Mr. Speaker, because we're not there to cause problems for someone. So in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, very quickly, if the Member has a copy of the bill and the date and so on, then I'd be very happy to look at it as the Minister Responsible and I will have Mr. Jobie Inooya from the power corporation contact each community by radio and make sure that the billing is understandable and indeed maybe Mr. Speaker, doing something in the local newspapers and so on for communications purposes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Netser.

Question 649 – 1(6): Update on Rankin Inlet Plebiscite

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister Responsible for the Liquor Act.

On January of 2002, the residents of Chesterfield Inlet voted in a plebiscite to establish an alcohol education committee. Can the Minister tell me what's happening with the plebiscite? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Responsible for the Liquor Act. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Member is correct and the plebiscite was successful in the request to establish an alcohol committee for that community.

There were draft regulations surrounding the establishment of the committee were drafted but I must say right now they haven't been enacted to date, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Why is it taking so long to establish the regulations? Is there a problem and what is it? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, there were some draft regulations that were drafted. There were some issues, as I understand, they were outstanding in respect to how to establish a Committee within the community itself.

And quite frankly, I believe that there were some miscommunications between the Hamlet and the Government at that time and that is why it has kind of sat there; nobody has followed up on the response on the issues that were outstanding to make that happen.

But having said that, Mr. Speaker, the Member has pointed this out to me and we will ensure that we will work with the community to make sure those regulations are put in place as quickly as possible to allow for that mechanism to be utilized in the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 650 – 1(6): RCMP Detachment in Kugluktuk

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Department of Justice.

(interpretation) First of all, I would like to mention and the Minister is aware of this issue.

The RCMP office, there are five in that area, five RCMP constables. They are not there all at once, there are maybe three, there may be four at times. The space is small and they have mentioned this to me many times.

Just last week people in Kugluktuk come together to meet; people were incarcerated in that building also; people are not happy with that. At times, those that are incarcerated might be fifteen or twenty in the two little spaces that are available for them.

I just want to ask the Minister when will the office space and the incarceration areas be rectified and be looked at. Yes, this might be the responsibility of the Federal Government, but this is directed to the Minister responsible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Members may be aware, our government funds the operations of the RCMP; we do not fund capital projects of the RCMP. That is the responsibility of the Federal Government.

We are all aware, also, that we just recently opened a new detachment in other communities and some of those detachments do not have any detachments.

I believe there needs to be a little bit of leeway here and that we are trying to open up stations elsewhere and I can understand the frustration of the community and have conveyed the same to the RCMP.

But they are trying to do their best and trying to manage the number of detachments and establishing new ones, opening up new offices throughout the territory and it is difficult for them to accommodate everybody at the same time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister for your response, but you are aware of those incarceration areas are very small as well as the constables' office space.

Can the Minister assist the Federal Government or approach the RCMP so that these areas can be looked at to be able to accommodate more people? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will do whatever I can; as I said, I am not trying to defend this issue, but I am just trying to explain what the RCMP are going

through right now. There is, maybe in the community that does not have a detachment and they are trying to get one.

So, we are just building new ones and it takes a little longer, but we are trying to do our best working with them and trying to determine what are the priority areas. So, I will convey the Member's concerns to the RCMP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you. You're willing to assist as you mentioned to me, maybe to attempt as to when these will happen. Are you looking at Nunavummiut as to the spaces that are available to the RCMP for office space and those that are incarcerated? When will these begin to come about? How will these come about in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: I wish I could respond but the money that is used for these projects is federal money so the Federal Government decides how much and where.

What we do is lobby for Nunavut. RCMP is a national police force and they have a budget to manage for projects throughout the country and we try to help them out in making sure that the bulk of that money is spent in Nunavut.

We'll continue to do that. So, we'll do our best in lobbying for Nunavut projects to move ahead of other projects in the country. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister for your response.

When they are planning to do things with the Federal Government as to what is going to come about in the future, with projects and what not, it's good to hear those comments from you.

Once you meet with the RCMP, I'd like to see some of the plans as to which communities and what projects that have gone on. Because as you mentioned, you've worked with the RCMP on a number of cases.

If you get together with them, in terms of the planning process, as to where the RCMP offices will be and those places of incarceration, I'd like a copy of that plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm quite willing but I don't have the ability to decide which ones go where.

I wish I could but we will show the Member what the RCMP have done. In the past year they were building new detachments in Whale Cove and Chesterfield Inlet. So for this past year, because there was none, so, that's what they've been doing for the past year that I'm aware.

I'll convey whatever plans they may have for other communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Ms. Williams.

Question 651 – 1(6): Location of New Community Corrections Officers

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister Responsible for Justice.

I have a question regarding the comments he made yesterday about the ten probation officers that he mentioned. Which communities are they based in? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have from our review, identified Iqaluit, Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, Baker Lake, Pangnirtung and we're also looking at the other communities for community corrections officers. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those communities that he mentioned are not ten but what I can say is that these communities that he referred should have more than one social worker.

If that's the case and if someone was put on probation, the two social workers would be dealing with either the abuser or the victim. In the smaller communities, they have one social worker and no community corrections officers.

What kinds of plans are there for those communities that only have one social worker and whether you could put in community corrections officers and what kind of plans the Department of Justice has on this issue? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an ongoing review that we've been doing as a department.

If we look at Arctic Bay, we have done a review but there is no building to house these types of services. But we have identified a PY. We've had no money but we're looking to the Federal Government and we're looking at how we can, if we can come to an agreement with the Federal Government.

We are looking at additional funds so that we can give those types of services to those communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for including Arctic Bay.

I do know that there are other communities that require those types of services. I think there's been a two year ongoing review on the community corrections officers and the provision of services.

Those communities, especially the smaller community and the non-decentralized communities need those services. Can the Minister inform me as to what kinds of plans they have in place? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are looking at the number of people who need probation services and based on the numbers that we found, we determined who places those community corrections officers where the services are needed the most.

As I said earlier, we are lobbying the Federal Government because we have to find the funding in order to provide the services and there has to be an ongoing budget for the provision of services.

I would be extremely pleased if I found additional funds that could set up those types of services in the communities. But at the present moment we are looking at the RCMP detachments and it did not take us over night to find the funds to get those detachments going and so on. We're not just sitting; we are looking into and trying to find the funds. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What the Premier is saying is that they are looking at the numbers before they place the community corrections officers.

There are many inmates who need those services and they are spending more time in jails because they cannot go on early probations because there are no corrections officers.

You will need more corrections officers if there are more inmates. The Minister needs to look at his Department and find out which employee would be going to the communities. We have many inmates in Nunavut and we need those services, as this is an urgent matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, they are not just kept in jail; there are probation officers available. We have the RCMP who are providing those services also.

They are not just kept in jail because we do not have enough officers. No matter which community they are at, they are provided those services and we place those workers in based on the priorities we have determined. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 652 – 1(6): How Often Minister Meets with RCMP Commanding Officer

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Speaker could not see me because of the bouquet of flowers. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. It is in regards to the Members' Statement that I made earlier on. How often does the Minister meet with the RCMP Commanding Officer annually? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I meet with the commanding officer about once or twice a year. Whenever there are problems that arise, we communicate with each other and if there is an emergency, we communicate with each other as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was told that by my Constituents in Pond Inlet that there have been RCMP members that enter a home without knocking and the RCMP, like I said in my Members' Statement that I think the RCMP have to be informed that it is not appropriate to just enter a home without knocking or without notifying the occupants. Could the Minister look into this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The RCMP operates through federal legislation. It states in the Legislation that they cannot just enter a home without notifying the occupants, unless they have a warrant to enter a home and if this is not being the case, then I would like to be notified by the people of Nunavummiut and we can do something about it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 653 – 1(6): Status of Gun Control in Nunavut

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Department of Justice. It is in regards to firearms control.

What is the current status of gun control here in Nunavut today? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been working with the Gun Control Act. This past spring, a court decision stated that it is not in force with respect to Inuit.

After it is dealt with in the Supreme Court, the decision will be made as to what the status will be; in the meantime Inuit do not require licenses. As to when that will be done, I'm not really sure but it is not directed to Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand the Minister's response.

The Gun Control Act is not really totally understood by the people of Nunavut. Like the Minister said, it does not apply to Inuit. Even if we don't use it, the legislation, is it okay to go hunting and what not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm an Inuk and even if I don't have a license, I could go hunting.

The Act states that we have to have a gun registration or license for a gun but if you're Inuk and you live in Nunavut, you can go ahead and go hunting without those papers. On the other hand, you have to have some kind of registration or a license to buy ammunition. That aspect has not been clarified to date.

But if you want to use a gun, today, it would be okay for Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand the Minister's response.

You have to have a permit in order to buy ammunition. I understand that. Even if I don't have a permit or license, if I got to a store, such as the Co-op or Northern Store, am I allowed to, can I purchase ammunition for my gun? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's the only problem that we have today, that our right to hunt is not respected by the stores.

The permit is only for hunting on the land. Some stores in the communities, they make it hard to buy ammunition. That's why we are still in a process of to revise it or to make it applicable without having to have a permit or license for the people of Nunavut.

We don't have to have a permit to have a gun, but you still have to have a permit to buy ammunition. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alakannuark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand it in two ways and I'd like to get more clarification. The stores are giving us a hard time to get ammunition and at the same time you don't have to have a permit or license to go hunting and at the same time you need a permit or license to buy ammunition.

So I would really like to get really good clarification whether or how an individual can acquire or buy ammunition from the store. In some way I understand it, but in another way I really can't, don't understand it because you still have to have certificate or permit to purchase ammunition. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier Okalik

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I'm trying to respond properly. I could say that, we have a right as Inuit to go hunting even if we have a license. I could use a gun because I have a right as an individual as an Inuk. But, because I don't have a certificate or permit, that is where we have a problem there.

So that is what we are trying to challenge in the Supreme Court because you have to show your permit license in order to purchase the ammunition from the store. So this is the problem we have right now.

Some stores are looking at the certificate or permit or license more so than the right of the Inuk hunter. So that is what we are trying to do to fix it through the Supreme Court.

If you are an Inuk and if you are able to use the rifle and if you are allowed to use the rifle, yet we can't go hunting without having any ammunition. So that is what we're trying to do to fix it through the Supreme Court. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Members, please note that we have approximately eight minutes left. And we have two Members next. We'll have Mr. MacLean and then Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 654 – 1(6): Provide House Arrest

Mr. Glenn McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot in media in the last few weeks about overcrowding of our correctional centers in Nunavut, and setting up new correctional facilities in Kugluktuk, etc, and about female inmates having no institution in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, in the larger communities, especially Baker Lake, we have a full time probation officer and three full time RCMP and three full time social workers.

Does the Minister, a question to the Minister of Justice, does the Minister have any house arrest program in place in Nunavut at this time? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Justice, Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently, I'm not aware of any. But like I said we have various programs, like outpost camp programs, probation services other than that I am not aware of any specific house arrest services.

The courts may impose curfews and other restrictions on the offender, but I am not aware of any specific house arrest has been instituted. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some of the circumstances where offenders are sent out into Iqaluit or outpost camps or Yellowknife that probably warrants dangerous offenders are sent out of their community.

I hear time and time again that they don't get the counselling and services that they need. The Minister of Justice over the last couple of years has been very pro-active in setting up and educating our community justice committees.

Looking at a community like Baker Lake, I just don't know how active they are at this time and they are there. There are elders on there. There are young people on there. And getting to, maybe using the wrong word, house arrest, because when you say house, I looked at my colleague from Kugluktuk and sometimes I feel like I'm under arrest with him.

But on that issue, I'd like to call it some kind of incarceration in the community. And technology is changing today where they have collars and leg ID and those sorts of paraphernalia that helps keep a person in the place that they're supposed to be.

Has the Minister, I don't want to call them collars, has the Minister looked at this type, look at trying to keep offenders in their own community? Because we do have the resources in our communities, like I said, we have full time probation officers, social workers etc. etc. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I haven't been made aware of any specific cases where certain things like electronic equipment can be used as surveillance.

We'll have to look at that, if we can accommodate that within Nunavut. As you know, we're just trying to catch up with the rest of the country in terms of broadband and other modern technology.

We'd have to look at whether it would be possible to institute such electronic gadgetry in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Mr. Puqignak.

Question 655 – 1(6): Lack of Spaces for Elders and Youth Facilities

Mr. Puqignak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding concerns in my community due to the growth of population in the communities and the lack of infrastructure in the government that offers education, and through the Federal Government, do offer funding for aboriginal communities through the application process from the communities.

My question is directed to the Minister Responsible for Community Government and Transportation. I'll use this as an example. At the hamlet in Gjoa Haven, the hamlet office building is being used as a kindergarten class room space and in Taloyoak, because there is a lack of space for the elder's facility, they use the hamlet warehouse for elders' gatherings.

There is a lack of space and infrastructure. Is the Minister aware in his department whether they're losing those spaces to other agencies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Excuse me. Mr. Speaker, I am well aware that the majority of hamlets do have daycare spaces or adult learning centers or youth centers or elders' centers. The hamlet usually have an agreement with

local organizations for the rental of such spaces and yes, I am well aware of it. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the hamlet in the communities within the hamlet boundary governs within the municipal boundary, but the hamlet does not regulate everything or provide for all funding within the boundary.

And due to the lack of space in the community, at times have to let go some of the buildings to other agencies and I think the Government of Nunavut has to take a closer look in the communities on the infrastructure needs for the hamlets.

So, I would like to ask the Minister for my two particular communities of Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven, whether they can take a closer look and send his officials to find out what the infrastructure needs are in those communities. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, just to clarify, on the hamlets in those communities, it is up to their discretion as to what they would like to do with their buildings and who they would like to lend their buildings to.

And because it is at the discretion of the hamlets, they can either give those buildings to other agencies and if he can give me more specific information, I can have my Officials look into the matter to find out what the needs are. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly, I would like to ask him whether his Department in the Kitikmeot Region, we do have regional staff and as a Minister for the Department, can he direct his staff to find out what the infrastructure needs are in those two communities? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, perhaps it would be more proactive to work with the communities have them write to the Department and identify what their needs are.

And once they have done that, then I can direct my staff with more specific information to take a closer look in those communities, once we receive those letters, and it will also have to be clear to see what the priorities of those communities are. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqignak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Looking at this copy, 2004-2005 Capital Estimates and 2008-2009 Capital Planning, there is nothing in the works for infrastructure.

And although this is 2003-2004, we still have a high need, perhaps because the hamlet has let go a lot of their infrastructure in support of the needs of other agencies in the communities. Perhaps I will write a letter to the Minister to work with your departmental staff? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My apologies. As my budget has not been presented to the Committee of the Whole yet it is impossible for me to even refer to the Budget and Plans, as they are still forthcoming to the Committee of the Whole for approval.

Until such time that the Committee has had the opportunity of approving the budget, and the plans, I am at a loss to discuss this any further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Members will note that Question Period is now over. Moving onto 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. Mr. Nutarak.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

Committee Report 019 – 1(6): Bill 41 – An Act to Amend the Nursing Act – COW Review of Bill

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 41, an Act to Amend the Nursing Act, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee for Health and Education, and that the Bill is ready for consideration in the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Nutarak. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 138 – 1(6): The Nunavut Fire Protection Strategy

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following documents. The Nunavut Fire Protection Strategy, Enhancing Community Fire Protection and Response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister Akesuk.

Tabled Document 139 – 1(6): Addendum to the 2004/2005 Capital Estimates

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document. The Addendum to the 2004-2005 Capital Estimates, both containing corrected information for the Department of Community Government and Transportation referring this document in Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Are there any further Tabling of Documents? Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration to the Committee of the Whole of Bills and other Matters. Bill 12, Bill 33, Bill 45, Bill 46, Bill 47, and Bill 48, with Mr. Puqiqnak in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee, we will take a short break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> Committee recessed at 15:30 and resumed at 16:06

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

Chairman (Mr. Puqiqnak) (interpretation): Thank you. The Committee will now come to order. We have a quorum. During Committee of the Whole yesterday, the Minister for Public Works made his Opening Remarks. The Minister can proceed to the Witness Table with his staff. Go ahead, Mr. Minister.

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Welcome, Mr. Minister and if you could please introduce your staff for the record. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right, my Deputy Minister, Robert Gunn, on my left Assistant Deputy Minister, David Akoak. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Welcome, David and Mr. Gunn. Just before we start with the Capital Estimates, the Members have 10 minutes to make their General Comments. The Floor is now open for General Comments. If there are no General Comments from the Members, under 6-5, any questions from the Members. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one question on the \$1 million 150 thousand, that is for new computer hardware and software or just updates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for the six communities for vehicles that have to be replaced and for the renovations for Government staff houses; that is what it is for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I have, under 6-5, any questions, concerns? Total Summary, Public Works and Services, 6-6 Detail of Capital, Baffin Region, Total Qikiqtaaluk Region, \$170 thousand, Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there is an emergency that has to be taken care of right away, will there be some money available for emergency items that have to be done right away?

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Member clarify what kinds of emergency items that he is speaking about? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Nutarak, if you can clarify your question.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): If there needs to be vehicles replaced and for the renovations of the public or staff housing, if there are emergency renovations that have to be done for staff housing, is there any money set aside for that purpose in 2004-2005 or in the contingency plan? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there is an emergency where you have to do renovations or you have to work on it right away, if there is anything that has to be done that is of an emergency nature, it will have to be done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Can you point me to the page where the money would be on these pages for emergency purposes? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Qikiqtaaluk Region, under 6-6, there is \$130 thousand for minor Capital Projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Iqaqialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the same question as my Colleague, under Qikiqtaaluk Region, what happens if the money is not used? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do not believe that there would be any money left over. We believe that it is going to be used up for minor Capital Projects because the Government staff houses have to be renovated. In 2004-2005, we expect that there will be no money left over. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): It just says that various Qikiqtaaluk Region, Minor Capital Projects, I just wondered whether it is going to be used for the purpose that it is meant to be used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, I can assure the Member that this will not be misappropriated because there has to be Minor Capital Projects done for the various staff houses in the Qikiqtaaluk Region. I can assure the Member that the money will not be misappropriated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. After the end of our term, would you be able to tell us how much is going to be allotted for each? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Yes, there will be money set aside again for doing minor capital projects after the end of that year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): I have no more names. Detail of Capital, Public Works and Services, Technical Services, the Qikiqtaaluk region, \$170 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Kivalliq Region, 6-6, or 6-7. Any comments or questions? If there is no questions, or comments. Total Kivalliq region, \$850 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Under 6-7, the Kitikmeot region, 6-7. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to get some clarification under the Kitikmeot region; Kugluktuk is the only community that has a Capital Estimate for vehicle replacement. In this area, some communities in the Kitikmeot region, that have requested to have their vehicle replaced, and Kugluktuk is the only one that is there.

Are there other communities in the Kitikmeot region that are going to get their vehicle replacement allotment? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Kugluktuk's vehicle is seven years old. As soon as the vehicle reaches the age of seven years, they have to be replaced.

And the other question that the Member had if there is any other community in the Kitikmeot region that is going to get their vehicle replaced, if we know that the community requires a vehicle replacement then we will consider that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For further clarification, even there is no money for the other communities, if there is an emergency, then would that money be available for that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there is nothing in these Capital Estimates, and if there is an emergency, we are told whether there is a fire in a vehicle, or if a vehicle burns down, and if it is an emergency then we can consider it. We have to have subs for that.

At this time, it would not come from my department, but it would come from the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I have no more names for that page. Total Kitikmeot Region, \$130 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Total Tangible Assets, \$1 million, 150 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Public Works and Services, Branch Summary, Petroleum Products Divisions, 6-8, and 6-9. Any concerns or questions. Okay. Detail of Capital. Total Headquarters Region, \$100 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): 6-9, Qikiqtaaluk Region, Total Qikiqtaaluk Region, \$3 million, \$200 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. 6-10, Kivalliq Region, Total Kivalliq Region, \$1 million, 800 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Total Kitikmeot Region, \$1 million, 475 thousand. Agreed? Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you know, last year and the year before, there was some fuel shipped to Kugaaruk as they ran out of fuel.

I was wondering if the fuel tanks will be sufficient. 1.4 million litres, will that be sufficient to provide fuel for Kugaaruk? As you know, we had to charter a hercules jet to haul fuel to Kugaaruk to replenish their fuel supply.

Does Kugaaruk have sufficient fuel supply for this time around? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question from the Member is whether there is going to be a sufficient amount of fuel for this year for Kugaaruk. I will have my Deputy Minister, Robert Gunn, respond to that question.

Chairman (interpretation): Deputy Minister. Mr. Gunn.

Mr. Gunn: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Havioyak, with this increase in the code capacity, there should be no problems with fuel delivery in Kugaaruk.

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

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just looking at the two numbers, when I say two, I should say 2003/2004, in comparison with the numbers for 2004/2005, when I look

at those, the reason I ask is that it seems to me, when you look at the numbers, they're about 50 percent done. I don't know. Maybe you could provide an update, because I want to make sure that they have sufficient facilities for their petroleum. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Minister. Mr. Gunn.

Mr. Gunn: Thank you. We're about 90 percent complete on the project now.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Haviyak. In the Kitikmeot Region, Total Kitikmeot Region, \$1 million, 475 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Total Tangible Assets, \$6 million, 575 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Going back. 6-4. Department Summary Detailed Capital Expenditures. Total capital Expenditures. \$7 million, 725 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): The department is now complete. Thank you Mr. Kattuk and your officials and staff for coming. Do you have any closing comments? Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for you information, the individuals to my left and my right, we are all Inuit.

>>*Applause*

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for making your appearance. We have completed with Public Works and Services. What is the wish of the Committee? Mrs. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Committee wishes to continue with the Community Government and Transportation Capital Estimates 2004/2005. Thank you, Mr. Chairman

Chairman (interpretation): We will move on to the Community Government and Transportation. Mr. Kilabuk, do you have any opening comments? Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman I guess I can start with my opening in my seat or at the witness table?

Chairman (interpretation): You could make your opening comments exactly from where you are. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you for giving me your consideration. Thank you Chairman. I will be discussing the department's Capital Budget with the Committee as a Whole.

My department plays an important role in the aspects of community life and well-being. So many of our day to day activities are affected by basic the infrastructures that surround us.

For example, the water we drink is collected, pumped and delivered. The roads we drive on are graded and smoothed.

The garbage we throw out is collected and disposed of. Community members work, gather and celebrate in municipal facilities. All these activities are supported through our community's infrastructure and essential part of daily life.

In the last five years, the capital programs division has been successful in undertaking many different projects. Some of these projects have involved basic but critically required infrastructure such as water and sewage facilities.

Examples include a mechanical sewage treatment plant in Pangnirtung, my home community. Also, ongoing major works of Coral Harbour sewage site and significant improvements in water and storage in Kugluktuk.

Mr. Chairman, although water and sewer systems are important in our daily lives, it is often community-based infrastructure that is highest on the priority list for our communities.

We have managed to continue to purchase municipal equipment such as loaders, dozers and fire trucks. We have built the new arena in Kimmirut and extended the community hall in Arviat. We have built bridges in Pelly Bay and Rankin Inlet and improved roads in local and many other projects across Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, an important part of our communities is airports and without them, our communities would be completely isolated. Through the Nunavut Airports Division of my Department, we provide safe infrastructure and quality maintenance for safety and reliability and the communication and weather services.

We have built the new air terminal building in Clyde River and improved runways in Whale Cove, Baker Lake and Resolute Bay. We have also identified funding and

completed designs for a new airport terminal buildings in Pond Inlet, Gjoa Haven and Coral Harbour. All will be constructed this upcoming summer. I envy them.

Mr. Chairman, even with these successes we have faced an uphill battle to meet community needs and requirements of Federal Regulations. This is particular, too, for water and sewage systems.

For instance, for the first time in some communities' histories, they are being checked to see if they comply, if they complied with Federal Environment Rules. Laws and Regulations are now being enforced and applied to a standard never before seen in the north.

We have an infrastructure left to us, we have infrastructure left to us by the previous Government that was often neglected. We also have a rapidly growing population and several emergency situations that require emergency infusion of capital dollars.

Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. All of these required us to adopt the 5-Year Capital Planning to the available dollars and forced us to make difficult choices in what projects can go ahead with funding available.

But Mr. Chairman, I have worked very hard with my Cabinet Colleagues to advance our 5-Year Capital Plans, but even with this work, Mr. Chairman, we still face tremendous pressure to do more with less.

Our task at Community Government and Transportation is not just to build, grade and deliver. We are actively planning lifecycle management of our facilities and buildings. We are also taking aggressive steps to train and build the municipalities' capacities to take preventative measures against building loss.

This is supported through my Department's funding of the Municipal Training Organizations and our financial assistance to help establish NAMIX, the municipal insured programs for communities.

I am a firm believer that when there are challenges, we need to take the initiative and turn them into opportunities and Mr. Chairman, an additional step to making our money go further is to build partnerships and acquire additional service of funding and to this end, I am glad to report, Mr. Chairman, we have had a great deal of success in the past year.

Our work with Infrastructure Canada has produced an agreement through the strategic infrastructure fund to contribute \$20 million dollars over the next three years. This allows us to deal with some of the communities' most crucial water and sewage infrastructure needs and these funds are matched, Mr. Chairman, by our own capital dollars, meaning we have \$40 million dollars in funding for critical water and sewage projects over the next three years.

Mr. Chairman, we also benefited from the strategic highway infrastructure program, which provides \$4.3 million dollars of Transport Canada funding over five years and this is supporting three air terminal buildings (interpretation) I am aware of this as well as you are. (interpretation ends) And some road work and I hope some marine facilities that are still in the planning stages.

Mr. Chairman, Canada recently announced the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund. We are just starting to negotiate for this and that is not shown as our five year capital plan. When the agreement is complete it will provide an additional \$15 million dollars going to Nunavut over ten years from Infrastructure Canada and we anticipate \$15 million dollars in matching funds from Indian and Northern Affairs. Nunavut will also need to provide an additional \$15 million dollars.

Mr. Chairman, a highlight of this agreement is that it gives us a great deal of flexibility to better recognize the needs of the north and priorities of our communities. I plan to involve fully the Nunavut Association of Municipalities in reviewing priorities.

The criteria for this funding include infrastructure that improves health and the environment but in addition to these areas such as cultural, tourism and recreation infrastructure as well as access roads.

Although the funding sources do not address all the sizable and escalating needs presented by Nunavut realities, these partnerships and funding are significant advances in the right direction.

Mr. Chairman, the government's awareness of the great need and the challenges communities face is what sets our course for capital planning. The vision of our future as well as partnerships to better support communities and the needs of Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman of Community Government and Transportation. Do we have opening comments from the Standing Committee? Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you cousin. As chairman of the standing committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development I am pleased to be able to provide the opening comments as we begin to review the 2004-2005 capital estimates for the department of Community Government & Transportation.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee had the opportunity earlier this month to meet with the Minister of Community Government and Transportation to review the draft 2004-2005 capital estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the Committee is pleased with the Minister's continuing efforts to secure critically needed infrastructure funding from the federal government through various federal programs.

Members will recall that this House passed a motion last year in Pangnirtung urging that all Ministers of the Government of Nunavut raise federal awareness of Nunavut's unique infrastructure needs.

The recently announced federal infrastructure funding initiative is surely good news. However Members would like to see more comprehensive and transparent cost breakdowns of federally funded projects.

Mr. Chairman the Standing Committee is pleased that the Minister has succeeded in securing funding under Transport Canada's Strategic Highway Infrastructure Program. Committee Members are concerned that construction has not yet started on the air terminal buildings that are being funded under this program in Pond Inlet, Coral Harbour and Gjoa Haven.

Committee Members are pleased with the recent announcement of the \$15 million allocation funding to Nunavut from the Municipal and Rural Infrastructure fund. Members would like to see this funding allocated using the consultative approach with hamlets to identify community priorities.

Members are concerned however that this fund requires matching dollars from the Government of Nunavut and it's not really apparent where these funds will be found. Mr. Chairman, members recognize that many of the department's proposed sewage and waste water projects are the results of increasingly stringent federal and environmental regulations.

Committee Members urge the Minister to lobby the federal government for funding and support efforts to comply with their new regulations as they have been drafted in order to avoid extensive fines being levied at hamlets and the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman with the infrastructure needs in Nunavut we can ill afford to spend money on fines. Mr. Chairman, the standing committee was disappointed to learn that none of the applications to the airport capital assistance programs were approved in 2003/2004. Committee Members support the Minister's ongoing efforts to secure funding under this program.

Mr. Chairman, members were disappointed to note that many hamlet assets are not accurately assessed for insurance purposes and encouraged the Minister to ensure that reassessments are completed in a timely manner.

Committee members applaud the Minister's work with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities to form NAMIX. We have watched the hamlets of Repulse Bay and Clyde River grapple with damage caused by fire.

We know that the insurance issue has become increasingly important as infrastructure is upgraded and the value of the buildings increased. Mr. Chairman, the Committee noted

with interest that Iqaluit will be receiving \$4 million in block capital funding in 2004/2005.

The Committee encourages the Minister to maintain a rigorous accountability framework for the use of block funding and looks forward to viewing a detailed annual report of the city's initiative under this program.

The Standing Committee recognises that the Government of Nunavut's fiscal position is weakening and that we may soon be in a position where we have to cut spending across the board.

However, Mr. Chairman, the Committee is concerned that the \$ 300 thousand dollars recreation facilities fund has been reduced to \$250 thousand dollars. Members are well aware of the importance of recreation to the growth, both physical and mental of our youth.

The Standing Committee believes that healthy communities require gathering places. Mr. Chairman, the Committee was pleased to note that the Minister is partnering with the Department of Education in Whale Cove to ensure that adequate facilities are available during community gatherings.

Committee members continue to support partnership initiatives to create multi-use facilities. Members believe that providing recreational opportunities and facilities for youth will help address the numerous social issues.

Committee Members continue to urge the department to work in conjunction with the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth to identify areas of cooperation with respect to recreation facilities for youth.

That concludes my comments on the 2004/2005 capital estimates of the Department of Community Government and Transportation. Individual Members may wish to raise questions or make comments. Thank you, cousin.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, my cousin. Before the Minister goes to the witness table, I have a short announcement. The Minister of Finance gave us these blue binders that will be used for the Community Government and Transportation and the white ones had errors.

2004/2005, Capital Estimates, Community Government and Transportation. Page 7-12. \$300 thousand dollars. The total should be \$4 million, 225 thousand. On 7-10, Resolute Bay, sewer and water works. \$1 million, 300 thousand and the total should be \$4 million, 259 thousand.

On page 7-16, Kitikmeot, C-11, for Kitikmeot and Resolute Bay, there were a number of mistakes here and so you have your blue binders that you'll be using instead. In order for

our meeting to proceed properly, I would ask that the Minister of Community Government and Transportation go up to the witness table and invite his officials.

Sergeant-at-arms if you would assist the Members please.

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Before we go onto general comments, please introduce your officials, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me here today, to my left is my Deputy Minister, Tom Rich and he is a veteran now in the House. Doug Sitland works in the department. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome to the house. Welcome to your staff.

At this point according to our rules that you are quite well aware of now, I will allow each Member to have ten minutes and once all the Members have had their turn, then you may have another turn and another ten minutes for general comments. Now, we'll go on to general comments. The floor is now open. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past years, the municipal government, we've had some problems.

I'd first like to touch on very briefly because I'm very glad to be here dealing with this department and the new Minister for Community Government and Transportation. Since we became Members, the progress that this department has made to date since the creation of Nunavut, has been, when you think of it, the communities have had more focus and attention then before.

And the needs of the communities in Nunavut have also been respected and met to the best extent possible through this department. The Community Government and Transportation Department has never been an easy task.

With the Government of Nunavut in operation, we have really benefited in that the needs of Nunavummiut are given more emphasis. That is the intent and that's the change that I have realized since the creation of Nunavut and I can truly say that from my heart.

I'm sure that the hamlets all feel this way; they feel closer to government and it can only get better. As well, in the capital estimates, a lack of funds has been a hindrance in getting projects and programs done.

However, I would like to say that with the changes through ministerial shuffles and portfolios, some projects seem to drop off the books although we have voiced the need for those certain programs or projects.

We need to try and get some consistency in what the community needs are and with that in mind, in my constituency, I really don't have any problems with the Community Government and Transportation department.

There has been some problems arising in the communities and although that is, we seem to come up with solutions faster than before. And I'm really proud to say that. I rarely say how proud I am of the government so I take this opportunity to say how proud I am of the government for the good work they've done in this field.

So, I'll leave my comments at that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. We were talking about breakwaters earlier and docking facilities. I think in September, we lost a boat in my community due to weather conditions and a few weeks later, it landed in Clyde River from Pond Inlet and I think they might end up owning it and because we do have this problem with winds and weather conditions, especially in the fall; Mr. Iqaqrialu may end up keeping that boat.

However, this boat ended up in Clyde River all the way from Pond Inlet and due to the lack of docking facilities and this should be one consideration the Department should make and to lobby the Federal Government in this area for this infrastructure need in Pond Inlet for the future.

And as well, in the Capital Estimates for Pond Inlet, a community hall is finally added in there and I am very grateful that; I am sure the residents of Pond Inlet will also be grateful that it has made it in the books for 2004-2005 for the community centre and arena and I thank the Minister for his attention.

And as well, I would also be just as grateful if that docking facility that I am requesting would make in the books, but I had thought that it would not even make it in the books this year, so I am really glad it made it.

So, I thank his staff and the Minister of Transportation and Community Government for his attentions in this matter. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I will now have Mr. Patterk for General Comments.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to mirror Mr. Nutarak's comments, this fall I was in Chesterfield Inlet and they have been asking for docking facilities in their community because they do have quite a few boats in that community.

They have been asking for this docking facility in the community to protect their boats. Especially in the fall, trying to get boats in the water has been a problem and that was one

of their biggest concerns when I went to Chesterfield Inlet and that was one of the biggest needs because they do have bad winds.

And so, I would like this to be a consideration to be put into your Capital Planning for the community of Chesterfield Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. My apologies for Mr. Netser, saying your name wrong. Thank you, Mr. Netser. I have no one else on my list at this point. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, to the people at the Witness Table and thank you for the hard work you put into trying to meet the needs of the communities.

Reiterating what Jobie mentioned, all I have to say is that in my communities, in one of them, because they do get high winds, they also need a docking facility in the community. It is part of that land, when they anchored their boats during, it came from Naujaat.

It was the same problem where a boat had gone away from the community due to high winds and so there is a high need there as well for docking facilities for the protection of their boats from the elements.

And so, they do end up losing equipment due to the lack of docking facilities in the community. When the high seas are windy, it becomes a problem and communities end up losing equipment.

So just a comment to say we need to have this in consideration for capital planning for the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to make a quick comment. I know that the block funding agreement in place between the department and the government and to just echo the chairs comments and I know that it was myself and him that raised these issue in the past to ensure that it's not giving them a cheque and we'll see you later; if you run into trouble, then you're on your own.

Hopefully there's good cooperative approach between the department and the city to ensure that everything that's done is done properly. I know that there have been incidences here in the past that we don't want to see repeat themselves.

I know that with the current administration and counsel here at the city certainly doesn't want that to happen as well. I think it has been indicated in the past since the finger can't be pointed at any one place and it takes a cooperative effort to ensure that these things

don't happen again and I look forward to seeing this continued approach between the city and the department.

One of the other things that you mentioned in your opening comments and that I'm asking about is, I know that there was a study done for the airport here in Iqaluit that I think it's probably one of the busiest airports in North America and I know that there are some issues regarding the safety at the airport there on the apron and that area and there were some plans to have some of those issues rectified.

I look forward to hearing when exactly that's going to happen. I know that study was done a few years ago and I would like to find out when we're going to see some of that stuff happen.

Hopefully we'll have something done before something unfortunate happens and we're in a situation where we say we were going to do it but we're waiting too long. So, with the capacity and the volume that goes through the airport here with flights, I think that's something that we want to make sure that it is as safe as possible a place to be and fly in and out of. That's it for my comments, Mr. Chairman. Best of luck. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. General comments. I have no one else on my list for general comments. We'll now move onto questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the new copies that were just handed out you said you would point out one of them. I have a misunderstanding here. Can you please just clarify why you handed out new copies?

Chairman (interpretation): There are typos in the Inuktitut in the new copies. Thank you. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, in my copy that I just received that was one of them; it is supposed to say Community Government and Transportation, that's what it's supposed to say in Inuktitut. It was just a typo.

Chairman (interpretation): Any other comments, questions? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I gathered from the Minister's opening comments that he indicated that talks about the lifeblood of our communities are our airports, and I know that there was a study that was done here and recommendations for some work to be done at the airport here in Iqaluit so I would just like to ask the Minister when any work is going to be started on upgrading the facilities here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: As a matter of fact the department is getting, based on information from that study, the Department of Community Government and Transportation is pretty tied up together for the federal government for them to review and consider as initial start up fee, as work or necessary work for some of the work that has been identified in the study. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I know in the past some of these projects for the airports are basically we provide the information, as the Minister indicated, to the federal government and through the Department of Transport I believe it is, they are the ones who identify where what projects are going to be done for the year and past year's work being done on other airports and throughout Nunavut and announced by the federal government.

The Minister is going to be putting a package together for the federal counterparts. Is that the package they are looking at trying to get to them so that the funding can be approved in the next fiscal year for the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, as a separate negotiation we are putting a package together to approach the federal government to hopefully initiate some work by the next fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister indicated they are putting the package together; any idea when that will be complete and when he plans on presenting it to his federal counterpart? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are hoping to have the package packed and delivered to the federal government in November for presentation. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Questions. Questions. We will now go onto page 7-6, 7-5, 7-5 and 7-6 any comments. Okay. Capital Estimates, Branch Summary, Community Government and Transportation. Grants and Contributions, Total Expenditures Total Capital Expenditures \$550 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Total Qikiqtaaluk Region. \$4 million, 373 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): 7-6. 7-7. Kivalliq region. Community Government. Total Kivalliq Region, \$442 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region, \$248 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Total Grant and Contribution \$5 million. Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Chairman, are we going off the pages on the hand out or the numbers in the book, so we haven't gotten to 7-9 yet?

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo, just be patient till we get there. We haven't got to 7-9. Total Grants and Contributions \$5 million, 613 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): 7-9. Community Government, Detail of Capital, Tangible Assets for Qikiqtaaluk. 7-9, go on to page 7-9. Total Qikiqtaaluk Region. This is a revised number; this is now \$4 million, 259 thousand. Agreed? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak: We were told that this is a new copy with revised numbers. You are talking about \$3 million. For the Qikiqtaaluk region. Can you please say the amount again?

Chairman: In the original copy there was a mistake so there are some corrections to be made in these originals as well as the handouts. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu: Thank you. For Qikiqtaaluk region we have a copy that has the \$3 million figure, my colleague here and I, and in the other one it's the same amount. And you told us a different amount just then as Chair, you gave us a totally different number. Can you say that amount again? Thank you.

Chairman: We have more than one copy and we were told that there were some mistakes in here. Perhaps the Minister can say what clarifications were; there is some kind of confusion here. Because there are some amounts in here that are misleading, and confusing everybody. Minister of Finance on page 7-9, can you please clarify what the amounts are? Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: I don't know, Mr. Chairman. Which item, Mr. Chairman, 7-9, is it the whole page or specific item? For the Qikiqtaaluk Region total amounts for Detail of Capital for Qikiqtaaluk various, we would just like a clarification because we were told there was a new amount from the \$3 million amount that there was a new revised amount of \$4 million, 259 thousand on page 7-9 on the handouts.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to clarify that on page 7-9 for Total Qikiqtaaluk Region amount, there was a mistake for \$3 million, 959 thousand, the Resolute Bay amount was not added at \$300 thousand. So, it is supposed to be \$4 million, 259 thousand for the correct amount. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): That is what I was trying to say. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Should we take a quick break because we do not even see that amount anywhere in the new handout. So, can we take a break and to get this all straightened out, because I think if we are going to be approving that amount, we need to see the right amount in front of us so that we can get a copy that reflects the true amount. So, I think we should take a quick break so that they can straighten this out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): That is why we were saying that there is some revised numbers and if it is not in front of you, we would not deal with it at all and that we would only discuss it with the documentation in front of us. So, perhaps, we will take a 15-minute break to get this all straightened out.

>>Committee recessed at 17:12 and resumed at 17:27

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Under 7-9. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On 7-9, the change in that 7-9 in, from Kitikmeot Region, it was in the Kitikmeot Region and it was supposed to be in the Qikiqtaaluk Region. So, the numbers will not change. So, before the end of our Committee of the Whole today, I do not have a problem with agreeing with that page. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Yes, I think we all understand the Total for Qikiqtaaluk Region, under 7-9, I cannot really see too well. So, yes, I think we all understand that Total Qikiqtaaluk Region, \$4 million, 259 thousand, after the changes, after the amendment, agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. In the same page, 7-9, Kivalliq Region and 7-9, 7-9 and 7-10, Kivalliq Region, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is what I have been patiently waiting for. Sorry, I was confused on those documents we were using before; I was not sure what page number we were on.

It is on here, there is Sewage and Water Works, \$1 million, 55 thousand for Rankin Inlet and this is a utilidor hook-up, it is finishing off the community with, is that what those funds are for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is going to be for Area 1 for hook-up. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I'm just wondering if that is the full cost of it, where if the resident pays for a portion of the hook up costs the same down there so the government doesn't end up footing the whole bill for it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry I will get my staff to explain.

Chairman: Mr. Sitland

Mr. Sitland: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This project is the replacement of utilidor only in Area one; it is not the lateral service connection. Thank you, Mr. Chairman

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman as you know, this is an issue where the resident is being stuck with, in some cases thousands of dollars, twenty thousand dollars to hook up to the utilidor. Will they have the same thing down there where the residents, the homeowners are on their own to the main line from their unit? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Sitland

Mr. Sitland: Thank you, Mr. Chairman I know the project is the replacement of existing utilidor; the utilidor is already there but it's very old, it's some thirty, thirty five years old and laterals are already there. So it's a replacement of the utilidor only and part of the project involves free attaching laterals.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I don't see here and I was wondering if there were any funds allocated for sewage treatment plant in Rankin? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Mr. Chairman. It's in here.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is it included in that amount or is it in other parts in the budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's an amount under the Strategic Infrastructure Fund and in the future years that's where the money will be coming from. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Where is it in here? Oh here, it's sure doesn't say Sewage Treatment Plant on here. I was wondering is it included in the \$1 million, 55? If it's not, where is and how much is it I was wondering? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies to the Member, the actual Strategic Infrastructure Funds do not appear on the capital estimates that we're approving in the House today.

Because the \$4.5 million dollars that has been approved over the three years is coming from the Strategic Infrastructure Fund, that's Federal Dollars that we could not show them in the Nunavut Capital Budget exercise. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of that STIF I'll call it for short, I guess the Strategic Infrastructure Fund that STIF fund the Minister is talking about, indicating that it's going to do something to the sewage treatment plant in Rankin Inlet and I already know they have a plant there already.

As I said are there problems with it? Is it something that just needs to be upgraded or fixed or what's going on with it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The sewage treatment plant over in Rankin Inlet will be upgraded. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is it functioning now or does it need to be upgraded or is there a problem with it? I guess the reason I'm asking this is, Mr. Chairman, if we can apply under the SIF funding for an upgrading something that they are having problems with there and under that program.

I'm sure all Members are quite aware of the problem they have with the sewage treatment plant here in Iqaluit; if that is something that can be pursued along the same lines, that way we don't have to use our funding, our government's funding to rectify the problem if we could use access federal dollars to help resolve those issues it would give more of an opportunity to spend our dollars elsewhere because there are many needs.

So, I'm just wondering if that's something that could be looked at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We're willing to look at ways of being creative to meet other needs in the communities but or specifically for Iqaluit we do have some funds identified through the block funding arrangements to address some of the concerns for sewage treatment plants here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I know that there are some that's one of the projects targeted under that block funding agreement but if we notified the federal government then they'll look after projects like that under this strategic infrastructure fund wouldn't it be better to try and access those federal dollars to handle projects like that if they are already willing to? You know they've done it in Rankin Inlet why couldn't they do it for the sewage treatment plant here and that would free up those dollars on much needed projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: My information is certainly right. At the time the block funding arrangements were negotiated or listed the funds for the sewage treatment plant for Iqaluit were already committed and the SIF funds were finalized at a later date.

But however the Member does bring up a very good point, which we will definitely consider in part of our further negotiations for future projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We're on 7-10. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish I could sit here and worry about utilidor for my community but unfortunately I come from a community that is not as rich as the ones with utilidor or get the luxurious contracts and funding arrangements.

I come from a community of 1,500 people that still has trucked services and we're not living in the lap of luxury I guess like a couple of other communities but on that issue Mr. Chairman I've got a question for the Minister.

Last year's capital plan there was a line item for a garbage truck in our community which, like I say is one of the largest communities on trucked services. The hamlet wants to turn that into a water truck and we got a verbal agreement that would be okay because sometimes the municipalities like to show leadership that they can decide whether they are getting the garbage truck or a water truck.

Sometimes the bureaucracy in its infinite wisdom throws a letter at them and says this isn't according to the plan. And when I get letters like that, I get really irritated that when we talk about community empowerment, let the hamlet councils make decisions on their own and then when they're given a verbal agreement and it's thrown back at them and say then do it under this program.

Then I think, this hasn't changed much from the Northwest Territories system of thinking. And like I say, if we had utilidor like most people, or some people, not most people, I wouldn't have to worry about this issue.

Delivering water, in your statement you say we deliver the water, you make sure it's, so I'm asking you today, can you assist the hamlets in this issue with the garbage truck, water truck? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm also in the same boat that it's also very hard to work out the verbal agreements from the community; however, to answer the Members question, I am more than willing to work with the community, municipality to go over their priority list for either garbage or water and sewage trucks.

However, realizing limited dollars may be a factor, I will commit to working with the municipality to get a priority list in a written format in the municipalities. Thank you.

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

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Baker Lake does have the luxury of getting \$4 million a year in block funding for their programs and like I say, all we're asking for in our community is, something from the capital plan last year, the community is allowed to make that decision and say our garbage truck right now is in good shape, we need a water truck more.

So, the hamlet went out and bought a water truck with the understanding that that money that was in the plan last year for the garbage truck could be converted to a water truck and they could pay up the difference.

It's already been spent and now we get a letter saying they don't fund that. There was \$140 thousand in the plan for the garbage truck. Can you commit to me in the House today that this will be taken care of? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Well it depends what I'm committing to. However, I will commit to the Member that I will look into this matter to see if there are ways to resolve the outstanding issue of closing out the file on this matter. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. 7-10. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make a statement that I would like to stay within the capital estimates for Community Government and Transportation and never mind what is not in the capital estimates.

Chairman (interpretation): Just to make it clear that we have to go ahead and do our page by page. If there are no questions, Kivalliq Region. 7-10, Total Kivalliq Region, \$2 million, 546 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Kitikmeot Region. 7-10 and 7-11. Total Kitikmeot Region. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, for returning and working and your back at work.

You and your staff are aware that in Kugluktuk the water treatment in Kugluktuk was not up to par. The hamlet has been having problems with it in terms of funds that could be used there.

It's getting very expensive and we are going into debt on this. I am just wondering if there is work being done at the pump house or is there a water treatment investigation going on and if so what are the results? It seems that year after year it will work for a while and then something goes wrong.

It is a constant problem. While we are here today, could you provide some information on this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We worked with the Public Works and Services in the water treatment investigation and we know that Kugluktuk has been having continuous problems.

We have started working on trying to find solutions to try to provide clean drinking water in Kugluktuk through the SIF programs. Sorry, Mr. Chairman. What we are going to do is we are going to be getting money from the Strategic Infrastructure Program, which is a Federal Government fund and up to, there is about \$5.5 million dollars that we are getting so we could do the fixing of their water. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Anything else? Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to get a clarification on where in the Kitikmeot Region? There is Resolute Bay in there and I think that is for the Qikiqtaaluk Region. It is part of Kitikmeot; Resolute Bay is part of Kitikmeot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That \$300 thousand was not supposed to be here. It has to be part of the Qikiqtaaluk Region; that is why there was a number difference.

It should not be in the Kitikmeot Region, it should be in the Qikiqtaaluk Region. There is going to be less money for the Kitikmeot Region, \$10 million, 830 thousand, rather than \$11 million. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Total Tangible Assets, Kitikmeot Region, I mean, \$10 million 830 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Total Tangible Assets, \$11 million 30 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): 7-13, Community Government and Transportation, Grants and Contribution, Detail of Capital, Kitikmeot Region, \$88 thousand. Agreed? Mr. Haviyok.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): I just want a clarification on this item in the newspaper, we see it in the newspaper and the people have been hearing, looking at this \$88 thousand dollars, where is it going and what is it going to be used for?

I did not know they wanted to build a road. The community of Kitikmeot want to see this; where it is going to be built? When is this road going to be built? We would like to see that continue to be built for the Kitikmeot road and port I believe to the mine sites. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be the environmental assessment for that region. Those are for the environmental studies. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Total Kitikmeot Region. \$88 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Total Grants and Contributions. \$88 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Going back 7-14. Transportation. Detail of Capital. Tangible Assets. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region, \$430 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Qikiqtaaluk Region, Total Qikiqtaaluk Region, \$200 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Kivalliq Region, Total Kivalliq Region, \$1 million. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Kitikmeot Region, Total Kitikmeot Region, \$835 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Total Tangible Assets, \$2 million, 465 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Going back to 7-4, Department of Community Government and Transportation, Department Summary, Detail of Expenditures, Total Capital Estimates \$19 million, 196 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree that this department is concluded with?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): I would like to thank the Minister of Community Government and Transportation and his officials for appearing before us. Do you have any closing remarks?

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): I can only say thank you colleagues.

Chairman (interpretation): What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): At this time I would like to report progress.

Chairman (interpretation): There is a motion to report progress. Agreed. Opposed. The motion is carried. Thank you. Can you please ask the Speaker to return?

Speaker: Returns to Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 20: Report of Committee of the Whole

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker your Committee has been considering Bill 46 and the capital estimates and would like to report progress. Also Mr. Speaker I move that the report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Okalik will the 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. Third Reading of Bills.

Item 22. Orders of the Day with Madame Deputy Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Deputy Clerk: Mut'na Uqaqtii. I have meeting announcements for tomorrow at 9:00; Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development in the Tuktu room. 10:00 Government Operations and Services in Tuktu Room and at 12 noon a meeting of full caucus in Nanuq room.

(interpretation) Orders of the Day for Thursday, October 30th 2003:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 12
 - Bill 33
 - Bill 37
 - Bill 43
 - Bill 44

- Bill 45
- Bill 46
- Bill 47
- Bill 48

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Madame Deputy Clerk.

This House stands adjourned until Thursday, October 30, 2003 at 1:30 pm.

Sergeant-at-Arms

>>House adjourned at 18:00

