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**DAY 4**

**Friday May 14, 2004**

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**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable Jobie Nutarak, M.L.A.**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

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(Pond Inlet, Tunnunig)

**Steve Mapsalak**  
(Akulliq)

**Peter Kattuk**  
(Hudson Bay)

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk**  
(Pangnirtung)

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk**  
(Amittuq)  
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Elders and Youth; Minister of  
Human Resources*

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(Iqaluit Centre)

*Minister of Community and  
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**David Alagalak**  
(Arviat)

**Hon. Ed Picco**  
(Iqaluit East)  
*Minister of Education; Minister  
Responsible for Nunavut Arctic  
College; Minister Responsible,  
Homelessness and Immigration*

**Tagak Curley**  
(Rankin Inlet North)

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**  
(Nattilik)  
*Deputy Premier; Minister of  
Finance; Government House  
Leader*

**Hon. Paul Okalik**  
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Minister of Executive and  
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**Hon. Levinia Brown**  
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Services; Minister Responsible for  
the Status of Women*

**Hon. David Simailak**  
(Baker Lake)  
*Minister of Economic  
Development and Transportation;  
Minister of Energy; Minister  
Responsible for Qulliq Energy  
Corporation*

**Joe Allen Evyagotailak**  
(Kugluktuk)

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk**  
(South Baffin)  
*Minister of Environment;  
Minister Responsible for the  
Workers' Compensation Board*

**Keith Peterson**  
(Cambridge Bay)

**Patterk Netser**  
(Nanulik)

**James Arreak**  
(Uqqummiut)

**Levi Barnabas**  
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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Friday, May 14, 2004**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. David Alagalak, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Honourable Levinia Brown, Mr. Tagak Curley, Mr. Joe Allan Evyagotailak, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Mr. Patterk Netser, Honourable Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Paul Okalik, Mr. Keith Peterson, Honourable Edward Picco, Honourable David Simailak, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (interpretation): I would like to call upon Mr. Simailak to say the opening prayer.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Good morning. There was a search and rescue yesterday and we said a prayer for the individual. They found him late last night and we thank the Lord. Let us pray.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk, welcome back to the House. Mr. Premier, ministers, to the orders of the day. Ministers' statements. Item 2. Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statements 005-2(1): Government Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Pilot Orientation Program**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good morning, or a better part of the morning. I am very pleased to announce that the Department of CLEY and the Department of Human Resources have been partnering to deliver a pilot Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit orientation to government staff.

As minister for both departments, I have an important role in making sure that Inuit societal values are reflected in the way government staff serve the public in Nunavut.

Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit orientations are held on the land and are followed by classroom discussion. Participants are invited from each department, including Inuit and non-Inuit, from all levels of government. In these sessions participants reflect on the impact of Article 23, the *Bathurst Mandate*, and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in the workplace, as well as on the application of practical Inuit skills. The land orientation provides participants with the experience of seasonal Inuit traditions, such as dog-sledding, seal-skinning, navigating, and rendering fat for the qulliq.

Guest speakers and Inuit leaders come to talk about the history of Inuit political development and the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. As well, cultural instructors and elders share Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit teachings and skills with the participants. The atmosphere is interactive and informal; the interaction between local outfitters, Inuit leaders, elders, and participants fosters basic Inuktitut.

This year, we have held two successful pilot orientations in Iqaluit. The delivery of the orientation program has generated high interest and positive feedback from the participants. Discussions are underway to expand the program to Nunavut communities. This is a very effective way to deliver a cross-cultural orientation to our employees. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' statements. Ms. Aglukkaq.

### **Minister's Statements 006-2(1): Budget Address**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform this House and the members that I will be presenting the budget address on Tuesday, May 18. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Ministers' statements. Back to the orders of the day. Members' statements. Mr. Arreak.

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

#### **Member's Statements 034-2(1): Thank Ministers**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the members of the House and the Premier for coming to my riding of Qikiqtarjuaq. I would also like you to remember that the people of Qikiqtarjuaq are requesting to have a terminal building at the airstrip and that there are requirements and needs for the people of Qikiqtarjuaq, as it is a non-decentralized community. We need to have infrastructure built. I would also like to thank the minister and the Premier for visiting the community.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Mr. Curley.



**Member's Statements 035-2(1): Congratulate Nunavut Arctic College Graduates in Rankin Inlet**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a group of Nunavummiut who just last week graduated from Nunavut Arctic College's management studies program in Rankin Inlet. The following individuals deserve recognition for their hard work and commitment: Mariah Aliat; Lindsey Angootealuk; Jesusa David; Angie Kubluitok; Karen McLarty; Stacy Paniyuk; and Sarah Taparti all successfully completed the two-year diploma program. Also, we have Sam Itkilik, Nora Kablalik, Susan Pameok, and Angelina Suluk who completed the one-year certificate program. Their dedication is an example for our youth to follow. I wish these individuals every success and I encourage them to consider joining the public service.

Successes such as these are examples to all Nunavummiut to continue with their education and achieve their goals. In conclusion, I wish to thank the Arctic College staff and instructors for their support and encouragement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Mr. Barnabas.

**Members' Statements 036-2(1): Infrastructure Failures in Nunavut**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to talk about the sewage lagoons in Nunavut. (Interpretation ends.) Mr. Speaker, members are aware that our infrastructure was failing at a worrying rate last summer.

The hamlet of Arctic Bay received notice that their sewage lagoon was not in compliance with federal regulations and that they could be fined or even face a jail term if the problems are not rectified. The sewage lagoon failed last spring due to runoff that caused the permafrost to melt. At that time, the Department of Community and Government Services began a project to correct the problems. (Interpretation.) I am concerned about this problem that we have in Arctic Bay because it seems like we just did a bandage solution at that time, and I am well aware that the people of Arctic Bay do not have only this one problem.

When it comes to the recommendations that came from the federal government, I am well aware that the Government of Nunavut has initiated some solutions and corrective measures for those types of problems we have in the communities of Nunavut. (Interpretation ends.)

Mr. Speaker, it is not enough for the government to react when the infrastructure fails and when federal regulators send threatening letters. Long-term solutions need to be found to ensure that the health of Nunavut and the environment are protected. I will be asking questions on this matter at the appropriate time. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Peterson.

**Member's Statements 037-2(1): Recognition of Doug Crossley**

**Mr. Peterson:** "Koana, Uqaqti." I rise today to recognize the dedication and commitment of Mr. Doug Crossley who officially retired on April 30, 2004 from the Government of Nunavut. He served 30 years in the public service, including at least 23 years in the Kitikmeot. All these many years he exemplified the best quality of what it means to be a public servant by helping people in the community access and understand the many programs, services that the government offers. We are the politicians, but it is employees like Mr. Crossley who make us all look good as we operate a fair, open, and accountable public government.

Mr. Speaker, apparently Mr. Crossley has not stopped to look behind him to see if Father Time is catching up to him; last week he jumped on a snowmobile to spend a month on the land and he and his friend headed north to Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord.

We should all be looking ahead because that is where the future lies. Our riding, indeed, the entire Kitikmeot, wishes Mr. Crossley all the best in his retirement years. We do not expect him to slow down too much; he still has a lot to offer Nunavut in the years ahead. "Koanaqutit, Uqaqti."

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Member's Statements 038-2(1): Kugluktuk Municipal Supervisor**

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Interpretation ends.) I rise today to address the issues of the recent municipal development in Kugluktuk. Earlier this week it was reported that the hamlet of Kugluktuk has requested the Government of Nunavut to appoint a municipal supervisor for the hamlet because of the second difficulty that the municipal government faces.

This is the second community that has a municipal supervisor appointed under the Hamlet Act. In the last few weeks, in April, we heard that Qikiqtarjuaq had a municipal supervisor appointed.

Kugluktuk has been struggling through some difficult times. Our wellness programs have suffered. Our municipalities are under great pressure. I urge the government department of community and government services to work closely with the hamlet in the coming weeks to overcome these present challenges. Mr. Speaker, I urge the minister to open up with the House on this challenge we are facing with our municipalities so that we may work together for solutions. "Koanaqutit, Uqaqti."

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Mr. Netser.

**Member's Statements 039-2(1): Encourage NAC Students**

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are very happy to congratulate our graduates from our communities. The Member for Rankin Inlet North spoke about the recent graduates, and there are people from my riding that have graduated from Nunavut Arctic College. We would like to congratulate them and we would like them to participate and try to get a job within the Nunavut government. They are our future, and we should do everything to encourage them to work for the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Item 3, Mr. Alagalak.

**Member's Statements 040-2(1): Congratulate NAC Graduates**

**Mr. Alagalak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to send my appreciation to those people who found those individuals lost in Arviat, especially the RCMP and the search and rescue people. It is very hard sometimes when individuals get lost on the land, and I would like to send my sincere appreciation to those people.

I would also like to recognize the people who went to school, who are now adults and had to leave their communities to receive further education. They have a lot of questions, such as whether their accommodations will be adequate.

Two individuals who just received a diploma, Susan Pemik and Angela, who are from Arviat, were away from their community for a long time. They should be recognized for that, and I would like to thank the Minister of Education and his department for providing those people with the opportunity to attend school. There are now more openings for those two graduates to further their education or to work for the Nunavut government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

**Member's Statements 041-2(1): Condolences to Ataguttaaluk Family**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to let the members know about Ataguttaaluk's family, to remember him, how he had hardships at that time. What his family did at about 1912 helped some people.

I would also like to send my sincere condolences to John Inupaalik, from that generation; he is the very last person alive from the family that starved in that area in Igloodik. Inuktuurvik was named after they found Ataguttaaluk, and they had hardships for the

whole year. Ataguttaaluk was alone in that area. She was found by the people of Igloolik when they went out on the land. Her husband died so that he could be eaten by his wife. Ataguttaaluk started eating her husband because she wanted to follow his wishes, so she would not starve. Ataguttaaluk and a lot of people then listened to their elders to try to work or try to stay alive. It is not that Ataguttaaluk is the only one; there have been a lot of people that had starvation in that area.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that our ancestors lived in a harsh environment and they did not have food at times. Inuit believed that life is very precious and we have now been taught, again, that our generation is very strong. I would like to say to the people of Nunavut to remember that life is very hard and we have seen this kind of thing happening in the North. I would like to say to the people of Nunavut that life is precious. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. We are under members' statements. Ms. Aglukkaq.

#### **Member's Statements 042-2(1): Recognition and Congratulation of Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak NAC Graduates**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, also want to mention the individuals that are to be recognized by this Assembly for their achievement. (Interpretation.) There are graduates from Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak, and I would like to mention their names: Annie Akoak; Peggy Itunga; Annie Oleekatalik; and (interpretation ends) Eunice Panigayak. I am also especially happy to recognize and congratulate Sarah Taqkolik for completing her bachelor certification degree.

I would also like to congratulate and recognize grade 12 graduates from Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven. From Taloyoak, graduating today: Lenny Panigayak. the son of Eunice Panigayak who graduated from the NTEP Program, and from Gjoa Haven, Abbey Anavilok and Anne Aaluk.

(Interpretation.) Just before I complete my statement, I would like to send my birthday wishes to my mother who is celebrating her birthday tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Mr. Tootoo.

#### **Member's Statements 043-2(1): National Hockey League and Amateur Hockey Season**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to be a little bit late because I believe we are a little bit late in wishing yourself a happy belated birthday. I understand it was not

too long ago. So, I just wanted to wish you a happy birthday. I think it is your twenty-ninth again. Do not look at me; I am over 30, Mr. Speaker.

I want to say today that spring is here, the hockey season is over in most of our communities, and I know that amateur hockey is quite popular throughout our communities in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, one of my favourite teams, the Nashville Predators, was knocked out by Detroit who, thankfully, was knocked out by Calgary and... The one thing I wanted to say is that they made a good run at it, they won a couple of games.

I know that there are many Toronto Maple Leaf fans around here and they had a good run in their series as well. Montreal, however... . Four straight they lost, Mr. Speaker. I understand that a broom was being passed around to Montreal fans after that loss and I just wanted to pass on my condolences to all of those fans from Montreal.

Mr. Speaker, we know that amateur hockey is big. We will be starting up again in the fall. And I also understand, Mr. Speaker, that Montreal... . They're looking at trading some more amateur hockey down there at the Molson Centre in Montreal, and also the thing that they are looking at here is finding a professional golf team. So, I wish them well in their endeavours next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause, laughter*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Akesuk.

#### **Member's Statements 044-2(1): Teachers' Conference in Cape Dorset and Congratulate Graduates**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. And also my communities that I represent, Cape Dorset and Kimmirut, I say hello to you.

In Cape Dorset, the Early Childhood Education Program was offered. One of the students that participated, Qaunaq Mikkigak, was the oldest person to take any education course this year, and she is well known in Canada.

The graduates, Qaunaq Mikkigak, Elisapee Ejesiak, Ineak Pingwartuk, Allasuak Sagiaturuk, Kanayuk Bell, Kitty Ezekial, Eruk Jaw, Etukulu Samayualie, Annie Par Sr. and Enulu Samayualie, are now teachers who can work in pre-schools.

I would also like to thank the Minister of Education for giving the community a chance to have this course. I hope that our new community learning centre will have more and different programs to make the best of the building. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Member's Statements 045-2(1): Turbot Fishery Over in Pangirtung**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to be back here again in the House and I would like to welcome the new members to the House.

Right now the turbot fishing is over in Pangnirtung. Also, there will be a fishing derby this coming weekend, since last week's fishing derby was cancelled. I would love to be at the fishing derby this coming weekend, but we will be here for the next three weeks. And also, I say hello to my grandson Kevin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Members' statements. You may only speak once during members' statements until Monday. If there are no more names we will go back to orders of the day. Returns to oral questions. Orders of the day. Item 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Curley.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an individual who is here at the House. I have known this individual since he was a very young person, even though he is not from my community. Peter Kadlutsiak lives here in Iqaluit. It is very difficult when you are a youth here in Nunavut and trying to figure out how to make a positive contribution. I have talked to a number of young people. While everyone is here, I would like to ask you to join me in congratulating Peter. He is in technology, he does work in the scientific area. He just came back from Hong Kong. His invention is a laser system. He was also in Japan, he will be going to Japan. He will be going to Germany to show his project. He is going to Toronto, Italy, and France, and I would like to encourage the members to congratulate these youth who do things like this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two ladies from my riding of Cambridge Bay: Brenda Jancke and Donna Lisa Hakongak. They are sitting directly behind me. They are very modest ladies; they don't want me to tell what they do for our community. They do a lot of good things. I would like to just tell the House here that they are the kind of people that we need in our communities, in our region. They help people and make life better for all of us. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize John Ilupalik, who is my executive assistant. He is the one that gives me a lot of support and helps me with my work. He is from Igloodik: my assistant, John Ilupalik.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Ms. Brown.

**Hon. Lavinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Even though this individual was already recognized: Brenda Jancke, our relative. And also behind me, I would like to recognize the interpreters as well. And also, I would just like to mention that tomorrow Rhoda Karetak will be celebrating her birthday as well. And also, my husband celebrated his birthday, and Barney Tootoo also celebrated his birthday. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure also to join with Minister Brown and Member Peterson to welcome Brenda and Donna to the Legislative Assembly. Brenda and Donna are in Iqaluit attending the senior managers meetings of the Department of Education. I had an opportunity to speak to the senior managers earlier in the week and I know that they enjoyed themselves. Indeed, they gave me a standing ovation after my presentation to the forever-absent senior managers. No, just kidding. In all seriousness, the staff is doing a very good job and I'd like to recognize them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. John Ilupalik, a person I've known for a long time. Earlier when Mr. Tapardjuk was talking about the story of Ataguttaaluk... I think it is very important to remember those types of stories. I remember hearing that story about 20 years ago in Igloolik with Mr. Ilupalik and some other people. So, I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome them to the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Orders of the day. Oral questions. Item 6. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is just an information item because I feel this is very important. I know that all these florescent lights give me headaches. Now, as soon as I come in here I get a headache and I know it's the florescent lights that cause it and it is not good for our health. Maybe something should be done about it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Clerk will look into your concern. Back to our orders of the day. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

## Item 6: Oral Questions

### Question 018 – 2(1): Plans to Repair Iqaluit Airport Doors

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the minister responsible for transportation and airports. I know that something has been going on here at the airport in Iqaluit for months now. It almost seems embarrassing, the fact you see people trying to go in and out of the airport and pushing the buttons that open the doors; they haven't worked for months. It is kind of embarrassing watching people pushing the button and they can't get through. This, Nunavut's capital, should have a facility that operates properly.

I would like to ask the minister responsible for transportation if there are plans to repair those doors and to make it so that we have a properly functioning airport facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Simailak, minister of transportation.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into this right away.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister looking into it but can he, while he is looking into it, come back and inform the members of the House when that work will be done and how quickly, because it is as I say: everybody passes through those doors coming into Nunavut because they have to come through the Baffin, and those going west have to pass through those doors. So, could he please look into it and get back to the members as to how quickly those repairs will done? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will come back to the members as soon as I look into this. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does the minister have any idea of how long it is going to take these people to get that information to bring back? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not know how long it will take but I will look into it right away. Thank you.



**Speaker** (interpretation): He will get back to you. Oral questions. Mr. Barnabas.

**Question 019 – 2(1): Status of Arctic Bay Sewage Lagoon**

**Mr. Barnabas:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question I have is for the Minister of Community and Government Services. Can the minister tell me what is the status of the sewage lagoons?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Hon. Peter Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The sewage lagoons in Arctic Bay have cost \$450,000 to date, though we do have an emergency that will cost \$350,000. And we will be reviewing it this coming spring and early summer. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They fixed it last year, and this spring it broke down again. Since the population is getting larger in Arctic Bay they are starting to use it more. Can the minister tell me if they have a plan for the future of the hamlet of Arctic Bay? Will they be getting a sewage lagoon in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Community and government services minister, Hon. Peter Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will be looking at the sewage lagoon this coming summer to make sure it will be appropriate for the future.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been five years that the hamlet has been asking the Department of Community and Government Services about the sewage lagoon. Isn't it appropriate that right now, and I know that it is in your department, I can know when you will be starting this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Hon. Peter Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Right now it is leaking; it seems that it is plugged. We will be looking at up to 20 years down the road. This is our plan for this coming summer. Also, they do have a lot of problems in wintertime and in springtime. We will be looking at this, and we will find out, after we do the review and I get the information.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your last supplement.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said in my member's statement, the federal government has written threatening letters to the hamlets. (Interpretation ends.) My question is, does the minister commit to ensuring that no other communities receive threatening letters from the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Hon. Peter Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot say that the communities are not going to be getting threatening letters from the federal government representatives, but what I can tell the member is that our department will be working with the hamlet of Arctic Bay and the federal government so that we can outline the problems and look for some solutions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Netser.

### **Question 020 – 2(1): Direction to Nunavut Housing Corporation on Homeowner Renovations**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Interpretation ends.) My question today is for the Premier. (Interpretation.) On March 5, during the selection of the Premier, I posed a question regarding homeowners in Nunavut and how the houses are getting older and the program, the amount of dollars that are allotted.... (Interpretation ends.) I will be encouraging the federal government to work with them. Even if we do not get an agreement from the federal government, we will work with the homeowners.

(Interpretation.) My question to the Premier (interpretation ends): what direction has he given his Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation with respect to priorities for assistance to homeowners? "Qujannamiik, Uqaqti."

**Speaker** (interpretation): The question was posed to the Premier, but we will direct it to the minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): I would like to say that the homeowners of Nunavut, of course, have high utility bills and renovation costs. We have been directed to look into the matter and find out how big the problem is. The monies that are allotted are for programs are not fully utilized, and we are going to be directing our department to look into handing over more monies for renovation to home ownership bids.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you. So, the homeowners of Nunavut will have a larger amount of money available to them if they would like to renovate their buildings. When talking to the local housing authorities, they just stated not long ago that there was no money for homeowners. When are we going to see new monies for these types of programs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you. We could use the example of people who made their applications and were approved this year for renovations. Looking at last year's figures, the problem is some of the people will probably not be able to renovate their house this year because they might have missed the shipping days. We are going to keep our eye on what has been used this year and what is available this year.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

### **Question 021 – 2(1): Busing Issues During a Blizzard**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad to direct my question to the Minister of Education. I think we all know that kindergarten and elementary children go to school and usually we urge them to go to school on time. I would like to tell the minister that we want to keep our children in school and to go to school every day, but we can't because of the weather.

When we say it's a blizzard in Iqaluit, everything shuts down. But in Rankin, even in a blizzard, everything stays open, and the children keep going to school. Usually, the children wait outside in -40 degrees at 8 o'clock in the morning for the bus. Sometimes on bad days the bus does not come. I don't know who the contractor is and sometimes because the school bus is not available, the children just go home. And so, sometimes we use the Friendship Centre's bus.

Mr. Minister, instead of going on holidays this summer, I think you should look into this matter and rectify the problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The Minister of Education. Mr. Picco.

**Mr. Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the member could join me, we will take the holiday together and work on it.

There is a whole range of issues of busing in Nunavut. It depends on, again, each local DEA, the contract that is in place, and so on. At the end of the day, I think the best thing that can be said, you know, is common sense should prevail. And the member is correct: if it is stormy weather, for example, and the children are left outside, there should be some cognizant observations by the authorities in place. Common sense should prevail, and that would not happen.

Mr. Speaker, if the member has, for example, times, dates, chronological sequence of when issues have occurred, I can actually look into what occurred at those times. And at the same time, work with the members, Minister Brown is from the same community, to see what we can do with the DEA to make sure these issues don't keep coming up in the school year which starts this fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can work together with you, but there are a lot of people who are working for the Department of Education. We have the records which are kept by the principal at the school, so you can ask for copies of the records that we have. I don't know who the contractor is, but because the school bus cannot come, usually what they do is use the Friendship Centre's bus and they are late to get home for lunch because the bus is not available.

This is not the problem of the students; it is your department's and the contractor's, who is responsible for the running of this bus, and I would like the minister to deal with this before the end of the school year. We have to have our children taken care of properly if they are going to go to school.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education, Mr. Picco.

**Mr. Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member's comments and observations. At the end of the day there has to be a contract; in this case between, I would assume, either the school operations, or the local DEA in Rankin. Under that contract there are terms and conditions that the contractor would have to follow. If in the case, as the member is explaining, that certain conditions have not been followed then that would be a breach of contract, and that is something that I am prepared to look into.

Mr. Speaker, I will be in contact with the people at the department after question period. I would hope to have an answer for the member on Monday at our next sitting as to exactly what has occurred with the contract as outlined by the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): I believe there is a supplementary.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): I would like the minister to be aware that me and my wife know what the problem is. The contractor lives close to us and usually we get calls from people who are looking at their grandchildren, or their children, waiting for the bus, and they call us and they say the bus is not here again. So, I would like to thank the minister and I look forward to his department looking into the problem and finding a solution. Rankin Inlet is straight around. There are areas which are quite far from the school and we do definitely have a problem and I thank the minister that he will look into the matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Arreak.

#### **Question 022 - 2(1): Alternative Measures for Biodegradable Bags**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question today to the Minister of Environment. We as Nunavummiut have a common concern and that is our environment. We would like to have a clean environment. As members are

aware, plastic is everywhere in Nunavut today, out on the land and scattered all over the place.

Plastic shopping bags can be found in every community and we use these bags for almost everything. We use them in our homes. Our children use them for their books, for holding their swimming gear, and we even use them to store our frozen country foods. Although these bags come in handy, they are harming our environment. They are also potentially very harmful to our wildlife. In the west, around Alaska, some 30 villages have even banned these plastic bags and in some places they say it is time to tax these bags.

Mr. Speaker, my question to the minister is: if a community in Nunavut were to make an effort to encourage the replacement of plastic bags with reusable ones, would the minister's department provide support to the community's efforts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Environment, Mr. Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I would like to thank Mr. Arreak for posing this question. We will look into the matter. We can look at some ideas because of course we have to take care of our communities and our environment and we have to protect our wildlife from these hazardous materials. We can look at other jurisdictions and see what kind of policies exist or what they do with these plastic bags. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary, Mr. Arreak.

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And even in the summer they might be harmful to your engines because they get stuck in the motors. My supplementary question to the minister is: can the department look into supporting the use of alternative biodegradable bags in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Environment, Mr. Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We can look at alternative measures and also look into what is happening in Alaska. We can look into the matter and also have discussions with officials from retail outlets. In regards to whether they can start using biodegradable bags in Nunavut, we will have to work together with the regional outlet officials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Evyagotailak.

### **Question 023 – 2(1): Orientation for New Municipal Employees**

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services. I think we all know that as a group we are always learning every day as new members. As for those new

members to the hamlets, they don't get any orientation on how they should operate their finances. That is why they have problems coming up. That is why it would be great if the new members could have orientation in the coming years.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Community and Government Services

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under a partnership with the municipal training organization, our department does provide training for staff at the municipal level. I want to make it very clear that each community or municipality can request specific training if they feel that the council requires it. We will try to accommodate them through our MTO partners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also, I have another question. Thank you for your answer. The question is regarding the sewage lagoons. In Kugluktuk we are having the same problems: it is always flowing into the ocean. In the springtime it starts flowing into the ocean, which is where we do our fishing. This is very unhealthy.

I heard that there is funding available for upgrading these old sewage lagoons. If this money could be used to upgrade our sewage lagoons in the near future... I want to know if our lagoon will be upgraded this coming summer or if there will be any work put into it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): For the members who are asking questions, perhaps if you could refrain from using too much preamble before your questions are asked. Oral questions, Mr. Alagalak.

#### **Question 024 – 2(1): Arviat Elders Centre Renovations – Contractors/Pension Checks**

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the minister of health. I'm sure that she will not be able to answer the question right away, but I would like to get an answer when she can get it to me, the sooner the better.

They hired a new contractor for that elders' facility. We heard that there was going to be a contractor to do the work at the elders' centre and it was not put out as an RSP. It was never put into tender to put in people to look after the elders in the centre.

I would like to get some information, and this has been questioned by the staff that work at the elders' centre in Arviat. I am not saying that it is not run properly, but I wanted to find out how long is that contract to look after the elders.

Part of the things that they do at the elders' centre is, I heard recently, that the pensions that the elders living in that centre receive, apparently the coordinators or the supervisors

take that money and pay it towards their rent. I heard that there are various ways of doing things in each elders' facility in Nunavut; some of them do not pay and some of them need to pay.

So, if I get some more information from the minister, I could probably find out how they run the centres in Nunavut. Some elders are not very happy; they do not have any money left in their elders' pension because they pay rent and they cannot provide anything else for their grandchildren. I would like to find out from the Minister of Health and Social Services how they run the elders' facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. I think the Minister of Health and Social Services has that responsibility. Ms. Brown.

**Hon. Lavinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the member for the question. I will be consulting with my colleagues or my staff to find out about how long the contract is for the people to coordinate and supervise. This is the first time I have heard about pensions that are taken to pay for the rent. I will answer the member.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Mapsalak.

#### **Question 025 – 2(1): Plans to Build a Community Hall for Repulse Bay**

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the minister of community government.

The minister is aware of the request from the people of Repulse Bay for a community hall; it burned down a few years ago and it consisted of the office for the hamlet as well as other offices. They could only start building that facility again using the insurance money and they had to get some assistance in the way of money from the government. And they could not build it with the community hall attached to it.

I would like to ask the minister if there are any plans in place under the five-year plan about whether there could be a community hall built in Repulse Bay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The Minister for community government, Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I recognize the request from the member in his question because as you know, there are no community hall facilities in Repulse Bay since the fire a few years ago. I have met with the member, and talked with my staff, and I would like to assure the member while he is here, during this session, I will be able to sit with him and inform him as to what our plans are for the community of Repulse Bay.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister, in his budget priorities, make sure that the community hall is built first under his budget? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of community government, Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question from the member... I would like to make sure that I tried to listen to all of the members of the Legislative Assembly. We have had some funding from the federal government for community infrastructure and the agreement that we have in place with them is continuing. If we were to get some more funding from the federal government for community infrastructure, I will have it in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Question 026 -2(1): Plans to Change Qualifications for Homeowner Program**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

I will follow up a little bit on Mr. Netser's question. Last year, the Housing Corporation made some adjustments to the home ownership program to allow dependents to be considered in how much funding was made available or who qualified for the program. I know that there are also some concerns of people that own their own homes need repairs as well and I would just like to ask the minister: are there plans in place to change the criteria for the home repair program, to take into consideration dependents when calculating the income levels for people who are eligible for the program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of the Housing Corporation, Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Mr. Speaker, it is an ongoing discussion I have got going right now with my staff at the Nunavut Housing Corporation. So, it is one of the items that we are currently discussing under the agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary question, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess on your birthday you look more like a chairman than a Speaker. Everybody is calling him Mr. Chairman today, but you are Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister give an indication if the plans. I know the former minister of the Housing Corporation was talking about streamlining and lining up all of the programs to have more consistency within them. Can the minister give an indication if those changes will happen so that the same criteria that are used for the home repair



program, or for the home ownership programs that allow for independence, will be in place for the home repair program for the coming year's delivery? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** I'd like to ask my colleague to repeat that question please. I somehow got lost with his line of questioning. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hopefully this doesn't count out of my stuff. I was asking the minister if he could commit to having the same uniform criteria, the changes in the home ownership program that have taken place to allow for dependents in the calculations criteria, in place for the home repair program for this coming year's delivery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of housing, Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we do get our review done in time for this year's delivery, we will certainly seriously consider it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister mentioned, "If we do get the review done." What stage is the review at, and when does he expect it to be completed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of the Housing Corporation, Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Mr. Speaker, the internal discussions and the review that are going on now with my staff should be completed hopefully before the end of the month. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary question, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Then, can I ask the minister to commit, once the review is done and the decision is made by the corporation, that when change comes forward, make it known to members of this House as soon as possible? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Housing, Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Mr. Speaker, once I do get word on the matter, it is something that I most definitely will share with the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Peterson.

**Question 027-2(1): Update on the Negotiation with NAV Canada**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, concerning community air dome radio stations.

Everybody knows that we've been operating the last four or five years under an old contract with Nav Canada. I understand the negotiations are currently underway. So, I wonder if the minister could update the House on the progress of negotiations with Nav Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Simailak. Minister of economic development.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are in talks right now with Nav Canada. That is all I can answer right now, that we are looking at this.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Okay? Supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell the House if the Government of Nunavut is seeking more than the \$4.6 million annually that Nav Canada has been offering to our current operations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): I'm sorry I did not quite understand you. Can you repeat your question, Mr. Peterson?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nav Canada has been telling the Government of Nunavut it is only offering \$4.6 million annually for the last four to five years, take-it-or-leave-it. So, I am wondering if the minister could tell the House here if the government is going to be seeking more than the \$4.6 million from Nav Canada.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of transportation, Hon. David Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot tell you how much is money is involved here since we are still in talks on this issue. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell us if he'll commit to including the Nunavut Association of Municipalities and SAOs with front-line experience on the Government of Nunavut negotiating team? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Hon. David Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): In Pangnirtung we talked about this, and we will be talking with the hamlets on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary question, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those hamlets over the last four or five years have had a very difficult time with the operation of the CARS stations. I'm not sure how many have given up their operations. Could the minister update the House today on how many hamlets are operating CARS stations in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Hon. David Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Right now, Mr. Speaker, Qikiqtarjuaq and Pangnirtung do not want to be part of that. Also, Cape Dorset and Nanisivik are outside of the hamlet contracts.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Barnabas.

#### **Question 028 – 2(1): Homeowner Program Regulations and Policies**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to do some follow up: Mr. Tootoo asked Mr. Netser a question on Wednesday, on energy, that there are problems, that there are many bills to pay.

I am asking the Minister of the Housing Corporation: what kind of regulations are there, and what kind of insurance do you need to be part of this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of housing, Hon. Peter Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If they do not have insurance, especially in the smaller communities, it is going to be very difficult to be eligible for the program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Hon. Peter Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we do have a regulatory policy to make sure that they have insurance, and if they don't, they cannot be a part of this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Inuit are just learning about how the program runs, because the Inuit did not have any knowledge of this at all. Are you going to make sure to let the communities know about these policies or regulations?

**Speaker** (interpretation): The Minister of housing.

**Mr. Kilabuk** (interpretation): The staff is looking into this right now. As soon as I became the minister of housing... We would like to notify the communities on the policies and regulations that have to be followed so that they can have better knowledge. We will have training sessions in the communities about home ownership programs. Everyone in the community will be included when we have training sessions.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister. We are in the darkness for up to three months in the wintertime in the High Arctic. Will the minister work with community and government services and the Nunavut Power Corporation for the subsidy of utilities, for a lot of people pay different rates. Will these be looked at? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The minister of housing, Minister Kilabuk.

**Mr. Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To your question, it seems that it is very difficult to answer that one, since the budget did not change. My colleagues, I will let you know about that question and I will speak to other ministers on this issue. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Evyagotailak.

#### **Question 029-2(1): Funding for Sewage Lagoon**

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two questions directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services. In regards to the funding which was already allocated for the sewage lagoon, will that funding which was allocated be returned for that purpose? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kilabuk.

**Mr. Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately, I do not have that information in front of me. However, the process that we follow annually is that if the money is going to be lapsed then the department has to go back to the Financial Management Board to seek approval to continue that project, or to put in other funding requirements for that

community. I will commit to providing further information to my colleagues on this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary, Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another supplementary in regards to the sewage lagoon. I would like to ask the minister: this would be worked on this summer? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kilabuk.

**Mr. Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you for your excellent question. I apologize, Mr. Speaker, since I do not have my files with me right now. So, the member can come and see me on that issue outside of this meeting. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

#### **Question 030 – 2(1): Plans to Build a Boarding Home in Rankin Inlet**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

The minister is well aware, and I would like to thank the minister for building a new health centre in Rankin Inlet, the people of the Keewatin are looking forward to going for medical services somewhere closer. There will have to be staff housing available, but at this time, we do not have a boarding home in Rankin Inlet. Usually, the people passing through Rankin Inlet have to billet somewhere, and during bad weather if they cannot meet the scheduled flight, they have to look for somewhere to sleep.

With the new health centre built in Rankin Inlet, where are these people going to stay? And with that, I would like to ask the minister if she has any plans to build a boarding home prior to the construction of the health centre. When will it be built? Because of course, Inuit do not want to stay in a hotel when they are in Rankin Inlet and because of that, could the minister inform us what kind of plans she will have for the patients staying over in Rankin Inlet?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Brown.

**Hon. Lavinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased that you have brought the subject up, Mr. Curley. With regard to the health centre, it will be opening up this fall and we have made plans to house the patients. I hear that there will be 20 units built, but we do not have a boarding home at this time. We will probably have to work with the Rankin Inlet hamlet and the department of health so we can have a facility available for the patients. From what I know, the patients will be billeted, if they

would like, or they could be put up in the hotel. We will be looking for solutions to this matter in regards to the patients that will be over-nighting or staying in Rankin Inlet.

We need a proper facility for the patients and I would like to thank you for bringing this matter up in the House. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Netser.

**Question 031 – 2(1): Issue on Shortage of Housing**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a supplement to the question that I brought up earlier and I apologize. I would like to direct my question to the minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Just recently, the president of Nunavut Tunngavik had a meeting with federal government officials in regards to the shortage of housing in Nunavut. I would like to ask the minister about whether the Nunavut government is working with the president of NTI in regards to the shortage of housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been working very closely with the president of Nunavut Tunngavik and we have had discussions on the severe shortage of housing we have in Nunavut. We have come to an understanding of how severe the problem is and we are having meetings with our federal counterparts. We are working together on how severe the shortage is at this moment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary question, Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are you also having discussions on the homeowners? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Of course, it will have an impact on the homeowners, but we are promoting home ownership in Nunavut. But today, we are \$3,000 short just to meet the present needs in Nunavut. Housing is a priority in my department and, of course, it will have an impact on the home ownership programs. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I have no other names on my list. Mr. Tootoo, last question.

**Question 032 – 2(1): Cost Issues for the Reorganization of Departments**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct this question to the Premier and he can redirect it, if he so chooses, if he is not the appropriate minister to put this question to.

As we all know, in the last two months there has been a major reorganization within the departments and in government structure. I would like to ask the Premier if he could indicate whether he is aware of any or no costs associated with the reorganization: what it is costing the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.” Well, the supplementary appropriations will outline the overall budgets for each of the departments on what we put together. “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know those costs, and hopefully they will outline that. Maybe the Premier can indicate the cost involved in renovations, changing offices, moving staff to different floors, moving phone lines, moving computer systems, changing letterhead and business cards, and all those types of things. Also, all of the old stuff that are intact with their old names on it, and stuff like that. Would the Premier be able to commit to providing the cost, by breakdown, to the members of this House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.” I am sure that we can look into it and perhaps some savings could possibly be outlined through the better coordination of departments. “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

**Speaker** (interpretation): Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Leading into my final question is that I would like to see all of the costs. And also, I know generally when the announcement was made there was indication of some of the savings or some of the streamlining that the reorganization resulted in. And I would like to also ask if the Premier could, in more detail, outline how exactly those savings and that of the Iqaluit plan were achieved with the result of the reorganization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Premier. Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.” Maintenance and operations: we no longer have a half-time minister for economy and we no longer have a half-time manager for our wildlife issues, those issues that we feel very strongly about. So, those things we have had to change to make it more reflective of Nunavut. “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

**Speaker** (interpretation): Question period is now over. Back to the orders of the day. Mr. Picco.

**Mr. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will seek unanimous consent to go back to Item 5 on the Orders of the Day. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Picco would like unanimous consent to return to Item 5. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Go ahead.

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

**Mr. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. It gives me great pleasure just to welcome to the gallery exchange students and staff from Jamestown Community College from New York.

Mr. Speaker, this fall our students will also be visiting their students in New York, so I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them to the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. To the orders of the day. We have completed oral questions. Item 7. Written questions. Mr. Peterson.

### **Item 7: Written Questions**

#### **Written Question 009 -2(1): Decentralization**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question is for the Hon. Louis Tapardjuk, the Minister of Human Resources, concerning decentralization.

- 1) From April 1, 1999 to April 1, 2004, how many Government of Nunavut departmental boards, entities, crown corporation positions, broken down by entity, were decentralized from Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, or Cambridge Bay, to another community, broken down by community?
- 2) As of April 1, 2004, how many of these positions were filled on an indeterminate or term basis with employees considered to be members of the public service?
- 3) As of April 1, 2004, how many of these positions were filled with beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and how many were filled with non-beneficiaries?
- 4) As of April 1, 2004, how many of these positions were filled with persons who were previously living in the decentralized community and how many were filled with persons relocating to:



- I. Iqaluit;
  - II. Rankin Inlet;
  - III. Cambridge Bay;
  - IV. southern Canada?
- 5) As of April 1, 2004, how many of these positions were having their functions performed by persons engaged on a casual, contractual or consultancy basis? How many of those persons were deemed to be residents of Nunavut for federal income tax purposes, and how many were non-residents?
- 6) As of April 1, 2004, how many decentralized positions were vacant, broken down by employing entity and community?
- 7) As of April 1, 2004, how many positions had been vacant for more than six months, broken down by employing entity and community?
- 8) As of April 1, 2004, how much has the government spent on settlements for employees who declined to accept offers of employment for decentralized positions and who subsequently departed the public service?
- 9) As of April 1, 2004, what has been the total cost to the Government of Nunavut for the decentralization initiative including, but not limited to, the following areas of expenditure:
- I. Relocation and removal costs for employees;
  - II. Settlements and other compensation for employees declining offers of employment for decentralized positions;
  - III. Advertising and recruitment;
  - IV. Infrastructure, office renovations and other capital expenditures, including all costs associated with the construction, provision and furnishing of staff housing in decentralized communities; and
  - V. Administrative and miscellaneous costs, including expenditures incurred by the Decentralization Secretariat of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Item 7. Item 8. Item 9. Item 10. Item 11. Item 12. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Hon. Paul Okalik.

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

**Tabled Document 006 – 2(1): Annual Minimum Wage Report**

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a document, a minimum wage annual report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Going back to orders of the day, tabling of documents. Item 14. Item 15. Notices of motion for the first reading of bills. Hon. Leona Aglukkaq.

### **Item 15: Notice of First Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 3 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.1, April 1 – June 30, 2004–2005 - Notice**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on May 17, 2004 I shall move that Bill 3 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, April 1 – June 30, 2004–2005 be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Notices of motion for the first reading of bills. Hon. Leona Aglukkaq.

#### **Bill 4 - Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2004–2005 - Notice**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also give notice that on May 17, 2004 I shall move that Bill 4 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2004-2005 be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to orders of the day, Item 15. Item 16. Item 17. Item 18. Item 19. Item 20. Item 21. Third reading of bills. Ms. Aglukkaq.

### **Item 21: Third Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 1 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2003–2004 - Third Reading**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 1 – Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 3, 2003–2004 be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): All in favour? Opposed? Carried. Bill 1 has had third reading. Item 21. Item 22. Orders of the day, Madam Deputy Clerk.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Mr. Clerk:** Mr. Speaker. Orders of the Day for Monday, May 17:

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
  - Bill 2
  - Bill 4
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to invite the members of the Legislative Assembly to the Tuktu Room for lunch.

Sergeant-at-arms.

>>*House adjourned at 11:45*

