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**DAY 22**

**Wednesday March 9, 2005**

**Pages 1384 – 1462**

**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

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(Tununiq)

**Steve Mapsalak**  
(Akulliq)

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

**David Alagalak**  
(Arviat)

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**  
(Nattilik)  
*Minister of Finance; Government  
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Liquor Licensing Board  
Crown Agency Council*

**Hon. David Simailak**  
(Baker Lake)  
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Nunavut Development  
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**Keith Peterson**  
(Cambridge Bay)

**Peter Kattuk**  
(Hudson Bay)

**Hunter Tootoo**  
(Iqaluit Centre)

**Hon. Ed Picco**  
(Iqaluit East)  
*Minister of Education; Minister  
of Energy; Minister Responsible  
for Qulliq Energy Corporation  
Minister Responsible for Nunavut  
Arctic College; Minister  
Responsible, Homelessness and  
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*Premier; Minister of Justice;  
Minister of Executive and  
Intergovernmental Affairs  
Utility Rates Review Council*

**Joe Allen Evyagotailak**  
(Kugluktuk)

**Patterk Netser**  
(Nanulik)

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk**  
(Pangnirtung)

*Minister of Community and  
Government Services; Minister  
Responsible for the Nunavut  
Housing Corporation*

**Tagak Curley**  
(Rankin Inlet North)

**Hon. Levinia Brown**  
(Rankin Inlet South-Whale  
Cove)  
*Deputy Premier; Minister of  
Health and Social Services;  
Minister Responsible for the  
Status of Women*

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

**James Arreak**  
(Uqqurmiut)

**Levi Barnabas**  
(Quttiktuq)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Wednesday March 9, 2005**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. David Alagalak, 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 ask Mr. Netser to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Good afternoon Mr. Premier, Ministers and the Members. Going to the orders to the day. Item 2. Before we proceed to Item 2, the Member for Uqqurmiut, Mr. Arreak, will be absent from the House today. Item 2. Ministers' statements. Minister Tapardjuk.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements****Minister's Statement 077 – 2(2): Workplace Job Satisfaction Employment Survey**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure that I rise today to inform my colleagues about a new initiative that the Department of Human Resources is undertaking.

In partnership with the Statistical Bureau of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs my department is launching a government-wide survey of all employees. Surveys will be conducted during the month of May and June with the Report to be completed in the summer of 2005.

The goal of this survey is to seek valuable input from our employees and to ensure that they view the Government of Nunavut as the employer of choice for the long term.

This government wishes to model good employment practices and retain employees. We also believe that keeping a balance between Inuit societal values and the bureaucratic culture will have a positive impact on the management, employee retention and productivity.

To that end, we will be gathering the opinions of Government of Nunavut employees about their jobs and their workplace. This information will help identify concerns affecting workplace wellness and recommend solutions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' statements. Minister Akesuk.

**Minister's Statement 078 – 2(2): Resident Deputy Workers' Advisor**

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

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, over the past six years the Governance Council of the Workers' Compensation Board has made a real effort to improve the provision of Workers' Compensation Board services to the workers and employers of Nunavut. This began with the decision to increase the number of employees the Board has living in Nunavut. Since 1999, the Workers' Compensation Board has more than doubled its Nunavut staff from 10 to 22.

The Workers' Compensation Board's first goal is to prevent accidents through proper training and inspections. When training is delivered by the Workers' Compensation Board to the workers and employers in Nunavut communities, it is delivered by Nunavut residents. When inspections are undertaken of Nunavut worksites it is done by Nunavut residents.

Still, accidents do happen. I am pleased to announce that in 2004 the number of work related accidents decreased below the previous 3 year average.

For the workers injured in these accidents, the Workers' Compensation Board tries to be fair. They work with the injured worker providing him or her with the appropriate benefits and assistance in the healing process to ensure a timely return to work. With all these processes in place, it is recognized that injured workers sometimes require assistance in dealing with the Workers' Compensation Board. Currently there is one workers' advisor based in Yellowknife who provides assistance to workers injured on the job in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

During the past session of the legislature when amendments to the Workers' Compensation Act were in committee hearings, members expressed interest in a resident deputy workers' advisor. I am pleased to announce that the Workers' Compensation Board listened to those concerns and has set aside additional resources for a Nunavut Deputy Workers' Advisor. A request for proposals has been released last week and closes on March 15, 2005. The RFP, in short, requests that the Deputy Workers' Advisor be a resident of Nunavut and be able to provide services in Inuktitut for Nunavut residents. I invite Nunavutmiut to apply.

In the interim, a toll-free number has been established for our Nunavut workers requiring the assistance of the workers' advisor. This number allows for Nunavut workers to leave



messages in Inuktitut thereby making the initial process easier. For the record, the toll-free number is 1(866)727- 3830.

The costs of these workers' advisor services are covered by the Workers' Compensation Board and are a further example of the Workers' Compensation Board's ongoing desire to improve the delivery of services to Nunavut residents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' statements. Item 3. Members' statements. Mr. Peterson.

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

#### **Member's Statement 172 – 2(2): Mining Prospectors and Explorers**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform Members of this House about the Prospectors and Developers Annual Conference that is currently underway in Toronto.

The conference is the world's largest of its kind and is expected to attract some 9,000 delegates and exhibitors, including mining companies, various levels of governments, Aboriginal groups, mining industry support businesses, and investors.

By comparison, the Nunavut Mining Symposium that is held on a rotating basis throughout Nunavut normally attracts up to 300 participants. The NMS is scheduled for early April in Rankin Inlet.

Representatives from Nunavut participate in these important annual conferences for a number of reasons. One of the main reasons, Mr. Speaker, is to promote the mineral potential in our territory.

In the global context, Nunavut is only a small player in the mining world. In fact, even in Canada we are a small player. I learned this when I used to attend the PDAC and traveled to countries such as England and Japan to talk to investors about Nunavut.

Mining companies have a choice of countries where they can explore for minerals. They will generally go to those jurisdictions where the governments are stable, regulatory regimes are clear, and the investment climate is positive.

I ask Members to join me commending the mining companies who have chosen to explore in Nunavut. Their annual exploration expenditures are in excess of \$100 million. Their investment shows a tremendous commitment to the future of Nunavut.

I also want to recognize the work that Nunavut companies, agencies and government bodies are doing to promote mining in our territory. The current positive exploration and

investment climate did not occur overnight. The groundwork has been laid in the last 10 years.

We all know that there are some loud voices out there who seem to oppose any and all mining development. Strangely, Mr. Speaker, these same people are also very likely to drive cars, fly on planes and enjoy the material comforts that resource extraction allows for.

As with any development involving our lands, we have to exercise care and attention to protect our environment. However, this is being done in Nunavut by organizations such as Nunavut Tunngavik and the Regional Inuit Associations as well as the Institutions of Public Government.

However, we must exercise care that we don't stifle the mining industry through over-regulation and red tape, or they will find more attractive regulatory and investment climates in another country, province or territory.

The world is a big place, and we can't assume that development and prosperity will simply show up at our doors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

### **Member's Statement 173 – 2(2): Principles of Scrutiny and Solidarity**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to comment on the principles of scrutiny and solidarity. Without reflecting at length on yesterday's proceedings, I would like to offer the comments that saying no from time to time is actually a constructive and positive thing.

Mr. Speaker, it's a fundamental principle in Canada that governments request legislators and legislatures to grant or deny the authority to spend the public's money. Governments are expected to bring forward solid and convincing explanations to why such approval should be granted. When they don't, they should be expected to be turned down.

Mr. Speaker, for the most part, the government gets its way in budget time. Out of the hundreds of millions of dollars that the Government of Nunavut proposes to spend in the coming year on programs and services for our constituents and communities, the vast majority will be met with enthusiastic approval by all members.

Despite what you may hear from time to time about this being an unduly slow process, the opposite could actually be said to be true. For example, the Department of Health and Social Services would be asking this Assembly for approval to spend \$215,219,000 over the next 12 months. If we give this department the full 12 hours of close attention in

Committee of the Whole, that still works out to us approving almost \$5,000 per second, every second.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I will be looking particularly closely at a few more things over the coming weeks, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in ensuring that the government's spending proposals are well thought out and in the public's best interest.

Mr. Speaker, our constituents count on us to protect their interest and my plan is to do exactly that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Member's Statement 174 – 2(2): Innovations in Kugluktuk**

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to tell the Members of this House about the initiative of innovation projects underway in Kugluktuk.

Mr. Speaker, the federal species at risk legislation lists the grizzly bears and the wolverines as being species of special concern. In Kugluktuk, the hunters and trappers have started a study to help determine the numbers of those species. The wolverine harvest is an important part of our local culture and economy, and we want to protect it.

As mining developments get underway, we need to be able to address concerns related to increasing contacts between the human and the bear.

Mr. Speaker, the local hunters and trappers is working with the community and experts from the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and the Government of Nunavut to collect hair samples from bears and wolverines. Over 100 hair snagging posts have been set up, and will be checked regularly until the end of this month. The samples are being sent out for DNA testing. Over 150 samples have been collected already.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the people involved in this project, including hunters and trappers' manager Peter Taptuna.

Mr. Speaker, we often discuss the need to include Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in our wildlife protections.

I want to take this moment to share something very interesting that I read in this weekend's Globe and Mail newspaper. People in Alberta are also trying to determine how many grizzly bears are in their province. A newspaper quoted that wildlife biologists who said...

Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member would like unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Please proceed.

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Apparently people in Alberta are also trying to determine how many grizzly bears are in their province. The newspaper quoted the wildlife biologist who said there are some very important indicators and trends and those are the people who are outdoors, the conservation officers, the biologists, the outfitters and hunters.

If you talk to someone who has spent 30 years in the bush, there is no question that there are more grizzlies. That sounds like Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Tapardjuk.

### **Member's Statement 175 – 2(2): Responsibilities and Privileges as a Member**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was a year ago, March 8, 2004 to be exact, that I took my oath of office where I promised and swore that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my skills, and knowledge execute the powers and trust reposed in me as an Member of the Legislative Assembly.

It was also shortly there after that I supported a motion calling for working together for a stronger Nunavut. It goes, “Whereas the Members of the second Legislative Assembly have been entrusted by the constituents with the responsibility of building a stronger Nunavut.”

“And whereas enormous challenges lie ahead of us in the areas of education, health care, economic development, job creation and infrastructure. And whereas the vitality of Inuit language and culture requires concerted action on the part of the government. And whereas the value of consensus, cooperation, accountability and respect must guide us in our deliberations.

And, whereas unity of purpose and action is essential to achieving progress and success on behalf of all our constituents regardless of their race, language or faith in god. Now, therefore I move, seconded by the Honorable Member for Iqaluit West, that all Members of this House commit themselves to working together towards common goals during our mandate.”

I have every intention of living up to this commitment as Member of the Legislative Assembly for Amittuq Rider. Voters who had entrusted me with great responsibility and duty. As a Member I have obligations to perform my duties and with honesty.

Mr. Speaker, I am seeking unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Please proceed.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues and Mr. Speaker.

As a member I have obligations to perform my duties with honesty, fairness, compassion, openness and courage.

I will do my utmost to provide an effective and accountable for the public I serve. It is also my understanding that my privilege as member includes freedom of speech and freedom from obstruction and intimidation in relation to my duties as elected representative. I take these seriously.

As I recall it was our autumn sitting that the Minister of Health and Social Services encouraged all of us to take a flu shot. However, I did not heed that advice and paid for it yesterday. Perhaps I should have listened to her advice.

Hansard reported that I miraculously recovered from my illness, he showed up in time for the vote. I felt strongly that, being part of the government, I had a responsibility to exercise my vote in the House when it comes to decisions which might effect the government's operation in which my colleagues in the House had entrusted me when they had elected me into the Cabinet.

From time to time, of the second government, it has been a learning experience for me. I would like to think that concerns brought to my attention by the members of my constituency have been addressed properly and that I have the confidence of my constituents to have their concerns addressed effectively within the government.

However, in the last week, I have observed and participated in the House which really concerns me. With the wisdom of my elders, I have been told numerous times to bring out the things that disturb me rather than keeping it bottled up.

Firstly, my understanding is that I have the right to speak to or against the motion put forth in the House. In doing so, after I voiced my opposition to the motion in which I felt I was entitled, the motion was defeated. I was called "chicken".

Then I saw an individual that stormed out when the motion was defeated in the House. After a ruling was made by the Speaker, there was booing.

**Speaker** (interpretation): There is point of order raised. What is your point of order, Mr. Tootoo.

### **Point of Order**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A couple of things, when the minister is insinuating that someone called him, in particular, a chicken. No one called anyone, in particular, a chicken and how does he know that it was directed at him?

The other thing, Mr. Speaker, is he is going back and discussing something as the Premier pointed out when I raised a point in order has been dealt with already in this House. So on those grounds, that is my point of order. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): There was a point of order. The point of order is finished, but Mr. Tapardjuk you could go ahead with your statement. Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, it is a learning process and, as I said, and I do want to be open in the House if I want to properly represent my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, having said that, I would like to assure my constituents that I will continue to exercise my right as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. Again, I look forward to working with the government and members of the Legislative Assembly. As the code of Members obligation dictates, I will work with determination in a spirit of good will and good faith to find solutions for problems that create hardship for our people and to strengthen the greatness of our land.

That will be my goal as an elected Member of the Legislative Assembly. I wanted to make those statements. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Member's Statement 176 – 2(2): Sports in Nunavut**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today regarding sports in Nunavut.

I don't think we can overestimate the importance of sport to the health and wellbeing of our youth.

(interpretation ends) Study after study clearly demonstrated that developing an active lifestyle at a young age has long term health benefits. A young person who is involved in sports is at less risk of self destructive behaviour.

Mr. Speaker, the sports that our youth can take part in are limited by the facilities that exist in the communities. For example, an athlete cannot pursue swimming with their backstroke, butterfly, or breast stroke if there is no swimming pool in the communities. Likewise Mr. Speaker, athletes must have coaches.

Mr. Speaker, too often the smaller communities are forgotten when it comes to sports and recreation facilities. I believe that providing opportunities for the youth is as important in the small communities as it is in the regional centers.

This is not to underestimate the work that has been done in some smaller communities to produce quality athletes that are competitive at the national level. Coral Harbour's wrestling program comes to mind right away. However, the fact remains that there must be investment in the sport infrastructure and the coaching to produce successful athletes.

A year ago responsibility for sports was transferred to the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. (interpretation) When the minister and some of the representatives went to Arctic Bay they found that the Recreation Facility was way too small for the size of our population.

I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Resolute Bay, Grise Fiord and Arctic Bay are communities where the outlying communities go there for sports. It is very obvious that the sports facilities are way too small. Usually what happens is that the athletes from the smaller communities will lose out because they don't have the proper facilities and coaching.

At the proper time I will be asking questions to the minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 177 – 2(2): Committee Motion 4 – 2(2): Deletion of \$500,000 from the 2005/06 Main Estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to make a few comments. After the vote on the motion, the people of Nunavut have now found that the \$500,000 will be moved for other purposes. As all of Nunavut was watching the proceedings here yesterday, there was not even one opposition to the motion and I would like to thank each one of the Members of the Legislative Assembly because there was no opposition from any of the 19 members.

When you vote on a motion, you are either for it, opposed to it or abstaining from it. The Cabinet stated why they opposed the motion. They stated that they are using it to build the tanks and also for environmental assessment. I would say this, that would be the responsibility of another minister, if it is under Petroleum Products. Again, there was one sentence here in these 200 pager that states that it would be used as a small transition from one body to another.

I would like to say that this item was to be deleted and we all agreed to it, without one opposition. I would like to say to the House Leader, the Premier and the members of Cabinet, we all know that we will work diligently on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 178 – 2(2): Lack of Roads in Nunavut Cause Hardship**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We know that we don't have any roads that are connecting the communities in Nunavut, especially so in Pangnirtung, as it is surrounded by mountains. We couldn't get a plane up to Panniqtuuq for a number of days because of the weather. It has affected a lot with the cargo, the passengers that travel with First Air and Ken Borek and a lot of the people were stuck here in Iqaluit for at least a week and then there were passengers stuck in Pannirtuuq who were trying to go out of there.

We also had no shipments of food or fresh products for that length of time. But, then again, I'm pleased now that the flights are going up to Panniqtuuq and it will probably be non-stop for a while. Mr. Speaker, we hope to see fair weather for a while and at a later time, I will be recognizing an individual who now has an opportunity to visit the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Alagalak.

### **Member's Statement 179 – 2(2): Recognize Individuals Using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit**

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to thank the individuals or men who are working very hard and they are, I believe know Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

There are some people from Kuujjuaraaluk who are going up to the Kivalliq region to bring materials or supplies by bombardier from Churchill, and it indicates that we are still using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. There are floods in the rivers at this time and I am so proud of these individuals are bringing back those materials.

Some are still going up. The snow is very soft and very high. But they're not giving up hope. They are determined to make sure that they reach their destination and it's very important now and very evident that we need a road from Manitoba to the Kivalliq Region.



As a government, we have to work and lobby with the provincial governments to get this project going. When I heard that they were brining materials by bombardier under extreme conditions; it's very important to build that road. We know that if we are determined enough, we can achieve what ever we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

### **Member's Statement 180 – 2(2): Confusion on Power Bills**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform my constituents in Sanikiluaq about the activities in this House.

(interpretation ends) I believe that there is a lot of confusion in our communities about government plans in the area of energy. Mr. Speaker, my constituents already have enough problems dealing with the power corporation. Some people tell me they get bills each month, one from Baker Lake and one from Iqaluit.

My constituents hear on the radio that financial problems with the power corporation are very serious. At other times, they hear that the government has everything under control and that the problems are being solved.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we need to get our House in order with the power corporation before we make any major changes in the Petroleum Product Division. We have enough on our plate already, and that's why I support yesterday's motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Orders of the Day. Item 4. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it has been quite some time now that I have been a Member of the Legislative Assembly. From the time we started, I have been telling you about someone that I don't think a lot of you know who he is, and my grandson, Kevin, I would like to welcome him here; and also, I mentioned earlier that my grandson is here for a visit, and his mother is Susan Alikatuktuk, and I heard that Kevin's little brother went to Panniqtuuq today. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Orders of the day. Item 6. Oral questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

**Question 230 – 2(2): Policies on Chartering Aircraft**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College. We all know, based on the executive summary of the report that the minister tabled, that there were some major concerns about accountability and practices going on at the Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, my question to the minister is, does the college follow any kind of policy in regard to chartering aircraft? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are general policy guidelines in regard to government chartering planes; there are specific guidelines to that. My understanding is that the college would also adhere to those guidelines. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am just wondering if there's any mechanism that the college has in place for monitoring to determine whether the procurement of charters has followed the proper policies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's something that we can follow up on and get back to the member on. There are policies and guidelines in place for charters, generally, within the government itself, and I would expect that most Crown agencies, organizations, and corporations will also follow those types of guidelines, and they would be similar to the ones that the Government of Nunavut would have in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know in the Government of Nunavut policy that's in place.... the minister alludes to, assumes, that the college would follow the same thing. It indicates that charter aircraft should only be used when more economical travel such as scheduled air services are unavailable and impractical, and the most economical and practical air charter available should be used.

When the minister is looking into it, can he look into a particular incident where two charters were actually arranged out of Rankin Inlet, to Iqaluit, in one case, and on the same thing, from Rankin Inlet to Yellowknife. I think it was in the last couple of weeks, due to weather, on a Saturday, that those charters were made.

When he's looking into it, if he can look into those particular cases, and I think the carrier was Kivalliq Air, and ensure that the proper policies and procedures were followed and report that back to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will commit to the member and to the House to follow up on those two specific issues that the member has dealt with here and, again, get back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the minister has made commitments for things in the past like tabling the power corporation's capital plan, and that was supposed to be in the next 48 hours, and I think that was over 48 hours ago.

So, I'm going to ask him: does he have a specific time in which he will get back to the members of this House with that information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the capital plan, as the member knows, the capital plan has been tabled; it's in the Utility Rate Review Council document that's also been tabled. There is the capital plan that was approved, on top of that, as I said earlier, there is an interim capital plan that had been approved by the board. I would hope to be in a position to table that. I'll have to bring that to cabinet. So, I will be doing that.

At the same time, on this specific issue with the college: again, I'll ask the staff right now to contact the college and hopefully have an answer on this for tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Mapsalak.

### **Question 231 – 2(2): Appointment of Nunavut Commissioner**

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker, My question is directed to the Premier. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Commissioner was appointed on April 1st, 2000 by the Federal Government, and his term was for five years. This term will be expiring very soon, so my question to the Premier is, has the Federal Government notified Nunavut Government about the Nunavut Commissioner's position?

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, prior to his appointment, we were asked through correspondence by the previous Minister to nominate, but we have yet not received any correspondence from the Federal

Government in regards to this, since the Federal Government makes the appointments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has the Premier talked with the federal Indian and Northern Affairs minister in regard to this position? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we continually have discussions about Nunavut with them, including the one we are talking about, we had asked what they were going to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Second supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the regular members be given the opportunity to nominate individuals? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is totally up to the Federal Government, but if any of the regular members would like to provide names for nominations they may do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. The Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

### **Question 232 – 2(2): Student Accomodation Policy**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to address the minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College. It is in regards to the students who have families that would like to take Arctic College courses, such as trades and others, and who have to try to get their own accommodations.

Do you have a billeting policy in place for students being accomodated with families? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that the college has a process in place where allocations are done for the units that we have available for student housing. For example, here in Iqaluit, we have what we call the Q units. Those

are allocated based on need and based on the size of the family, if a student is accepted. It is based on availability, for the students to find accommodations.

Once a student is accepted at a campus for a program, they are informed at that time if housing is available. In some cases, they may be accepted for a program, but then have to find accommodations if accommodations are not available through the auspices of the college. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand quite well that you do have a policy in place. Is that because the facilities here for students have a proximity to where the minister is? I am asking the question particularly for Rankin Inlet in the Kivalliq region.

There does not appear to be a similar billeting policy for students with families that are going into Rankin Inlet from other communities. Even if they make their own arrangements, there is no payment for families who are accommodating them. Why is that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Rankin Inlet, at the Kivalliq Campus, we have adequate housing for single students. However, the issue has been, as the member has stated, family accommodation units. I believe at the present time we have leased two units in the community that provide family accommodations. In our supplementary capital plan, there is also money to look at the needs of family housing.

That is not just unique to the Kivalliq. For example, here there is also a shortage of family housing. When a person applies to the college, who comes from outside of this other community, in this case, outside of Rankin Inlet, they are informed if housing is available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We appreciate, and I know that the students certainly appreciate, that there are capital plans for establishing various options for student housing. I believe that the students are not restricted to single people only.

Therefore, I would like to ask the minister why is he having such difficulty in establishing a clear set of guidelines for students who are making their own arrangements, because they cannot wait until the capital plans are in place. They are taking these limited courses and so on.

So, will the minister take this issue as a priority and look for housing options in Rankin Inlet, because there is optional housing available in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been a couple of options with that, and in consultation with Community and Government Services and the department, we have looked at it a lot there. A lot has been identified in Rankin Inlet where we could actually move forward and be able to pull up family accommodations for the community and for the campus.

At the same, the issue around the amount of finances that are available at the college to be able to lease on the open market is a concern. As I stated earlier, we were able to lease two units for family accommodations and we weren't in that position this fiscal year to be able to lease additional units.

I am making it a priority again. It's in the supplementary capital plan and it's something that we realize, and the government realizes, that there is a need for family accommodations in the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Final supplementary, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's response. But, currently there are a number of, at least one family, who is accommodating a student with their family but they're not getting paid. Could the minister look into that and ensure that the student who is getting free meals and whatnot and accommodations from the family, that the family hosting them gets paid as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will follow that up and find out what has occurred and indeed what the remuneration issue is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

### **Question 233 – 2(2): Sport Recreation Infrastructure**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To go back to my member's statement, this is for the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

I wonder how the minister works with his department and with Community and Government Services in regard to getting adequate facilities for recreational purposes. Are these considered a priority?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not too clear on what his question is. Maybe he can clarify if it's for recreation. Can he clarify his question, please?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Can you clarify your question, Mr. Barnabas?

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe if I say it in English he'll understand.

(interpretation ends) How does the minister work with his colleagues in Community and Government Services to ensure that sports related infrastructure receives priority? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The programs or projects are separated. There is one for elders and youth and there is one for recreation and leisure.

Recreation infrastructure, especially for community centres or for swimming pools and major capital items, they are under the program of Community and Government Services, under Minister Kilabuk. But I can say that if there is infrastructure already in place to make use of the building, or if renovations need to be made, we actually handle that. But for the other major capital items, it's under Community and Government Services. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. First supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister identify if they have any long-term plans for capital facilities in Nunavut.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the responsibility of Community and Government Services, so at this time I can't give a response, although I am confident that my colleague here, on my right, can give a proper reply. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What type of projects have been benefiting from the \$270,000 recreation facility capital fund in 2004-05? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The funds that we have identified are for recreation facilities, and I will be saying what those are once we go under the discussion of CLEY. I will give him a more detailed report on that then. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your last supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When you look at the \$270,000, that's not very much, especially for Nunavut. My question, as I stated in my member's statement: can the minister tell me how many coaching clinics have been held in Nunavut in 2004-05, to date, and where those clinics have taken place? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The coaching clinics, where they train coaches in the communities, and that benefit the lifestyles of the people... I don't have that information in front of me, but there are coaching clinics held in Nunavut. We participate in those clinics and in that training; for the volunteers, which is also under that, we host coaching clinics, and we have discussions within our department on how we can improve sports in our territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

#### **Question 234 – 2(2): Firearms Registry Update**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Justice and it concerns the firearm registry.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday I rose in the House in order to highlight the problems facing elders in my riding, with respect to the federal gun legislation. During the Nunavut Leadership Forum back in 1999, then candidate Okalik spoke eloquently on the issue.

So, my question for the Minister of Justice: can the minister update the House today on the status of the challenge against the gun control legislation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister for Justice, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The only real news that has occurred is that the Nunavut Court of Justice issued an interim motion to permit Inuit to be able to harvest without having a licence or to pay fees. That's the only advance that we have so far.

Our challenge is still in place, but we are still awaiting a trial date on this matter. In the interim, Inuit don't have to have any licences or any fees to exercise their harvesting rights under the Land Claim Agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Peterson.



**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's response. Nunavut, along with some provinces, has always opposed the federal gun control legislation for various reasons; it's a law that has no application up here.

My question for the minister: did the minister raise this issue with his federal counterparts at the recent national meeting of federal, provincial, and territorial justice ministers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I not only just raised it, but I keep raising with the federal government that this particular legislation is not acceptable. I don't wait for regular meetings to take place.

Our challenge continues, and we will continue to challenge this piece of the legislation which infringes on Inuit harvesting rights under the Land Claim Agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Second supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's good news to hear, that the minister continues to lobby, even between meetings with his federal counterparts. I recognize that we don't have complete control over this situation.

My question for the minister: can he tell us what support we're getting from our Northern MPs and senators in terms of at least getting the federal government to address such practical and basic issues as having a staffed firearms office located in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All I know is that we have volunteers in a number of communities that volunteer their time and provide the training program for those that need a licence.

So, we have a number of good individuals that have taken the initiative in offering some courses in some of the communities. We appreciate those people. I do hope that one day we'll have an office again so that our constituents won't go through such hardship. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Final supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's also good to know. Some constituents in my riding have contacted the people in Ottawa. It's a very bureaucratic process, to say the least. It could take years.

My question for the minister: could he give any advice to Nunavumiut who are having trouble complying with the system, in terms of how they can expedite the process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been working with NTI on this file, and they have been assisting in finding volunteers. But largely, I suggest that you call your MP and provide your comments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for Arviat, Mr. Alagalak.

### **Question 235 – 2(2): Update on Polar Vision Contract**

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

I usually ask you questions. I brought this up last spring: you indicated that you would check into the optometrist services in the Kivalliq region. Has this been started? The optometrist, the same people, still travel through the Kivalliq communities, so I would like to get more information.

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

**Ms. Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I checked into this and the people from Yellowknife, their contract is still valid, so until we have to renew it they will be the same people. I can certainly check into what other people we can use. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Polar Vision has had the contract for quite a long time. It stipulates in the contracts that they make improvements or their contract could be terminated if we are not happy with the services.

People have to wait for a long time, about three or four months, just for their glasses to get in. When their eyes are checked, sometimes they have to pay then; they pay, and I wonder what their reason is for being so slow. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for bringing this up. I have heard the same concerns. As minister, I certainly can check into this, how we can maybe terminate their contracts or how we renew them. Polar Vision, thanks for reminding me, they are still the contractors. I will ask my officials to check into this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you. A lot of times there are mistakes where the lenses are switched, where the lens should be on the right instead of on the left, and this is harmful for the person.

As the government here, we will stand up for what we believe in, for anything, when it comes to our employees, and I really want the contractors to know where we stand as MLAs. We should make this visible. So, I am urging the minister to check into this. I am very serious about this because the people are serious about us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your words are very strong. I will certainly check into this because we have to get such requests from our members, and contractors should live up to their responsibility. So, I will certainly check into this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Evyagotailak.

### **Question 236 – 2(2): Roles of Regional Local and Boards of Housing**

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister Responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Can the minister tell this House what role the Nunavut Housing Corporation, local housing organizations, and the boards of local housing organizations have with respect to approving applications for public housing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I understood my colleague's question correctly, the roles of the local housing organizations, at the community level, include such roles as setting up allocation committees for tenants to move into vacant units or units that become vacant. They also have different, special committees that look at arrears and also the waiting list. So, the roles of the local housing organizations, at the community level, require a lot of one-on-one and face-to-face work with the community members. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell this House under what circumstances a person would not be eligible for public housing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are a number of factors that would be considered during the review of the eligibility of the person applying for public housing. One of the most common that we hear about is outstanding arrears or people with a bad history of outstanding arrears. These may be people who have moved from one community to another community.

Also, because some communities do not have the immediate units readily available, sometimes the unit may have been allocated to a certain family in the community and a different family in need may not have higher points to become eligible. So, there is a different number of factors that will lead to the local housing organization denying an application. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Second supplementary, Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. Can the minister tell this House what circumstances would lead to a public housing tenant being removed from their unit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not knowing the circumstances if there may be a case in question, there are, like I said, a number of factors that the local housing organization will factor in, in deciding if tenants should be evicted or should not be allowed access to public housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thanks again, Minister. There are only three communities in Nunavut that have bank branches. Can the minister tell this House what service the corporation offers to clients who wish to buy their own home but do not qualify for the Nunavut Downpayment Assistance Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have information packages that our offices are more than willing to share to assist individuals seeking home ownership.

As a matter of fact, we just recently made improvements and adjustments and also increases to allow more people to become eligible for home ownership programs, and I can most definitely commit to sharing the information packages with my colleague on the home ownership program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Kattuk.

**Question 237 – 2(2): Status of Funding from the Federal Government Regarding Climate Change**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment; hopefully he'll be able to respond to my question.

The finance minister for the federal government has recently announced his concern about funding for the North. And because of climate change, there was some funding set aside for that. Could the minister inform the House what the status of this is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are working on an Environmental Sustainability Framework with the federal government. Last week we held meetings to discuss this through a teleconference, and right now we're just writing up the framework on climate change. To date, we've been drafting the framework and policies and procedures. Perhaps by this coming spring we will be able to discuss this further by way of holding meetings about climate change. But as Nunavut, we are quite unique, and we will involve NTI during the meetings that deal with climate change. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Have you been told what kind of concerns, or have there been any studies or research done on what the concerns are of the people of Nunavut, or North of 60, because it's going to be good to acknowledge some of the things that are going to be impacted due to climate change. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I have stated that we are working on the framework. I have discussed with the federal minister that we need to hold consultations in the North and how much it would cost the Government of Nunavut. We want to know what kind of programs and services the federal government would provide. So, we will be discussing all of these details with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I am trying to ask is, have you done any research on the impact of climate change? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you. We have done research on the traditional knowledge of Inuit on climate change. In the Nunavut Climate Change Strategy, we have included the comments and advice from the elders in regards to our wildlife and environment.

We are going to look into how we can improve on the impact of climate change so that we can manage the impact it will have on us. To date, we are still doing research and studies. We are working on the various impacts in Nunavut.

When we were in Iceland last fall, in November, I attended a meeting and there was a great concern about climate change in the circumpolar north. All the other circumpolar countries are also concerned about it and they are looking into it. Our federal minister was quite concerned about it and he was sensitive to our concerns. They wanted to look into what kind of impact it will have on us in the future. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your last supplementary, Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You mentioned research or a study being done. Perhaps you can give me some information as to what kind of survey or research has been done or perhaps table those reports in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I know about the Nunavut research and the other research reports from the various circumpolar countries. Yes, I will provide that information to the member in regards to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. The Member for Nanulik, Mr. Netser.

### **Question 238 – 2(2): Update on Environmental Technology Program**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education. When we were reviewing the main estimates of Nunavut Arctic College, it was mentioned that the environmental technology program students are sent out to the land to do life skills. I have heard of a concern that the instructors were in one tent and the students in another and their tents were about four kilometers apart. At the tent that the students were staying in, they don't even have a rifle for protection.

The president stated that he was going to look into that. We have not heard anything about it. We would like to be informed about this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member raising the issue. Indeed, during the budget debate in the House, on the college, the issue was raised. Subsequently to that, I have received an e-mail letter from one of the participants in the environmental technology program who did inform me that when he has been at those camps, that indeed the case has been that the instructors would have rifles with them for protection, and that indeed, those were housed in the tent where the instructors were.

The student went on to tell me that the students on the program did not have access to the rifles in their tents. I have taken that e-mail, I have forwarded it to the president of the college to ascertain the veracity of the facts mentioned in the e-mail and then to follow up with instructors of the program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We all know that when we go to the communities, when we leave our families behind or if we are going for a walk, we always take our rifles with us and we always leave a rifle for the people who we leave behind in the camp. It is very dangerous if a wild animal happens to approach the students. They should not be treated like little children.

Can you inform us that the students will be allowed to take a rifle, because they will be going out on the land very soon. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, I did receive the e-mail after the debate on Monday, in the House, on the budget. I have asked the president to follow up and ensure that the safety of the students, the participants on the program, has to be first and foremost, the utmost, in doing these types of exercises. That has to be taken into account.

I am waiting from the president of the college to verify what has been said in the e-mail, as well as in the House, to ascertain whether they will be implementing that and when that will occur. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. I have three other names on my list. The Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

**Question 239 – 2(2): Costs Saving on Fuel Re-supply**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the minister responsible for petroleum products and the fuel re-supply. I understand, if I am correct, that the way the contract was awarded in the last go around was that the government decided to split the contract, to have a purchase contract and a delivery contract.

Given that, they went on to say that with this new type of contract they were going to be saving \$16 million, or something like that, over the next few years. I would like to ask the minister if he could indicate how much we have saved to date and if those savings that we talked about were the difference between the old contract, which was a purchase and supply contract, and they split the contract in half... . So, does that savings amount include just the one contract or was it for both? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister responsible for petroleum products, Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm trying to think back to the exact figures on the projected savings that were announced at the time the contracts were renewed. Mr. Speaker, I do not have the exact amount of savings in the new purchase and transport of the fuel re-supply. I will commit to providing the detailed information to my colleague on the actual contract conditions and the savings. But if memory serves me right, and I can be corrected on this, I think the total cost savings were going to be in the vicinity of about \$20 million; but, I stand to be corrected on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hopefully not. Hopefully, it is correct, because if the amount he said was too small, it would be nice to see more savings. I look forward to getting that information.

Mr. Speaker, my next question is, when the amounts of fuel that are ordered are ordered, the amounts that are initially ordered and asked for by each community and by each product grade, that the purchaser, the contract is there to purchase that fuel, purchases the amounts specified in the actual order. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the communities and their re-supply, after the fuel dips have been done at these tanks for these certain types of products in the communities, and looking at the history of usage over the course of the year and also projected further use, if the tank facilities are there to meet increased needs then the order will be made depending on the amounts required for that community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.



**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can take it, then, that whatever is ordered by the community is determined through petroleum products, or whoever the agent is in determining the amount that they require.

The contract to go out and buy that fuel is for the amounts that were actually requested through the Petroleum Product Division or other agents that are out there. Mr. Speaker, I know the other half of that contract is a supply contract. That is to transfer that fuel from wherever it's stored, wherever the purchaser has it, to deliver it to the communities.

My question to the minister is, what happens when the amount that is purchased as per the order is not the same as the amount that is actually delivered? I can use for an example, here in Iqaluit, for the Jet A-1 fuel: the order was short 1.8 million litres of jet fuel.

So, if we paid for it, where is it? I'm just wondering if the minister can clarify that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must apologize, I don't have the specific details of shortfall in the amount of jet fuel that may have been ordered for Iqaluit, but under normal circumstances, the orders that Petroleum Product Division puts in for re-supply are usually met. In cases where communities have too big of a shortfall for their supplies, we have had to transfer fuel to communities with the use of aircraft. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just used Iqaluit, here, as an example, but if we have one contract to buy 31,125,000 litres for the Baffin region, as outlined in the response to my written question to the department on 2004 fuel re-supply, there is a shortfall in what was actually delivered.

One would assume that if we have a contract to go out and buy that 31 million litres, that we would have 31 million litres out there. How and when do we see that? Do we get a reimbursement from the contractor on that?

If this is an issue where we've paid for fuel that we don't have, is this something that the minister will commit to looking into and reviewing and possibly reviewing the contract to see whether the shipper can adequately follow through on the terms and conditions of the contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague makes a very good point, that we shouldn't be paying for products that are not delivered and should make every

effort to make sure that the products we order are delivered, regardless of what type of order it is. I will definitely commit to looking into the specific case and commit to providing my colleague information on my findings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

### **Question 240 – 2(2): Conducting Investigations on Incorrect Diagnosis**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the minister of health. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents had a life threatening experience just after Christmas. He was experiencing headaches, but the medical professionals were treating him for an earache. In fact, after three or four long days of headaches and deteriorating health, he was finally diagnosed with an aneurism and was finally medivaced directly to Edmonton, where he was operated on immediately. I'm happy to say that he survived.

My question for the minister: can the minister explain to the House whether her department conducts reviews of incorrect medical diagnoses to determine what went wrong and how to improve them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Brown:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't comment on the specific individuals or issues, stuff like that, but I will check into your request. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps the minister misunderstood me. I wasn't asking her to comment on the specific case. I was asking her, do they conduct investigations into incorrect diagnosis in general?

If there is a doctor or a medical professional who incorrectly diagnoses a patient, the patient dies or suffers a long illness, does her department conduct an investigation to see what went wrong, how it can be improved, to improve our medical health system? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Ms. Brown.

**Ms. Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel very much for the member and I would also like to thank him for bringing this subject up. I will look into the issue and talk to the nurse that was involved and find out what they do in these processes. Of course, we're all human and we can all make mistakes. I have yet to see a human that has never made a mistake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Second supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's response. I know people make mistakes, but sometimes you make mistakes and people die. We do not want people dying in Nunavut through mistakes.

We can make mistakes here, but nobody is going to die. A question for the minister, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister tell the House how many Nunavumiut suffered through long illnesses or die annually due to incorrect medical diagnosis by medical professionals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Hon. Levinia Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not have the responses in front of me and I do not know the numbers of misdiagnosis. I do not have the information because it was never made available to me, but I will look into it and I will take that question as notice.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The minister has taken the question as notice. Oral questions. Member for the High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

#### **Question 241 – 2(2): Increase Funding for Sports in Nunavut**

**Mr. Barnabas:** (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask some oral questions in regards to my member's statement.

This question is directed to the Minister of CLEY. Last year, they took over, in regard to sports in Nunavut, from Community and Government Services. I wonder if the minister can give us information as to the portfolio that he took over, how much of an improvement there is.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of CLEY, Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the Department of Community and Government Services had that portfolio, there was a huge amount of money that they used for sports. Since we took over that, what we do now is to carefully divide the money up for certain recreations, sports, and athletics.

What we want to do is increase the funding for sporting in Nunavut. We also would like to incorporate traditional Inuit games. What we do now is we have those traditional southern sports, basketball, volleyball, and all that other stuff, but what we are going to do is include the traditional games of the Inuit. That is what we would like to do.

The recreation coordinators have been given a workshop and we had a meeting to let them talk about including Inuit games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister told us that CGS has responsibility for capital planning. I agree. My question is this, how does CLEY work with CGS to develop capital plans in relation to sports facilities in our communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): We have various responsibilities. We have the responsibility of the facilities; there are people who deal with the capital recreation facilities. What we do is we deal with the sports part of it and improve the games that the people of Nunavut play.

As to how we work with Mr. Kilabuk's department, me and the Minister of Community and Government Services, we have not had a discussion on that as yet. To date, we have not had a consultation because we deal with different things right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am kind of surprised. It has been a whole year since the portfolio was given to the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth and those two ministers have not had a chance to speak to each other on those things.

I wonder if the minister can inform me of when they will have discussions on those topics. When is the minister going to meet with Mr. Kilabuk's department? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): I know that some community halls are quite small, and the other minister has the responsibility for capital facilities. So, I am not really sure exactly what the member wants to know. What do you mean by asking, "When will you be discussing those with the other minister"?

What we deal with is sports or going out down south for competitions and stuff like that. We can do that as a department, but we have nothing to do with the capital funding for facilities. We don't decide which community will be getting their facility renovated or expanded because it's the responsibility of Mr. Kilabuk's department.

So, if you could specifically ask me a question as to what you want, maybe I could respond to you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your last supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): I am not really sure; we need to find out, as ordinary members, some information, and we talk about the needs of our communities.

What happens to those member's statements and questions that we are asking? Because we are dealing with young people. It seems like we just ask questions all day, and nobody seems to pay any attention to the questions and the statements that we make as ordinary members in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes, there are different needs for different communities. Some want to get facilities or some of them want swimming pools, and you have to request that from the Community and Government Services. But the only thing that we deal with is the contributions for sports purchases.

So, you can make a proposal or an application to my department, and there are various kinds of sport activities that we have in our budget. That's what we do, but I'm not really sure what the member is asking of me.

The people request funding for certain sports and that's what we take care of, so I'm not really sure exactly what the member wants to do. Perhaps there is something that he requested that we did not honour. We have the money here for contributions and then people request them through a proposal.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Question period is now over. Going back to orders of the day. Item 7. Item 8. Item 9. Item 10. Petitions. Mr. Barnabas.

### **Item 10: Petitions**

#### **Petition 005 – 2(2): Gasoline Delivery to Grise Fiord**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a petition that I would like to table. It is in regards to the gasoline delivery to the community of Grise Fjord. There are ten signatures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Petitions should be delivered to the clerk's table. Petitions. Item 11. Item 12. Item 13, Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

### **Item 13: Tabled Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 098 – 2(2): Funeral and Burial Arrangements**

**Mr. Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table some correspondence between myself and the Department of Health and Social Services and Department of Education on funeral burial arrangements in 2004. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Please provide your tabled document to the clerk. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Tabled Document 099 – 2(2): Schedule of Vote 1 and 2 and Vote 4 and 5 Grants and Contributions 2003-04 Fiscal Year**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table both financial information for Vote 1 and 2 and the contribution funding for 2003/04. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Item 15, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Ms. Aglukkaq.

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

**Bill 9 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act 3, 2004/05 - Notice**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, March 11, 2005, that Bill 9, Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act 3, 2004/05 be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Bill 10 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act 3, 2004 - 2005 – Notice**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday 11, 2005, Bill 10, Supplementary Appropriation Operations and Maintenance Act 3, 2004/05 be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Can you hold on a second for a few minutes to clarify Bill 10? Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16, Motions. Item 17, First Reading of Bills. Item 18, Second Reading of Bills. Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Item 18: Second Reading of Bills**

**Bill 11 – Loan Authorization Act, 2005-06 – Second Reading**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin Inlet South/Whale Cove, that Bill 11, the Loan Authorization Act 2005/2006, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Commissioner, or the Minister of Finance acting on behalf of the Commissioner, to make loans to municipalities for the 2005/06 fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Any comments. Question has been called. All those in favor. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Bill 11 has had second reading and is referred to a Standing Committee.

Second Reading of Bills. Ms. Aglukkaq.

### **Bill 12 – Write Off of Assets and Debts Act, 2004-05 – Second Reading**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honorable Member from Iqaluit East that Bill 12, Write off of Assets and Debts Act 2004/05, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the write off in accordance with Section 82 of the Financial Administration Act, and the write off of debts in accordance to section 24 of the Financial Administration Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Comments to the bill. Question has been called. All those in favor. All those opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 12 has had second reading and is referred to a Standing Committee.

Second Reading of Bills. Item 19, Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters . Tabled Document 52-2(2) and Bill 8, Appropriation.

With Mr. Netser in the chair. In accordance with the authority vested in me by Motion 3-2(2), the Committee of the Whole will stay in session in until it reports itself out.

We will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-arms.

*>>Committee recessed at 15:35 and resumed at 16:03*

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

**Chairman:** Thank you for coming back. We are reviewing: Tabled Document 52-2(2) and Bill 8.

What is the wish of the Committee? Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with Bill 8, with the review of the Main Estimates for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. After that, we wish to commence the review of the Main Estimates for the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister Kilabuk, do you have any witnesses?

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Yes I do, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses to the Witness Table.

Thank you. For the record, could you please introduce your witnesses, Mr. Minister?

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll start from my right. Chris D'Arcy is from the Nunavut Housing Corporation from the Iqaluit office and will be here with us. The president of the Housing Corporation on my immediate left, Peter Scott. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Are there any general comments with respect to the housing corporation from the floor? Any comments? Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd just like to say a few words. I have been told by my constituents that the homeowners don't have anybody to turn to. So, for example, they can't get into social housing units.

They have to request from another community to trade with houses and this was brought up to me before in regards to shortage of housing. We understand that they don't have anybody else to turn to. For instance, if their house burned down they can't get into social housing. I just wanted to make that point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also like to say a few words. The funding is very clear for the new units that will be built. I know that this is worked on and the public housing units are assigned for people who can't afford their own homes and we know there will always be a shortage in our community because we have 134 waiting Inuit in our community who can't get into housing.

I know, the minister is working hard and can't do too much a lot of times. Nowadays Inuit are more aware of the housing. There doesn't seem to be a clear message but in the past like the companies in Nunavut would own houses and they would be leased by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Nunavut took over and re-leased them.

We hear concerns from the people and Arviat being one of them. I truly support the minister, especially when there is a shortage of houses. We realize that there is a shortage of funds for housing but if they can look at for short term leases like 10 years or less to lease them according to what government use.

I want this, especially in my constituency, to be looked at where the minister to work to check on this. I know that he is aware of that and I truly believe that he is doing everything he can to provide housing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Alagalak. Thank you. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to first start off, according to what I've learned, when they first provided houses to the Inuit in the communities we were told by government to come and settle in a community, in one community so we can provide you with housing and you will not be obligated to pay anything except the \$32, and because we were told that, I've never forgotten it and I will continually bring this up.

Up to date, there are people going through great difficulty in getting units, especially in my constituency. I was told in one case, though he was a home owner, his family were going through a hard time. They were ready to give up because it feels like they are being evicted by the housing corporation.

As Mr. Barnabas stated earlier, they can't qualify for social housing, and there are bills that are piling up and in a circumstances like that, their hands are tied. The way I understand it, they are going through very difficult times.

Maybe in the future, we as the legislative assembly, as law makers for Nunavumiut and to Inuit should consider what action to take. I will be raising questions later on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Arreak.

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a comment. On social housing, we know there is a shortage. It is not to say that nothing is being done. But, everybody is working hard and the local housing authorities go through great difficulty and people should recognize and realize that. A lot of times, their hands are tied because, especially for fuel, electricity, municipal services, the funding that they do get is usually behind the budget.

They seem to fall behind because their budgets are not dealt with at the appropriate time. A lot of times, they don't pay for their water, electricity or municipal services because the budget is not dealt with and there are a lot of people on the waiting list in Clyde River.

Even though the actual names are not that long, there is still the same number of people who want housing because they know that there won't be any. Some of them end up waiting 10 years or more. Maybe a majority of them have to wait that long who has applied for social housing.

And, what Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Housing Corporation are trying to do, we are in full support of they are trying to do on the Action Plan. If they can physically get those houses, I am sure that people would be much happier, if this comes through the federal government because this has a social impact on the people.

Lastly, the Elders' Facility in Clyde River is appreciated. It would be a good model for other communities. The tenants are there now and it is almost in full operation. If you go to our community, make sure that you check on this Elders' Facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a few comments on the Housing Corporation. In Nunavut we have a lot of people who are on the waiting list and they have been on the waiting list for many years, in just about all the communities.

We all know that a lot of houses are full with family members and friends. When that happens, you know that there is a lack of space and that is when they start talking to each other in not a good way. That can create a lot of problems in the house.

Not too long ago, too, one of my constituents just came up to me they were going to be evicted from public housing because their income was too much. I am not too happy about that because there are a lot of people who owe a lot of money too.

People who are making money out of drugs and bootlegging, I think those people should be looked at first before anybody who makes more money in a good way working to keep their families happy, the Housing Corporation should be happy with them and keep them in housing. Start thinking about the bootleggers and the drug dealers who are making money out of these things. A lot of people are not very happy about that.

Mr. Chairman, I will be asking questions on these issues. I would like to thank the minister and his staff for showing up to this Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a brief general comment too. I would like to welcome you. First of all I would like to thank the members and the Deputy Chairman for the Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development Standing Committee.

Mr. Peterson's opening comments yesterday, last winter while I was away the Standing Committee met with the minister. I would like to thank the Standing Committee members for meeting with the minister.

The issue that I wanted to raise in my general comments is that I know that the Housing Corporation has a policy for the allocation of housing to the communities. They also prioritize the communities that are in the highest need. The responsibilities are huge and the manager and the district managers are working by themselves. I'm not happy too about it because they work internally and it seems like they are not considering the recommendations of the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

While we were reviewing the Capital Estimates, we heard that in some communities the Local Housing Authorities, for example, are not in a deficit situation. I think it's been over five years since they have never allocated units to Rankin Inlet and the Local Housing Organization is operating without a deficit and they require further training.

Some communities that are operating without a deficit, it seems like they're being penalized. It seems like all the concerns that we raised are not being respected. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out further that the Local Housing Organizations are getting under the umbrella of the municipality, like my colleague from Cambridge Bay's questions.

If they have Maintenance Service, I'll be asking questions in regards to that. It seems like the Government of Nunavut has off loaded the responsibilities to the communities, and the municipalities don't really want to take on the responsibilities but they have no choice but to take on the responsibility.

If they're going to do that, the training budget, I don't think there is a training budget line item for housing staff. It should be expanded. The manager, the human resources and the personnel have to be qualified. At times they are fired for literally no reason. So, I'm asking for an expansion of training for human resources and the staff of LHO and we have to encourage the staff.

It has to be ongoing training. The property management is changing whether it be plumbing, electrical or mechanical, they require adequate training. And in some communities the municipalities, if the LHO is operating efficiently, they could probably be construction managers because they have good staff for labour only contracts.

If we did it that way, there would be more Inuit in the job force. And if you tried to get lowest paid in Housing Corporation, some of the Inuit don't get into the workforce. It seems like they just want to make a profit. We have been told that they have to comply with the NNI Policy and that's why the cost has gone up and the bid prices go up.

When they hire Inuit, I would tell you that if you can get that I then would like to get the Local Housing Organization to do the construction and to hire Inuit, it would be cheaper than a regular construction company because the regular construction companies' bids are too high. Two years in a row in Rankin Inlet, the construction contract has been cancelled.

During the First Legislative Assembly, there was a budget for labour side and there were over \$200,000 they bid. If you can take their ideas and turn them into policy, that way there will be more Inuit employed and trained.

We could say because they will always be there (interpretation ends) they are not going to run away and they are not going to move away. (interpretation) So please provide

training on capital training basic construction management that is required. So, if you do it that way, it would be more effective between the regions.

I would urge you to reconsider these and perhaps you have to check some of your staff to see if they are qualified and the President when his term is up and unable to address this rather than having a political appointment for the President it should go through the competition. That way, we can get qualified individuals with technical skills. I'm going to be asking questions in regards to that and I will be seeking support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I no more names on my list for general comments. Move on to L-6 to L-12. If you have any questions from those pages? Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** I'm going to put now with some of the questions. Maybe the minister and the President could explain to us exactly how the housing allocation policy works in the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

In viewing the fact that we have 27 or so communities, how is this allocation of housing, or is it by the year, is it year to year? Who makes the choices, decisions and recommends the ones that are worth considering for this coming construction season? For instance, will they decide it? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we look at the units that have been constructed in the communities. Either in two communities or three communities they allocate the units to all the communities of Nunavut in the past years.

And in listening to the recommendations by the Local Housing Organizations, and the members were stating that when you are just allocating to the communities we were asked to review the allocation of the units to the communities.

In the second year for 2005-2006 construction seasons, we started reviewing the communities that are in greater need. We based them on the aboriginal people population increase and how many people are sleeping in one room and the number of dependents living in the house who are aboriginal. We also look at the number of people living in a unit. That way we can identify quickly in Kitikmeot the population has been increasing very rapidly.

I cannot tell you how long we will be using the term for but we always have time to make changes. We have identified how many units will be built and we had to get them approved by the Members and the Cabinet before we submit them to the Legislative Assembly.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the President of the Housing Corporation why it was strictly a criteria of overcrowding, which to me means only where the largest concentration of families, families with large children, in spite of other needs in the community that may have less family members in their community but have a large waiting list of people who are looking for accommodation.

Just broadly, the demographics are pretty much probably with the needs would translate the same thing; more housing needed in, even the communities that don't have a large family gathering in these communities, like some communities that we have in Nunavut.

Why one set of rules now because some other community will really never attain that because of their choice of not having of large family. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The way the units were allocated for this year was based on four different factors that the minister has indicated in there, which are statistics from two different sources. It is reflective of the overcrowding situation in particular communities.

Using other indicators, such as the large waiting lists; we know that Arviat has a 130 people on the waiting list. We know that Rankin Inlet has got quite a few on the waiting list as well. Iqaluit, a much larger community has got almost half of what Arviat has on their waiting list. That doesn't mean that there is less overcrowding here; it means that there are less people who are eligible on the waiting list.

Waiting lists are not a viable way of determining what the need of the community; what the level of overcrowding is in the community. There are too many variable factors involved in that.

As far as future allocations go, at this point we don't know right now what we will have to deliver for 2006/07 but we are certainly more than open to any ideas or suggestions from the Floor; from the members; from the communities as to how we can more fairly allocate units to communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. Again a question from the President of the Housing Corporation, comments that you normally receive from the Members of the House. I know it is quite important that we simply go along with what you recommend.

Certainly, other communities like large communities, here in Iqaluit for instance, where employees are working for government, their numbers are options. Some communities strictly don't have that. We don't have all those options in smaller places or regions that don't have a large concentration of private houses being constructed.

So I would like to get an idea whether or not the points that the Members of the Legislative Assembly raised, are they taken into consideration one way or another at all? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Absolutely. Any input; any ideas put forward to us by members, their ideas and inputs is well received by us. I've had some very good dialogue over the last year with various members of the House with suggestions on how we can improve delivery and improve services and we're more than open to suggestions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well I appreciate that offer. Certainly it is important because many of us have felt for a long time, but it is a bit pointless to make any recommendations to the Housing Corporation.

I would like to ask the president whether or not he has a long term allocation plan for Nunavut. Is it year to year? Is it five years? What are the factors that are there? Does it depend on the Cabinet or is it just rolling along with a long term plan as a need for taken into consideration the factors that you mentioned. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now the Corporation follows the government's capital planning process. At this point, not even knowing how much capital we'll have for 2006/07, or 2007/08, we can't do much planning beyond a one year planning horizon because we don't do our capital budgets until the fall. That's when it's determined what we'll get and how many units we can deliver and it will be decided as to where the units will go for 2006/07. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Can the President clarify exactly what he means by government's planning process, so the Housing Corporation does not have as an independent crown corporation their own capital allocation process given the fact that you may get this number of units per year at minimum. Could you explain to us exactly what you mean by government planning process?

**Chairman:** Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The capital planning process within government and we get our capital allocations through that process. It starts usually in the summer

months. We had given our capital targets with which to develop our Capital Plan and our Capital Budget for the next year.

So, sometime this summer we'll get our targets. We'll develop our Capital Plan from there. We have other programs. That out of the capital that we have to deliver, we try to protect up to \$10 million of whatever capital we do get for improvements to public housing units and we have homeownership programs.

Generally what's left over after we've delivered these other programs is what we'll have left over for delivery of new capital for construction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. It appears to be to me, quite a small window for a planning process. I would think you do have a long term planning process. I asked the question. You said it's similar to the government planning process. Does that include a long term range like five years or not? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Based on historical allocations on capital, we can guess at what we might be able to deliver in subsequent years, because it's tied in with the government capital planning process and there is no guarantee. We do have a three year Modernization and Improvement Capital Plan where the Local Housing Organizations develop the projects for repair and upkeep of the public housing units but that's, as I mentioned before, we try to protect as much of that money in our capital budget as possible to keep the upkeep and repairs of existing public housing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I'd like to ask him again because I am interested in exactly how it works. Once you have seen the demographics with communities, assuming that you do get them from housing associations, do they have any particular kind of a more professional role in recommending what they need? When that information goes somewhere, where does it go to and who does it go to? Who makes the final recommendation to some group in the capital planning process? Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are given our capital planning targets to and then we develop our plan from that. It proceeds up through the system through ICCP (Interdepartmental Committee on Capital Planning) who then vet through all the departmental plans and then proceeds to recommend the departmental Capital Plans through the budget planning system through the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. So my question was when the information is obtained from, assuming local associations had some involvement. Who do they submit that information to, where does their role come in, in terms of recommending which communities gets certain allocations or do you play or just pass it over to some group in the ICCP? Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the M&I Planning, Modernization and Improvement Planning the communities develop their own projects, identify what their priorities are and they come up with a list of priorities whether eight, ten, twelve projects they would like to do per-year. That is then submitted into each of the district offices which then roll that up into a proposed Capital Plan.

The districts are allocated out of the overall M&I budget in portion relationship to the size and Baffin is going to get twice as much as Kivalliq and Kitikmeot, etc. And then the district offices then approach each of the projects based upon how far down the priority listing that they can approve based on the funding that becomes available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Yes, you did not answer part of my question what role do you play in actually recommending which one should be approved? Maybe you just get bypassed and it is sent directly to the Minister from the district manager to district approval.

Is there a role at all somewhere that the municipalities, like Mayors, are consulted at all with this kind of allocation process and project allocation planning process?

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Again, I assume we are still talking about the M&I Project from that, that would only be in the communities where housing is delivered through the municipalities, as the hamlets get involved in developing and identifying projects that are their priorities. In all the other communities then, it's all done through the Local Housing Organization through their Board of Directors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. Once you, to some of us there is no difference between how the local renovation projects should go on, or kind of same process as well as the allocation planning process as the housing needs. Within your allocation process, do you not feel that the Mayors should be consulted at all or do you just hope that the housing



associations have discussed that requirement and if not, would you be in favour of the staffing establishing procedure where the community, the municipalities have some say in whether or not their requirements are met and maybe get some recommendations from the communities. Would that be something that you would be prepared to see happen in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** With the exception of Iqaluit and what we call the empowered communities, the hamlets that run our housing program, the housing operation is the LHO, directed by a locally elected board of directors and they're elected by the community to represent the community's housing interests to the housing corporation.

So, our role is to support the organizations and to deal with the local housing organizations on all housing issues within the municipality and, like I said, except where the municipality deliver the program on our behalf. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. We're going to go page by page from L-6 to L-12. Are there any questions on L-6? Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** I have a question relating to the minister's opening comments yesterday. I was reading the Hansard last night, and the minister made a statement that stood out on page 87 of the Hansard.

"I wish to emphasize that, as long as there is respect to Integrity Act, I am willing to share any and all information with members privately, either one on one as far as standing committee appearances."

As everyone knows, Integrity Act is applicable to Members of the House. So, I'm wondering what the minister meant. Perhaps, he can clarify for the record what he meant by his reference to Integrity Act in his opening comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The statement that I made in that regard was, I was talking about it in regards to confidential information. Like, I could look at the stuff from paper with you, with the member. I would like to apologize to the House and to the members on the statement that I made yesterday in my opening remarks, because I was given two pieces of paper.

The first one had a report that I was going to make to the committee and the other here in the House. I had the wrong piece of information or the paper that the comments that I made. Somewhere in between when I had to go and sit at my desk over here, I ended up with the wrong piece of paper. That was for the information of the committee and there was some additions that had to be deleted. So, that was what I was reading to the committee that I was reading yesterday.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the minister's response. When I heard it yesterday and when I read it last night, it really concerned me because it was implying that the minister did not trust the members of the House. I thought, perhaps, that he was insinuating that confidential information he shares with members on an individual basis, or with standing committees would somehow be leaked.

As we all know there are no leaks in the legislative assembly so, that concerns me.

I want to accept the minister's clarification. Last November. I submitted a written question asking the minister about staff housing.

The minister responded on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were two questions I had asked him. Question four, is, as of November 1, 2004, broken down by community, who is the deeded owner each leased unit, and what is the term of each lease.

The Minister's department responded, "with respect to this information is protected under 17-1 and 24-1 of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act". And question 5, what is the monthly cost to the government for each leased unit. And again, the answer was, "with respect, this information is protected under Section 17-1 and 24-1 of the Access to Information and Privacy Act".

Last summer our standing committee asked some officials from the Community and Government Services if they would table leased information or provide leased information on Government of Nunavut buildings, and their response was that they didn't see that there would be a problem.

When we asked for this information from the Nunavut Housing Corporation, there does seem to be a problem, so it's a bit of a conflict in our minds. I would like to ask the minister why, as the minister, he believes that the amount of public money we spend on housing should be a secret. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the circumstance surrounding this specific request. Also that the responsibility that I hold as the minister responsible is of course to make sure that the dollars are being used accordingly, and also for the protection not only the department, but also the people who we work with.

Where it may be deemed as a conflict of interest, or as an issue under the Act, the specific question that was forwarded to me, does contain information that, because of the low numbers of competitors out there, I felt that the response I would give to my colleague would only be in accordance for the protection of all parties involved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I took my written question and the minister's response to the written question and I sent it to our Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner and to ask her for a ruling.

Her response to that particular question, question four, she responded in a letter that I tabled this letter a couple of weeks ago in the house. "The public body can only rely on this section if it can show that the discloser of the information in question will harm the economic interest of the public body. The onus is on the public body to show this".

Then she goes on to say that, "it is a discretionary decision". And then she carries on to say, "one would expect that the housing corporation would consider such things as government accountability and openness". It seems to me that our Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner feels that this particular question should have been answered with a bit more information than simply, no, it's protected under clause 17 and clause 24.

I'm wondering if in light of what the Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner said in her letter, if the minister would review and consider tabling some of that information that I requested in written question four. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I like that question, where he says some. I acknowledged the receipt of the response, and I also know and have in hand in front of me one of the comments from the Commissioner, where she goes, "On the other hand, in the market we must be landlords, knowledge of the competitions' specific project formula may well be extremely prejudicial." So, there are some very supporting comments in this document that was there from my colleague also.

But, to his second part of the question, like I said I am willing to review these and also willing to consult with my colleague as to the specific information he will be seeking. Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My fifth question concerned monthly costs to the Government of Nunavut for each leased unit. I was wondering if the minister could comment to why he believes that the identities of the companies and people from whom the Government of Nunavut leases units should be kept a secret? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it's quite clear that the reasons are very similar, if not the same, as for the earlier response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Go ahead, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, for the public record, the Commissioner says that "...if the disclosure would reasonably be expected to prejudice the competitive position of a third party the public body cannot disclose the information..." and she continues "...however, there has to be something more than simple assertion that this is true, there must be something to back this up." She says, "In my opinion, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to come to this conclusion without consulting the third parties involved."

I'm wondering, did the ministers' officials consult the third parties involved?

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The letters to the third parties, to ask if we could disclose, had gone just as recently as of today, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the ministers' officials for that response. I'll wrap up comments for the official record from the Access to Information Commissioner, she says, "It seems to me, however, that there is room to disclose some more information, even in those circumstances where disclosure of the specific contract information might breach section 24."

At the very least it seems to me that there can be no objection to the disclosure of the names of the landlords with whom the Housing Corporation has contracted." Then she carries on here, she says "It may need a little imagination, but it seems to me that even in the face of section 24 the goals of openness and accountability can be achieved by the disclosure of more information, if not the specific information connected to each contract."

I wonder if the minister or his officials can comment on those comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, in respect to my colleague and his inquiry and also the response from the Commissioner, there really is no one direction decision on this, there is room either way as indicated by the Commissioner.

So, I am again willing to sit down and meet with my colleague to go over the specific information as that is something I do not have or rather will not share with the House at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As one of the 19 Members of the Legislative Assembly I think all of us should have access to some of the public information. I'm trying to elicit some confirmation out of the minister and his officials and his officials that secrecy, with respect to spending public monies is not in the public interest, I can't see how secrecy is in the public interest when we are talking multi-million dollars worth of contracts and leases that we have to administer over here.

I am wondering if the minister can comment on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to be misleading but I believe I understand where the member is heading with this question. The reason behind us not putting this information out was, as stated in my letter, I believe that there were some very supporting comments from the Integrity Commissioner.

I am willing to sit down with my colleague that there are no secrets in finding out what the request is with my colleague. I leave that offer open to my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe the person on the minister's right can respond to this. There was a press release on January 2005 in providing 160 units in 25 communities within Nunavut.

One of the concerns that has been brought to my attention, I wonder if the minister or his officials can update me on the projects that was to be built in Resolute Bay but has been moved to Arctic Bay. The Mayor and Councilors have not yet received any response on this, so I want more information on this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been told that they are scheduled to arrive this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe Mr. D'Arcy can elaborate more on this.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Who is going to respond? Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you. If can indicate who he is asking.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you. I want Mr. D'Arcy to clarify or elaborate more on why this was moved? Why the tri-plex was moved from Resolute Bay to Arctic Bay, because there is also a shortage of housing in Resolute Bay.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. We are on L-6. Mr. D'Arcy, do you wish to respond?

**Mr. D'Arcy**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we decided to go ahead with Infrastructure Canada funding it was decided that every community would get at least a unit, or several units. In the case of Resolute Bay, that equalled the tri-plex, or three units.

We did the material tender and had the material for Resolute Bay on the Eastern Arctic Sealift and it was steaming up the coast. However, we were not able to construct in Resolute Bay last summer for a variety of reasons. We elected instead of taking the materials and just marshalling them into the community and then building again this summer, we elected to divert them to the Hamlet of Arctic Bay, the Municipality of Arctic Bay to look after a pressing need for staff housing units there. There were some lease holds that we had; some leased units in staff housing that were not appropriate and we were going to drop those lease holds.

So we had an opportunity to be able to build three units in Arctic Bay with that material and then bring in another triplex in Resolute Bay this summer. So, we gave those options to the Financial Management Board. They approved the change to the Capital Plan for the Corporation and that's exactly what's going to happen.

This year we'll bring a triplex up to Resolute Bay and we're working closely with Community and Government Services and the Hamlet and the housing association up there to ensure that the triplex gets built in Resolute Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. D'Arcy. Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank him for his response. So my constituents will have a clear understanding. That's all I have for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. I have no more names on my list. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I wanted to raise a question. The units that were going to be built last year in Rankin Inlet and we heard that they're going to be built later on in the fall.

Can the Minister update us as to what the status is because I'm pretty sure there are a number of people who are on the waiting list in Rankin Inlet?

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Those are under Capital Budget and we will work on that next fall. We are dealing with Operations and Maintenance, the members will know. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 2003/04, the two units went through. 2004/05, construction will start in the spring.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. 2003/04, that were delayed because they went over the budget. When Jack Anawak was the Member of the Legislative Assembly, I heard that they were cancelled but they were included in the base funding but it was delayed for two fiscal years. I just wanted to get that clarification. I'll have other questions later. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You made a comment about people who are staying in public housing units. I wanted to ask a question on who makes the decisions on who gets the units, because on the waiting list, sometimes the people who are waiting, they say that person was waiting before or behind me who got their house. Those kinds of things might be going on too.

When constituents come up to us and give us some information to ask questions and that, that's what we try and do. So, who makes the decisions on who gets public housing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you. The LHO at the community level makes those decisions. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Yes, because some times some of the people in constituency have mentioned that some Board of Directors may not have much to say about who gets it. My constituents are very frustrated about some of the Board Members but I'm not too sure, I think as ministers, with the President of Housing, should look into these and try and make everybody aware that they should be treated equally, because some of the Board

Members would intend to try and there families or friends to get the units before the others.

So you know, Board of Directors, Managers, if they want to be treated nice, treat everybody the same way that they want to be treated, that's how it should be, not favoring anybody.

We all want to be treated equally. Everybody wants to be treated equally; I think that message should be sent out to the Managers and Board of Directors. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As per my colleague's, from Rankin North, earlier problems about more training required, this is definitely a good comment from my colleague to be part of the training process.

But also, I'll let for the members information that I am currently working on a meeting for the spring and hopefully in May with the entire Local Housing Organizations Chairpersons, and also the Secretary Managers.

I will definitely use that opportune time to point this message. Also at this meeting we want to go over the formula funding for the LHO. So I note my colleagues comments on this matter. Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Anything else Mr. Evyagotailak

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Another point that I'd like to bring up that for that staff. We all know that the facts that's his working for Housing for many years. There's just one that was fired, I'm not sure if they were fired or laid off. The poor guy lost his wife about two years ago and a son not too long ago; I'm not sure how he was dismissed from the staff. That's been a person who was repairing furnace or just like that. He was one of the guys who were working for the Housing Corporation for a long time. I'm not sure why he was dismissed or fired.

Those things should be looked into, and let the public know why they were dismissed, because there was questions, and I couldn't say anything about them because I don't work for Housing Corporation.

At that time, just before I got elected, I was a President for Housing for two months, but I had to resign after I got elected.

I'd like to know what the minister or the President are going to be doing on these times. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister Kilabuk.



**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this Witness Table, we're not aware of any staff under Nunavut Housing Corporation who may be in that situation.

So if I can ask my colleague to clarify that if it is either Housing Corporation or the Local Housing Association he is referring to on this matter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Evyagotailak

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Mr. Chairman, yes. The person was working for our Local Housing Organization. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Evyagotailak. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): That would be an issue the Local Housing Association Board would deal with. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Minister and your staff. That is it. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I go into my question, I think that I just want to acknowledge something that is a rarity to see in the Main Estimates here and the Business Plans of the department.

As you know at the back of each, the last part of each department or crown corporation that is in here, it shows the PYs from the previous year to the current proposed year and the Housing Corporation PYs haven't changed. I think that is a rarity that we've seen in almost of the other departments mushrooming their PYs and growing and I think that whatever the Housing Corporation is doing maybe the minister should share that with some of his Cabinet colleagues so that they can get the mushroom under control. Just a comment going into it.

Mr. Chairman, my question and I asked the Minister in the House yesterday about it and it is dealing with the staff housing.

As I indicated in every department almost has got an increase in PYs in their organizations. We know that there is a staff housing shortage across the territory.

I was wondering if there are any plans at looking to try and address that issue over the next year or so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to, be clear that my colleague is asking regarding the same issue that he was referring to yesterday regarding staff housing. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I say in all the other Business Plans they seem a mushrooming of the PYs in the departments. We know that there is a shortage in staff housing. I was just wondering if there was anything in the works to address that issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try and respond to my colleague in two ways. First that the ongoing work to address the staff housing shortage continues. As I indicated also yesterday, we're trying to look at different options for consideration later on.

And also, possibly the second point about the PYs we realize that we really are short staffed because the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I hope that answers my colleague's question. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister indicated that they're working on something and that they are hoping to bring something forward and plans and that he can indicate when that will be. Will it be this year, next year, and next month? When can we expect to see some kind of a plan of attack in dealing with the critical staffing housing shortage that we face? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As part of that process, one of the things that I am hoping to do over the next couple of weeks is present the staffing housing strategy to Cabinet.

The other part of his question regarding the timeframe, when we'll be looking to present these options, I would certainly like to be able to do that before too late in the fall, and hopefully, before September latest, by August anyways, to have some options for consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know another issue that I've asked questions about to the Minister in the past is the, I think it's a condominium project that they have here in Iqaluit. Work was done on that.

I'm just wondering if the fund for that was that something that went through the Operations and Maintenance of the budget of the department or is that something that was allocated as Capital, before I ask anymore questions on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In hopes that we may recover this, it was taken out of the working capital from the Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do they have a final figure on how much that was? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm led to believe that the final figures are not in yet. In response to his question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess there are probably still legal fees going on top of that. Once the final figure is arrived at, would the Minister be willing to provide that information to the members of the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes I will be more than willing to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the response and the commitment made by the Minister.

The other question I have deals with the funding that we get from Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation. I know that it's on a declining scale right now, and that we're probably starting to take our big hits in funding from them. What kind of plans does the corporation have to deal with that loss of income or revenue coming in from Canada

Mortgage Housing Corporation through that Contribution Agreement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, my colleague is correct. When we get burdened on this government to try and sit and watch the support fall, so, in our effort we will be lobbying for more support from both the federal government and the Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation. At the same time, this government is going to have to look at its weight in support to housing if all of the efforts fail us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish the minister luck and I'm sure everyone here would commit to supporting you in your efforts to try and address that funding shortfall from the federal government in securing more funding from them. So, just keep that in mind.

One of the other things that I was looking at and I know that there was announcement made and I don't know if it was this year or last year. Time seems to all blend together now, after you reach 40 years old, that happens to all of us. There was an announcement that was made for the Housing Corporation, some of the Homeownership Programs that it offers; I don't know if it was the Downpayment Assistance Program that took family size into consideration when they are setting the ceiling of income levels for that.

I am just wondering that has been implemented into the other programs that the Corporation has as well, like the Home Repair Program and all the other Housing Homeownership Programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes it is part of the full package. The full package in line with the other programs that we have got and that our Senior's Programs. So it is part of our supporting programs under Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is something that I know that I have raised in the past and I know it was raised here again in the House by one of my colleagues very recently, and that I know that during the old Northwest Territories Housing Corporation days it came out with this DAP Program and then they EDAPed it, which made the contributions much larger to the individuals to qualify to be able to buy a home.

I think in a lot of cases only by bidding up to 70 percent or 80 percent of the mortgage that the assistance from the Corporation was those people able to qualify and get a mortgage for the difference. With the increasing costs of fuel, of power, of everything, a lot of those people, whether they have had another child or something like that, that they are right on the edge to be able to afford to pay and maintain a house when they qualify for the Program.

Given the inflationary factors and other factors that are out there, are there any plans at looking at assessing whether there is a need or requirement to look at finding some kind of assistance for people who are running into trouble, in being able to meet their mortgage obligations as well as their just to be able to maintain their homes and feed their families? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the immediate time, like my colleague says, there really is nothing in place to assist homeowners that are right at the borderline. I will ask my President to see if he has had any discussions with anybody along the line of questioning that my colleague is posing. If you don't mind, Mr. Chairman?

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are looking at a couple of new innovative programs but they are not fully developed at this point. Obviously, we don't have Cabinet or Financial Management Board approval to move ahead with them, or funding for the programs, but they do involve additional assistance to senior homeowners.

We are finding now that we have been delivering homeownership programming for 20 years above the tree line. Some of our homeowners are getting older and we are looking at programs that will assist them in staying as a homeowner for a longer period of time and as well as other programs to assist, particularly public housing tenants to move out of public housing into homeownership. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank Mr. Scott for his answer and I'm sure that I look forward to hopefully if he sees ministerial and cabinet approval, and Financial Management Board approval, to seeing some announcements on those programs in the future.

The other question that I have, and Mr. Scott alluded to a little bit of trying to find ways to assist people who are in social housing or public housing move into the private sector where there would be homeownership or their own place.

Is there any a policy or anything in place that say there's a lot of government employees that live in social housing. Is there any mechanism in place that if they're eligible for staff housing, then they have to go out of social housing and get into staff housing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the Nunavut Housing Corporation, a policy to that specific issue, no. However, at the community levels the Local Housing Organizations do like try to encourage staff or people who are above the threshold income level to look at homeownership.

The Housing Organization Boards do try to encourage people to look at homeownership. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. You have 26 seconds, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That means I can speak slowly. My question deals with staff housing. Staff housing tenants are subsidized anywhere from 40-70 percent, I believe. I'm just wondering if there's any thought looking at the, you have senior civil servants, that according to information that's been made available by the government, that are making in excess of \$130,000 a year and in some cases they have dual incomes in those units, of looking at some kind of a scale. Where maybe in cases like that, where the subsidy may be lower and allow us to free up some dollars to put towards more staff housing units for people who really can't afford to get into homeownership. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a matter of fact that is something we're discussing and reviewing at this time under the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. (interpretation): At this time we're on page L-6. I would like to suggest to the members that they stick to the subject and to the page. We are on L-6. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to speak for just a few minutes to Page L-10 of the Business Plan. There is a figure there of overcrowded conditions by community. The national average is about 5 percent and Cambridge Bay it's not quite 10 percent. That's nearly twice the national average, the sources of 2001 Aboriginal People's Survey, Community statistics.

I'm wondering if the minister can comment on how accurate he believes those figures to be in the 2005. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The stats we have here for the over crowding conditions by the communities. The drafts that have been presented to us are in my view and understanding fairly accurate. To speak on the matter, I'll get my expert to speak on it a bit more. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. D'Arcy

**Mr. D'Arcy:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we are trying to, from the year 2000 when the Corporation started, we've been trying to get accurate data. Get data that can stand the acid test with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporations, with the federal government and with the people here.

We have a Rent Scale Program that collects data for household bases for public housing in each and every community. We were pleased when the 2001 data from the Aboriginal People's Survey which is a subset of the census, so part of the 2001 Canada wide census was released. And it was actually very close to the data that we've been collecting from the Local Housing Organizations. What that meant was we could use this data and also use the data from the LHOs to track where we are in terms of, in this case, overcrowding conditions by community.

So we think as far as trends go I don't think we could talk about specific numbers, and specific community, but as far as a general trend goes we're happy with this data in 2001 and we think that if we take the 3 percent growth in the territory into consideration or even the, population goes by community, into consideration and wrap that up to 2005 numbers, it would be approximately the same in terms of statistical accuracy.

To specifically answer the member's question, yes we think that this is still a draft that will be pretty much the same, if we use 2005 numbers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. D'Arcy. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. D'Arcy. Last November I tabled a petition from the Cambridge Bay Housing Association in the House signed by over two hundred residents of Cambridge Bay and many of them were people who don't have housing. In my constituency work, I receive many phone calls, letters, and visits from people in the community looking for help with public housing, social housing.

It seems to me that there's a real pressing need for housing in Cambridge Bay, of all types, and probably will be more so in the future as our community expands with the employment and business opportunities that are coming up because of the mining over there. People are moving into town, they are coming in from other communities in the Kitikmeot to take advantage of the opportunities.

I'm wondering if the minister could comment on whether his corporations are taking those kinds of factors into account, when there calculating their methodology? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Mr. D'Arcy just indicated, the population growth is a big factor in determining the levels. To cause no confusion I'll ask Mr. D'Arcy to go through the process, Mr. Chairman. Thank you

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. D'Arcy.

**Mr. D'Arcy:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not exactly sure what Mr. Peterson is asking us in terms of need, we know if we take Cambridge Bay and move it down into Saskatchewan or to anywhere else in the south that overcrowding need is going to eclipse anybody else in that area, it's going to be much more so then anywhere.

We are never suggesting that Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Resolute Bay doesn't have a housing shortage and that there isn't a problem.

The problem is one of supply; and how we to get to that supply which brings us over to the Ten Year Action Plan, in trying to engage the federal government to do that we need, somewhere around 600 houses in the territory a year, and if we ever had the possibility of having hundreds of houses allocated somewhere, the Cambridge Bays, Chesterfield Inlets and Resolute Bays of this territory would certainly figure high on the list of getting units.

As it is right now, we have to deal as everyone knows, with scant resources and use the best information we have to deal with those resources. Now as the minister and others have said often, we don't know that the future holds. We don't know what is happening in 2006 and 2007.

When we do have a clearer picture of funding availability in the government and federally we should be able to come up with a good plan on how we're going to assign those assets and I think that is about the best answer I can give at this time, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Thank you, D'Arcy. Mr. Pederson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. D'Arcy for that answer. I think the concern in Cambridge Bay is that the Housing Corporation is using the information and methodology that will not recognize Cambridge Bay's pressing need for housing.

I know for a fact, that housing association is undertaking a detailed house by house survey of each house in Cambridge Bay to determine what the occupancy is. There may be people who were missed in surveys. There are people who move in and out all the



time and I don't think that information is being captured properly. I think they're reacting to your, to the allocation formula, that was used previously to allocate housing in the Nunavut. So I'll leave it at that. The Housing corporation folks are well aware of the problem.

I wanted to talk about staff housing, Government of Nunavut staff housing for a few minutes because I believe the Housing Corporation is responsible for that. Again, as the minister has mentioned in his comments there is a great need for staff housing. The Standing Committee recognized that a lot of Government positions are going unstaffed because there is problem with the supply of housing.

In fact, that might be a factor in determining whether we have nurses and doctors in Cambridge Bay to open up the hospital.

I wanted to ask about the minister about the Government of Nunavut Staff Housing Policy. How are the various departments, how does his corporation use that policy to allocate staff housing within Government of Nunavut within the communities that have staff housing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The allocations for staff housing are done on a regional basis. So there's an Allocation Committee in Rankin Inlet, Arviat, one in Cambridge Bay, for the rest of Nunavut there's one in Iqaluit, and there is one in Cape Dorset to handle the rest of the Baffin region.

The positions that are vacant are prioritized on basically three levels. High priorities, being health and safety related. So, generally they are just trying to remember all the different categories. The medical professionals, doctors and nurses, your technicians, physiotherapists and also number of corrections positions because they affect the safety of the public are considered to be high priority.

The second category is for the operational. That involves your program delivery a lot of your front line personnel and the third category is the administrative positions. So, when it comes to allocating scarce resources at the community, obviously they are going to look at for the allocated to the highest priority positions like the health related, teachers, safety related, etc. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Scott. Are there any situations or cases where people would not be eligible to apply for staff housing. I am aware that in Cambridge Bay for example, there are 15 or 20 people who are working for the Government of Nunavut and they would like staff housing because they can't get into social or public housing and they can't go to a bank to get a mortgage.

Maybe they are on the list somewhere but they are not a priority; they are deemed ineligible, or a lower priority to receive housing, but there must be absolute cases where people can't qualify for Government of Nunavut staff housing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Full time; indeterminate employees of the Government of Nunavut are eligible or can apply for staff housing so that does eliminate casual hires from applying or being eligible for staff housing.

Anybody who has owned developed property within the community within the last two years is not eligible for staff housing as well, so that if you can't sell your house and apply for staff housing in the same community. So there are a few exceptions where Government of Nunavut employees are not eligible.

It depends of what classification of employee they are, whether the casual or full time, term, or indeterminate, or if they have owned homes in the past. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the Government of Nunavut staff employee applied for housing and was denied, there is an appeal process mechanism. Could you take us through that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** There is an Appeals Committee that is chaired, it is called by the President of the Housing Corporation and chaired by the Corporation. On that Committee, if I remember correctly, is a representative of the Deputy Minister for the department of the employee that is appealing as well as the Deputy Minister for Human Resources, and I believe the Deputy Minister of Justice, as well is on that Committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Scott. Are there any situations where the final decisions of an Appeal Committee would be overturned and ruled invalid? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes there is. There is always the possibility where the decision by the Allocation Appeals Committee can be overturned. That would

normally be by somebody, such as the Rentals Officer, or by the courts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. We are dealing with the O&M budget. We are on L-6. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to finalize my question on this point. We have District Allocation Committees, who allocate housing by priority. All Government of Nunavut employees are eligible, except casuals. If they don't get housing; they can appeal. The Appeal Committee can uphold the appeal or deny it, but then someone could come along after the Appeal Committee makes their final decision, and then they can still get housing?

That is what I am confused about. Who has the final say? Does the Rental Officer have the final say in whether Government of Nunavut housing is allocated? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** You can go on farther than that. We actually have the option then to appeal. The Rental Officer's decision and go to the Territorial Court System to overrule the Rental Officer; and on and on. The process can be cumbersome, in some cases, not necessary. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Scott. Anything else, Mr. Peterson?

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought that might be my final question. So, the appeal process would work to the advantage of an individual who has the time and resources, who are really desperate and wants housing. An ordinary staff person, who doesn't have the resources would be kind of out of luck. So whoever has got money to hire a lawyer to pursue an appeal or a rental and take it to the court could possibly get housing even if they are not eligible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** The only time the lawyers would get involved would be the court level and I wouldn't trust if it wouldn't get far where we would have to engage lawyers and require an employee to hire a lawyer to state their case. Up until the rental officer stage, generally there is no lawyers involved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Scott. I wanted to just touch on Affordable Housing Program. In particular a couple of communities my riding, Bathurst Inlet and Umingmaktuk. I raised this with the minister last year and his staff that

the good folks down in those communities appreciate the help you provided to them last year.

They asked me to ask you if you are going to assist them again this year because their houses still needed a bit more renovations, they need doors, stoves, and windows. So if you could update me on those please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. We're on L-6. Affordable Housing Program is on L-6. Affordable Housing Program is in L-10. We're dealing with L-6. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to housing allocations, I would like to talk about that briefly and I talked about it last year. It seems like when there is a huge change, if they get a house this year and then they get another one. I will speak in English.

(interpretation): The minister and his team will remember that I noted in the fall that I was amazed that they had adopted a new policy of allocating houses where there are greatest overcrowding in the communities. It probably makes sense in a nutshell, if you just look at overcrowding therefore that says their greatest needs to that particular community.

Looking at the chart there, unless you have close to 30 percent of the community overcrowding or 40 all the other communities that by choice have chosen not to have a large family are penalized. Therefore how long had that policy been in place and how long is going to go on?

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I'll get my colleague to clarify which policy this is that he's talking about. The allocations have been based on needs in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley**: I'd like to get an answer for my question because I think it is quite simply clear that unless you have a 30 percent or a 40 percent of the community that have the highest overcrowding, the other communities during this conception housing allocation, are ignored.

So, my question is to the officials. In the Housing Corporation is, I'm sure that they made that recommendation. I have never ever seen, really, community getting more than 50 or 10 housing in one constructive season.

That policy was changed since when? I believe it was this coming year and how long was that policy. Is that going to be carried out now?

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure if, which of the officials that he is directing that question to. He will get an answer from one of my witnesses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** It doesn't matter which official answers that question.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** I'll ask my President to take that question, thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Scott

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize. I lost my earpiece half way through the last part of the question, but I believe, if I understand the question from Mr. Curley correctly, the premise of allocating houses in the social housing field has always been, since the beginning, the creation of Canada Mortgage and Housing I believe in the 1950's, has been delivery based on the greatest need. There's several different criteria that can be developed to determine what is the greatest need, and overcrowding is certainly a high factor when it comes to establishing greatest need.

The whole premise behind social housing is need. For as long as I've been involved in housing, new construction was based on need, what was the greatest need. There were needs studies done periodically in all communities over the years across the north, and recommendations based on the greatest need and options are presented to Cabinet and Financial Management Board every year or just about every year.

For a two year period, the Financial Management Board did decide, instead of identifying or delivering to the communities with the greatest need, they decided to deliver some to everybody and that was the decision that was made collectively by the Cabinet or Financial Management Board at the time. For this year's allocation, again a series of options were provided to the Financial Management Board and it was felt then that giving a little bit to everybody wasn't having a substantial impact.

To have the greatest impact on the overcrowding, we should be focusing the resources on where the greatest need and where the highest overcrowding exists. I believe that, that was the basis of the decision and I can't predict what the state of decision will be in future years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Scott. I'm sorry, I think we're a little bit confused. After I took over the chairmanship, I'm trying to follow the L-6, L-7, L-8, up to 10. Do you want to go page by page? They're mostly all informational items. After

the questions are finished, we'll get to page L-4. I think that was the confusion in the House. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The chairman should have explained exactly how this process works. We're not going by clause-by-clause or page-by-page or dollar amount approvals, so it should be pretty flexible as far as I'm concerned. You give some of the other members quite some flexibility and I'm just following up on the same page, I get that page from my colleague and said Cambridge Bay is closest to the national average, therefore, they don't need any housing. They have the lowest. So, he picked it up here today for ten minutes. I would like to be accorded the same privilege.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Do you agree? Yes, they agree. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I'm asking, further to my question in the fall, that there did not appear to be any reward or incentive for communities, either to manage the properties, and also have the best possible relationship with the tenant and collect rental payments from the communities.

Actually, to have a sound management is not part of award for allocating houses. The only incentive the housing corporation has now adopted is, if you have the biggest production for children in your community, you're going to be granted and with this policy now that you have, you did not tell me how long is that going to apply.

If that's the way we're going to see the housing being allocated in Nunavut, simply on the greatest overcrowding factors, based on some methodology that does not appear to be proven. Some communities that are in the 10-15% overcrowding range will never really qualify. Is that the way I now understand? I know there are at least two communities that are getting 15 units this coming summer, and I believe maybe three. So I'm asking the Minister and his officials to explain how long will this policy be carried over for the future. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague because I think it's important that we have a good understanding on both sides. It is our duty to give the information in full. So, to try to give you a better understanding on why we took this approach this year, usually the factors as discussed earlier. Looking at the strategic infrastructure money that was available and it being the second year, this was, in my view, an opportune time to take an intensified approach, to try and lower the severe housing shortages in those communities that have been identified as having the highest needs at the time.

This is not to say that the other communities do not qualify. We know there are housing needs in every community. Like I said, we know there's a need for three thousand additional units to date. It has been no intention of mine to relay the message to any of my colleagues that, because they rank lowest, they do not have a need. They do have

needs. I will end my comments by saying that I'm going to be very open to any suggestions that my colleague and other colleagues around the House may have for us to review the capital allocation process for the coming year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kilabuk. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I'd like to ask the housing corporation officials as well, how long ago did that kind of policy that provided more than ten houses to each community begin, and how long is it going to be carried out? Previously in other years, there's always a couple of duplexes or what not, and one duplex and that kind of stuff.

This policy that you adopted this fall, because it was not applied in the first Assembly, is this injunction a temporary one, is it going to be a trend for the next few years? If we applied now, some communities would not be eligible as far as I'm concerned up to at least ten years. If we apply this principle based on overcrowding only, some communities that average between 15 percent of the overcrowding in their community will not be eligible within ten to 15 years. My question is, how long will that be a policy, this practice be carried on. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Okay our role is to make recommendations and various options for delivery of allocations to the communities. And that's what we do. There's a variety of options that could be chosen from, and the actual decision on that is made by the Financial Management Board. I can not predict what options they're going to pick on next years delivery.

Next year we have no federal funding for 2006/07 at this point to assist us in getting a larger delivery so its circumstances will determine what will be decided in the future years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you Mr. Scott. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. So my understanding is the practice that was applied this year for allocating houses to two or three communities that were given at least fifteen units each will probably not be practiced next year. Is that what I understood from the President? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Curley. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** I can't predict what the decision will be. Say this fall when it comes down to allocating public housing units. We will follow the same process that has been followed for a number of years and develop a series of options based on the resources that are available to us and the decision will be made subsequently. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Scott. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** So the President does not have a plan. It will be based on political climate. It will be based on federal factors, whether or not there is more infusion of housing needs capital from the federal government.

Given the fact that there might be an average case scenario that there will be enough resources, will you be recommending the same criteria for allocating houses that you did for this fiscal year?

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you Mr. Curley. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To make it clearer, I work with my staff, when we were making proposals for Cabinet approval, and if I'm presenting something to the Cabinet, I would give it to the Cabinet and then it would be up to them to approve it.

We have been making more than one recommendation and that's the procedure I usually take. Indicating our best option and also show other options that we can use, so we will use that same route, Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Yes my question actually was for the President of the Housing Corporation, given the fact that he does make the recommendations. Will he make the same recommendations for allocation of houses as he did with this current fiscal year? Given the fact that maybe given the average resources including the capital and federal spending and what not.

Not the best case scenario, but the average one, if you have that, will you be recommending, as you said you have a three or four multi-year plan, will that be one of the recommendations that you put the money where the 30 percent or 40 percent range of overcrowding in communities are?

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Scott

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My recommendation to the minister on allocating will always be based on greatest need. The largest single factor that establishes the greatest need generally is overcrowding, and that will continue to be my recommendation to the minister, because I don't see the point of delivering houses where people don't need houses.

I'm not saying that every community in Nunavut there isn't a need for housing. But we have to identify where the greatest need is and that's where we should be delivering as many of our housing resources as possible. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you Mr. Scott. Mr. Curley.



**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I appreciate the frankness of the member, I mean the President of the Housing Corporation. I'm not convinced when people, the families chose to have three or four kids and not have an overcrowding and still not have housing

There's no overcrowding, but they are out there, kids with single families and kids with three or four kids. Not overcrowded families, a whole slew of them. They're not the priority of the Housing Corporation. Is that what I understood from the President of the Housing Corporation?

**Mr. Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Curley. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess what I'm trying to say is our focus is wherever the greatest need for housing is. Whether it's, regardless of whether it's a family of two kids, three kids, ten kids in the household. Wherever the community that has the highest need, the greatest overcrowding, that's where we should be focusing our resources. That's my recommendation to my minister, who then takes it to Cabinet and Financial Management Board. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Scott. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. If that were the case then maybe you can also review your staff housing policy. That it be adhered to. The community applicants, the community members that do apply for the government positions instead of hiring from South that it be linked to local, that they be provided with housing as well because that's where the greatest need for these positions and jobs be created locally. Is that at all one of the factors that allocate staff housing through the Housing Corporation?

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you. When deciding on where to apply, where we need additional staff housing units is generally based upon the number of vacant government positions. That's the premise.

If there are five vacancies in Taloyoak and five vacant positions and we've got no housing, then they need five houses. That is what is identified. It has nothing to do with local hires or outside hires. However, on the priority, when there is a shortage of units in a community then the highest priority will generally get the units allocated first, such as health professionals, teachers, it's either that or those services can not be provided to the residents of the community.

If those positions can't be filled because we can't allocate a staff housing unit to them. It also applies to Correction Officers and other. Fire protection related positions, etc. They do get the higher priority. If there's extra surplus staff housing units, then of course they look at operational positions and then administration positions. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Scott. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** My last comment is that the Housing Corporation reviews the Housing Allocation Policy. I think it should be based on some incentive; it should also be based on the sizes of families. There are single parents out there. There are single families; there are small families who desperately have to be considered.

The Housing Corporation and government does not have a single family policy. They are in an immediate need; people who are transferring to communities that need jobs. I'm not suggesting that they should be at the same priority, but there should be within the consideration.

If we can apply government housing to southerners who have one or two kids coming in, we should be able to do that with our own residents in Nunavut. There are many hundreds of young family that have no kids, that are looking for housing.

I can tell you they're not part of this overcrowding factor; they desperately are in need, so the single window policy, they nearly are on the greatest need being interpreted as overcrowding is not acceptable.

I support housing all over, but I think we need to consider that we need to mix it up so that we are not disfranchising those people who have chosen not to have overcrowding kids and therefore not eligible for housing forever.

I will have more questions on Page L-9 and put me on top of the list. Thank you

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you Mr. Curley. (interpretation): I think that was just a comment. We'll take a short 30 minute break. We'll take a supper break.

*>>Committee recessed at 18:16 and resumed at 18:53*

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, we're back again.

Mr. Curley had just finished asking questions. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask about, in your business plan on page L-17. I cannot truly believe, where it states that monthly rent is expensive.

In looking at the figure 8, public housing costs, water and sanitation, it's very expensive. Why is it so costly? What is causing it to be 1/3 of the figure? From the total, why is it so high? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to his question, those were monthly public costs from 2003 for water and sanitation, approximately in the area of 29%.

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

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The subsidies that are provided to the uses of water and sanitation, and then it goes the municipalities and have to be given some funding, so I am not too sure I have heard public housing are not subsidized. Maybe that is why there is a high cost in there.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They receive different Government of Nunavut subsidies and looking at the figure for administration, water and sanitation tax and leases, fuel and power, when you split them up, 1000, the average on 1519, for commercial costs and residential. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): In looking at the pie chart, to maintain the house, I know that its not as expensive to maintain the house, but organizations that are recognized as associations, and the housing corporation provides funding to LHO's and given all sorts of responsibilities, have you ever considered, within your department, within the housing corporation, to improve this situation to make sure that it will cost less.

And we're always in shortage of maintenance services for public, and I'm sure that there is room for improvements here. I was wondering if you have ever considered this further? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have started the consideration and as I have stated in the House we're looking at renovations like for energy cost saving, and also in the main estimates of Nunavut Housing Corporation, the local housing associations will be provided through this main estimate.

On energy cost savings, that is what we are working on together with Local Housing Organizations.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page L-16, I am looking at the pie chart, they are for homeownership, and water and sanitation is 10% of figure 7, it seems like the difference, they are both public housing.

I urge you to look into this further. It seems there are differences between those two. One is being provided with assistance. This is just a comment. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Yes, I stated that the costs for those two are different. The subsidies are different, so I will allow my deputy to explain.

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

**Mr. Scott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The shelter costs on figure 7 of the business plan there, is for private homeowners essentially. Particular of the power and water and sanitation is subsidized by the power corporation or to the municipality. I believe that the fuel cost is sustained per litre to private homeowners as it is to public housing, and that price is set by PPD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Scott. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): That's it for now. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Mr. Peterson, I will allow you to ask more questions. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was going to ask the question on page L-10. As I mentioned in my earlier comments about Bathurst Inlet, the houses haven't been repaired there on four or five years, and then I raised the issue with the minister last year as officials found some money within their budget to do the repairs last fall. I think there are still repairs that need to be done.

I'm wondering if the minister, or his officials could confirm that there's funding within this budget or somewhere within their department to complete the work that needs to be done this year, I believe more levelling, some stoves, some new doors, and some windows. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think my colleague is asking on the capital funded projects which will not be reflected in here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you I'm not sure where the funding came from last year, if it was from Capital Projects or from the O&M budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Yes that does fall into the Capital Projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll follow up privately with the minister. Thank you

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley (interpretation):** Mr. Chairman, it's part of my opening remarks that the local housing associations have a lot to do, like literally they're property management, and they have to maintain the houses, or the units and they have technical staff, such as mechanical and plumbing.

And they have to do housing repairs, and they have to do cost estimations, but looking at the Housing Corporation. Why is that the case, how come there is no training component in this?

Public works and staff can get professional training, how come the staff at local housing association are not treated the same? Thank you

**Chairman:** Thank you Mr. Curley. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we also consider them. I can't say that were neglecting them. We consider them also. We know that the LHO staff in the communities travel to further their training. From \$286,000, are geared towards LHO staff. Thank you

**Chairman:** Thank you.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I looked through the Business Plan presented, there's not one shred of evidence or a plan or obligation listed in there that the Housing Association locally needs extra help in continuing to improve in strength and including human resources management.

They are now involved with probably one of the significant amount of local employment, for local people but they need to keep up with all the rules and regulations that do come into labour relations stuff, and so on.

I would like to urge the minister and the President to take that as one of the important components, because if you're going to continue to off load some responsibility, the Housing Associations are responsible, including tenant relations, including conflicts that arise sometimes when allocating houses. Everything is centered in local housing.

I really believe that you need to demonstrate on paper, you need to demonstrate that the property management, the significant part of their business; it should be presented to the Members of the Legislative Assembly; it should not be just, what I would call the discretionary responsibility of the President or his team.

It should be demonstrated so that we could make sure that you are accountable and you are responsible for putting forward the Business Plan that would continue that the local housing groups are experienced, strong and that they continue to take their responsibility seriously rather than just being expected to perform a move like that.

By doing so, having a training plan, taking into consideration all the areas that I looked at, including project management, in some respects construction management, I think we would have probably saved millions of dollars if we had strengthened, good quality local housing associations.

I want you to give me some assurance that that will be included in next year's plans because I think it would be silly for me to just say I believe that on another sheet of paper, unless you want to table that information that you say you have, would you be willing to share that information that you have with us. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes on my page, L-23 on the Business Plan, under the priorities for 2005/06, the fifth bullet we highlight "continue to provide capacity building support to the LHOs, the Nunavut Housing Corporation's community partners as they assist in the development of the Corporation programs." So that is identified in the 2005/06 priorities for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

On the side, Mr. Chairman, I will note that my colleague's comments lead to more room and need for further training. So I will assure my colleague that I will direct my staff to build upon the initiatives undertaken and to do a more thorough review of the training needs for our LHOs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley**: I appreciate the response. Mr. Chairman, I may be old-fashioned because I don't see your work on training or professional development stuff with respect to that. It says a comprehensive or modernization improvements.

I really think that we can be quite clear because I think the training dollars that are available can be cost shared between any other major funding sources. If we have more dedication specifically toward improving them, because there are some technical regulations that also apply. They are not just some group these days. They have put professional responsibility, in my view. I think they deserve better.

I am grateful though that the minister understands that and I would just like for him to be more clear and more direct with the training requirements of all levels of their responsibility. Would you undertake to doing that? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very shortly, yes. I will ask my staff to see if we can produce a report for the next sitting later on in the fall. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** I would just like to thank the minister and I will ask him to remind me if I do forget in the fall. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. I have no other names on my list. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. This is not a question, but there's some concerns that the homeowners have, and I think that they should have more opportunities through Housing Corporation to deal with their homes. In the communities, there's some homeowners who would like to use the staff of the local housing authorities, but we can't do that.

I'm very pleased that the staff who are based in Cape Dorset do come to our community of Sanikiluaq. But the homeowners are not given the opportunity to have discussions with the senior staff of the local housing authority. I think that the homeowners should have an opportunity to talk to headquarters or to voice their concerns. Is it possible for your staff or one of the senior staff to go down to Sanikiluaq to listen to the homeowners, or have meetings with the homeowners?

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of our staff is probably going down to Sanikiluaq. Because the staff are listening to the discussions here, I will inform you when one of our senior staff is going down and we will warn you in advance. Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you Mr. Minister. Anything else, Mr. Kattuk?

**Mr. Kattuk:** To supplementary further, the people of Sanikiluaq would like to see the program coordinator and some of the staff hear their concerns. I'm very proud that you're going to be warning me in advance.

**Mr. Chairman:** Are there any other questions? I don't have any other names on my list. We'll then go back to page L-4. Department summary, Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total Operations and Maintenance 89,640,00. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Do you agree that we have completed Nunavut Housing Corporation?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Minister and your officials, do you have any closing comments.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to thank the Members of the Legislative Assembly, first of all, and also my staff. Thank you.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. I would like to ask Mr. Okalik for the Department of Justice to make his opening remarks.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am please to appear before the Committee to present the Department of Justice 2005-2006 Main Estimates. The department has been allocated a total operating budget of \$54,598 million, which represents an increase of \$5.6 million over last year's budget.

I believe that the new money in the department's budget will help us enhance our programs to make sure that they reflect the priorities of Pinasuaqtavut and incorporating Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. Some of the new money allocated to the Department of Justice's responds to the increasing costs of providing regular court circuits to communities.

Both court services, and legal aid through the Nunavut Legal Services Board are affected by the demands provided these services. There are allocations of new money for Court Services, and the Legal Services Board to address shortfalls.

There is increased funding this year for training for Justices of the Peace and coroners, and more money for Labour Standards audits. Our Justices of the Peace receive regular training and attended some very thorough training sessions in December of last year. Also addressed is more funding for the growing number of courts ordered mental assessments plus added salaries for an additional Family Maintenance Officer, Family Counselors and the Civil Registry.

Community Justice provides community programs to prevent crime, diversion and mediation services, traditional counseling programs and assistance with offenders returning to the community from institutions. We have increased funding for community Justice Committees which allow some cases to be dealt with effectively out of court.

The spousal assault program in Rankin Inlet is having every positive results but federal start-up funding is ending June of this year. Justice Nunavut will contribute to ensure this valuable undertaking continues.



Some additional funds have been provided to pay elders for guidance and counseling they give to youth and adults on community dispositions.

(interpretation) I am pleased to report that the Law School initiative is nearing completion. Graduation is on June 21, 2005. That is to be followed by a one year articling period for each graduate. The funding for five Akitsiraq graduates for 6 months of articling after graduation is included in the 2005-2006 Main Estimates.

These five students will be working with other lawyers in the Department of Justice to complete their formal learning process. We are proud to have supported them and look forward to the completion of their classroom studies this year, and their call to the bar as full lawyers in the summer of 2006.

The additional resources for policing are principally to cover salary increases as a result of new collective agreements for RCMP members. Other increases are for higher fuel costs and to reestablish the original RCMP budget level.

The funding for the Inuit Policing Program will be continuing again this year, as it has been a very successful program. We now have 21 Inuit constable working for the RCMP in Nunavut and we hope to continue with this trend.

We are pleased to be able to enhance the quality of our programs and services to better serve Nunavumiut.

Those are my comments, but I will be pleased to respond to nay questions that members of the Committee may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Yes.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Sergeant at arms, if you would escort the witnesses please.

For the record, please introduce your officials.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left, my deputy minister, Marcus Webber, and my right is Sylvia Hicks, our financial planner.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Welcome. Does the chair of the Standing Committee have any comments? Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak please go ahead.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm pleased to be able to give to committee's opening remarks as we begin debate on the 2006 Main Estimates for the Department of Justice. Later on members will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding these estimates.

The Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* have had the opportunity to meet with the minister and his staff.

The minister was able to give an update on his departments proposed expenditures.

Mr. Chairman, Members were pleased to hear that 11 Akitsiraq law school students will be graduating on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005. Members are extremely proud of the hard work and dedication they have demonstrated and look forward to seeing them working for the benefits of Nunavummiut. I'm sure all my colleagues are with me in wishing them the best as they begin their articling year.

Mr. Chairman the Committee is of the view that programs such as this one should be continued, even on the smallest scale, to increase our school of Inuit professionals. It may be worth considering applying this educational model to such professions as accounting and science. Members were also pleased to learn that the department is working with the Arctic College to possibly develop a new program called the Justice Access Program, which will teach people the skills required to enter the RCMP and other bodies. Members will look forward to be kept informed on the status of this proposed program.

Members continue to express concerns regarding drugs entering their communities.

Members are pleased that the RCMP continues to use the detecting dog in fight against drugs and visiting schools as part of their anti-drug campaign.

Mr. Chairman, Members work to be kept up to date on the long terms plans for the replacement of the Baffin Correctional Centre and plans for the development of the female remand facility for Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, members are aware that all staff for the Kugluktuk Men's Healing facility have completed their training. Members look forward to the opening of this facility and freeing up much needed space at BCC and repatriating some inmates to be closer to home. Members support future incidences for this type of facility to be build in Nunavut, with due attention being paid to community safety.

Mr. Chairman, Members are hopeful that the government regulations can be translated in Inuktitut languages in the future.

Members are aware that translated regulations are not legally binding. However, Members strongly feel it is important to translate regulations and potentially high public interest such as those with a new *Nunavut Wildlife Act*.

Mr. Chairman, members are aware that the new Human Rights Tribunal in Coral Harbour is making progress towards being fully staffed and operational. Members urge the Minister to have clear educational materials developed and distribute to Nunavummiut on

the Human Rights and how this new office can affect them. Members are also pleased that this will create employment opportunities for some residents of Coral Harbour.

Mr. Chairman, Members are pleased to learn that the Spousal Abuse Program and Inuusirmut Aqqusiutit Pilot Projects are going well. Members support efforts of this department to help resolve family disputes in culturally sensitive way.

Mr. Chairman, Members are concerned that there are not enough beneficiaries being employed at the Baffin Correctional Centre. Less than 10 percent of the positions at Baffin Correctional Centre are filled by Inuit. Members urge the Minister to improve beneficiary employment levels at Baffin Correctional Centre.

Mr. Chairman, Members are therefore pleased to hear that the department's efforts in making institutions more relevant to Inuit giving managerial positions to Inuit in the four institutes in Nunavut.

The Committee would like to congratulate Lew Philips, new warden of Baffin Correctional Centre. Johnny Flaherty, manager of Utaqqivik Centre, Letia Kowalchuk, manager trainee for Isumaqsunngettukuvik Youth Facility and Helen Laroque, manager of the Ilavut Healing Centre in Kugluktuk.

Mr. Chairman, Members are pleased that the department is working towards establishing a "Stand Alone" probation service for Nunavut. In the past, social workers in the communities have had to handle this service in addition to their already heavy work load, and in some communities they still do. Social workers must be relieved of this extra duty that should be the responsibility of this department.

Mr. Chairman, Members are pleased to hear through news reports that communities will soon be warned when high risk offenders arrive in their communities. Members expect to be fully informed on this development.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening remarks. Members were generally satisfied overall with the department's progress and I anticipate that the individual Members will raise their own comments and concerns on the department's 2005-2006 Main Estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you Mr. Mapsalak. Before we proceed, I would like to remind Members of the following: According to rule 77(1) you have ten minutes to speak. According to rule 77(2) subject to discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once on any matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken. I suggest to Members that wherever possible, you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates.

Do Members have any general comments? (interpretation): If there's no general comments from the Members, we'll go to page E-5. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to report progress.

**Chairman** (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress. It is not debatable. Opposed. Abstentions. I would now like to report progress.

I would like to thank Minister Okalik and your officials. We'll see you tomorrow.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Please be seated. Going back to orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Arreak.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your Committee has been considering Bill 8 on the Main Estimates and would like to report progress.

Also Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Is there a Seconder?. Mr. Kilabuk. The motion is in order. All in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried.

Going back to orders of the day. Number 21. Third Reading of Bills. Items 22. Orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

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

**Mr. Clerk:** Mr. Speaker, an announcement for tomorrow, meeting of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability at 9:00 at the Tuktu Room and the meeting of the Ajauqtiit Committee at 9:00 in the Nanuq Room.

Orders for the day for Thursday, March 10, 2005:

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. Notice of Motion for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration for Committee of the Whole and Bills and Other Matters
  - Tabled Document 52 - 2(2)
  - Bill 8
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): This House stands until Thursday, March 10, 2005 at 1:30.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 19:35*

