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Official Report

**DAY 29**

**Friday March 18, 2005**

**Pages 1965 – 2051**

**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### **Hon. Jobie Nutarak**

(Tununiq)

### **Steve Mapsalak**

(Akulliq)

### **Hon. Louis Tapardjuk**

(Amittuq)

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Elders and Youth; Minister of  
Human Resources  
Minister Responsible for  
Sport Nunavut*

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Liquor Licensing Board  
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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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### **Joe Allen Evyagotailak**

(Kugluktuk)

### **Patterk Netser**

(Nanulik)

### **Hon. Peter Kilabuk**

(Pangnirtung)

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Responsible for the Nunavut  
Housing Corporation*

### **Tagak Curley**

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### **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*

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Friday, March 18, 2005**

**Members Present:**

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

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (interpretation): I would like to ask Mr. Alagalak to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Please be seated. Good morning Mr. Premier, Ministers and Members. Going to the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' statements. Minister Picco.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 090 – 2(2): Nunavut Community Skills Inventory Project**

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to bring to your attention a pilot project underway to develop made in Nunavut community-based skills inventory and employment database. When completed we will be able to acquire accurate and relevant information. This information will be used to better plan and budget for the delivery of education training and employment readiness program.

This initiative is being developed by the Department of Education in partnership with many others, including the Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation, the Federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and Human Resources Skill Development Canada, and with the input and the involvement of other groups, such as Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Nunavut Arctic College and our Regional Inuit Development Organizations.

The pilot project will create a framework to record and document employment and skills information at the community level, which then can be rolled up to produce a Nunavut-wide inventory. This resulting inventory will support economic development in all employment sectors and in the application of the Government's NNI Policy and the associated Community Infrastructure Projects.

The information collected will also be useful in future negotiation with the federal government to ensure that we are receiving funding appropriate to our training and our employment needs.

This project is an excellent example of groups working together to solve a common challenge by cooperating in the design and development of the database, we avoid duplication of efforts and we will build community capacity.

We hope that the pilot project will be the first of a series of online tools in support of career development for our adult learners and career planning for our students in our schools.

Finally I would also like to recognize and thank the communities of Kugluktuk and Arctic Bay, who have agreed to assist us with the pilot trials of this system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 091 – 2(2): Importance of Sealing to Nunavut Culture and Economy**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning my colleagues. On March 15, anti-sealing demonstrations were being coordinated by animal-rights groups in Canadian cities, in the U.S. and in Europe.

The objective was to put pressure on the Canadian government to stop the harp seal hunt in Canada. The strategy they proposed was to push for an international boycott of Canadian fish products.

While the Nunavut ringed seal hunt was not targeted, we know from experience that anti-sealing campaigns can damage the market for all seal products. We know that a boycott on Canadian fish products can hurt Nunavut, as we are exporters of shrimp, turbot and arctic char.

(interpretation ends) I am happy to say that the anti-sealing protests in Ottawa and in other cities were not very successful.

In Ottawa, the Nunavut Sivuniksavut students helped to win the day. They presented the Nunavut sealing story in an orderly way, and helped to win the contest for the hearts and minds of the public and media on hand.

In a letter to the students and staff of Nunavut Sivuniksavut, I stated the following and I quote: "On behalf of Nunavummiut and the Government of Nunavut, I would like to congratulate you on your courageous and responsible activities at Parliament Hill on



March 15, 2005. Your determination to inform the protesters and the public about the importance of sealing in Nunavut will hopefully enhance their understanding of some of the real issues involved. Nunavummiut know that sealing is vital to the Nunavut economy and lifestyle.”

I want to state on the record that Nunavummiut DO NOT and never have harvested white coat harp seals.

Sealing is an important part of our healthy lifestyle, culture and economy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister’s Statement 092 – 2(2): Wildlife Regulations Under the New Wildlife Act**

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to update Members of the House of the status of the development of regulations necessary for the implementation of the *Wildlife Act*.

In December 2003, the 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative Assembly passed the *Wildlife Act*. This Act was drafted by a working group consisting of representatives from the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

Immediately after the *Wildlife Act* received passage, a Working Group was set up to draft the regulations.

This working group has been very busy, and with the direct involvement of the Regional Wildlife Organizations has drafted the detailed regulations necessary for the *Wildlife Act* to function.

These draft regulations are presently being finalized, translated and prepared for consultations.

(Interpretation) Over the coming weeks we will be consulting with Nunavummiut and HTOs in Nunavut.

Nunavut Day – July 9, 2005 is the target date for the coming into force of the *Wildlife Act* and regulations.

I will be forwarding a copy of the draft regulations to the Standing Committee for their review, and my staff will be made available to answer any questions they may have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 093 – 2(2): 2005 Nunavut Youth Olympic Academy**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to inform my colleagues that the 2005 Nunavut Youth Olympic Academy is being held in Iqaluit on March 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Since the year 2000, the Olympic Academy has been an annual opportunity for Nunavut youth to interact with their peers and to learn more about the Olympic Movement. It is an exciting and fun filled weekend where the Academy encourages participants to revisit personal values and goals through sport, and to realize how this relates to their everyday lifestyles.

The Nunavut Youth Olympic Academy provides resources and skills development so that participants can return to their communities and share the same enthusiasm of the Olympic Movement.

In closing, I would like to thank all Nunavut schools, Hamlet offices, Regional Recreation Associations and Territorial Sport Associations for their ongoing cooperation and support in making this a successful youth program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 094 – 2(2): Fire Tragedy in Yellowknife**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my deepest sympathy to the families and co-workers of the firefighter who tragically lost his life and another who has injured fighting a fire in Yellowknife yesterday.

Firefighters, both professional and volunteer, play a vital role in protecting the lives and property of residents of every territory and province. Their work is often carried out in conditions of extreme danger. It is because of their dedication that our lives are made safer.

We should not ever forget the nature of the work of our community firefighters. They are truly front-line protection workers on whom we depend. This tragedy reminds us of the extreme danger that sometimes comes with that role.

I ask all the members to join me in recognizing those who paid the tragic cost in fighting the fire in Yellowknife. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Netser.

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

#### **Member's Statement 242 – 2(2): Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs Report**

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to note a recent development with respect to the issue of the sled dog slaughter.

Mr. Speaker, on March 11, the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development presented a report on this issue. Mr. Speaker, as you know, our Member of Parliament Nancy Karetak-Lindell is the Chair of this committee.

Mr. Speaker, the committee has called on the federal government to appoint a judicial enquiry to get to the bottom of the matter. Mr. Speaker, I have had constituents tell me about incidences that occurred in the past. Mr. Speaker, I am certain that all members in the public will be watching this issue with attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

#### **Member's Statement 243 – 2(2): Elders' Conference**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to explain and to say how proud I am of the elders' conference that was held here and the majority of the elders that attended the meeting came to the Legislative Assembly.

They are meeting to make sure that we will use Inuit Qaujimaqatunqangit and I would also like to thank Minister Tapardjuk for planning, preparing for the meeting, and funding that meeting for the elders' conference.

Mr. Speaker, our elders are our key for foundation for our future. If there are no elders, there would not be a good future for us. Even though we should see how proud we are of our elders, Mr. Speaker, I would like to state that we need to improve the services for the elders.

The services that are provided by the federal government whether it be old-age pension or Government of Nunavut supplementary, they are outdated. We need to update them so that the lives of the elders, who can't even leave their homes, should be protected so that they will not have to worry about the next day; where they should be getting their meals because their grown children are coming in.

We need to improve the programs and services for the elders. The ministers and the government leader, I would like to state them; so I urge you all to start making plans and improve the programs and services for the elders because they have worked very hard and they are getting disabled.

Mr. Speaker, after receiving the residents of the elders here in the House, they need to be provided with adequate food. So let's look at the programs and services for the elders if they are adequate enough in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

So therefore, let's thank and acknowledge the elders on their home after their session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 244 – 2(2): Habitat for Humanity Fund Raising**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I do my member's statement, I just want to wish someone that's having a birthday on Sunday and someone that everyone here knows very well and that's Mr. Alexander Baldwin. I would like to say, Sunday is his birthday, and I know I am sure he didn't want anyone to know, but happy birthday to Alex on Sunday, the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell members about a fund-raising that is being done here to "Hammer Homelessness" in Iqaluit. For just \$5.00, Mr. Speaker, you can purchase a nail that will be used to build two Habitat for Humanity homes here in Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, nails will be available for purchase at NorthMart on March 20, 24 and 26.

Mr. Speaker, as my former colleague from Qamanittuaq would say that it's no secret that we are gripped by a housing crisis in Nunavut. 54 percent of Nunavummiut live in overcrowded conditions – that's almost four times the national average.

Mr. Speaker, Habitat for Humanity builds a house every 26 minutes. Our government is doing its best to build homes with very limited resources. This Habitat for Humanity initiative shows that Nunavummiut are doing their best through volunteering and fundraising.

Mr. Speaker, it's time for the federal government to step up to the plate – or, perhaps I should say, pick up a hammer.

Mr. Speaker, invaluable work is being done by the steering committee. Committee members are: Pam Hine; Susan Spring; John Henderson; Jennifer Hayward; Melanie Abbott; Allen Hayward; Don Sinclair-Chenier; Tina McLeod; Paul Mulak; Sherry McNeil-Mulak; Mohamed Docrat; and Sheila Levy.

Mr. Speaker, I also have with me today here some nails, but I promise not to table them, there are a hundred of them. I urge Members can come and see me to purchase their nails for \$5 for this very worthy project. Mr. Speaker, for anything over \$25 receipts will be issued.

I would like to invite the Members of this Assembly to join me in recognizing the good work that is being done by the Habitat for Humanity Steering Committee here in Iqaluit, and I look forward to selling some of these nails and to help hammer homelessness. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 245 – 2(2): Elders in the Gallery**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To make a supplement to the comments that were made earlier, the elders who were here yesterday were extremely happy to be here and to see the Legislative Assembly for the first time.

We will have to seriously think about the elders who are sitting in the Gallery and we will have to find ways to see how we can better utilize the seats in the House. The reason why I am making this statement is that I have forgotten three individuals who were here who worked extremely hard; George Qulaut, Jackie Napayuk, and Peter Ettulu, who are members of the Elders' Council.

The reason why I am naming their names is to have them on the record. We are extremely pleased about these people and I think they are going to be a benefit to the government while we are trying to integrate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into the government system. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 246 – 2(2): Seal Hunt Protesters**

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to address the issue of the seal hunt protesters. Mr. Speaker, in an open letter to all federal Members of Parliament, a widely distributed email says, and I quote: "Mr. Speaker, the culling is not necessary. The seals are not responsible for the decline of the cod and other stock."

Mr. Speaker, five million harp seals eating 150 pounds of fish a day, and it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure that one out. Seals don't eat turnips or potatoes, Mr. Speaker, and this type of predation does hurt our recovering fish stock.

Mr. Speaker, the writer goes on to say: “There’s no need for anyone to wear fur these days. Fur is a sign of selfishness, shallowness, and ignorance.” Mr. Speaker, where does the writer live, in Florida? Seal fur that’s demonstrated by the Members in the House is practical, modern, fashionable, and Mr. Speaker, is made right here.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Speaker, the writer goes on to say: “Who do you know eat seal meat?” Mr. Speaker, Wow!

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, this writer leads a very sheltered life. Seal meat fried, boiled, baked or raw is eaten by almost everyone in this House, in this room on a regular basis and across Nunavut, Mr. Speaker, and in many circumpolar countries and provinces here in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, in 1948, the last trip that Old Eagle took to the ice, my father went to the seal hunt.

It was hard work. They caught 18 thousand harp seals and my dad received \$180 dollars for six weeks of dangerous tough work. Mr. Speaker, how much money does Green Peace and other groups make from the seal protest? Seal meat is nutritious. It’s healthy. It’s tasty and it’s a way of life.

Maybe the animal right’s groups should spend their time helping the poor in Rwanda, helping the Tsunami victims or the multitude of human issues across this world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Green Peace should give peace a chance and get the facts around the traditional harvesting, the sustainable harvesting of seals here in Nunavut. Whether they realize it or not, their activities have hurt our industry and many people’s livelihoods.

In conclusion, I want to add, in 1829, Captain John Picco went to the seal hunt and died. Their schooner sunk, like many more, and I wanted to add that the Lady Margaret was the name of that ship, and we have a traditional seal hunt in Newfoundland and that’s part of the problem.

But, being from Nunavut, I can tell you that these guys have it wrong. Mr. Speaker, I’m proud to be the son of a seal hunter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

### **Member’s Statement 247 – 2(2): Meeting in Cambridge Bay**

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House about my brief trip back to my constituency and community of Cambridge Bay. It was great to see my family and

everyone else in town. It's always good to return to your home town after being away a long time.

Mr. Speaker, it was a busy twenty-four hours. On Wednesday evening, the elders of Cambridge Bay met with me and our Member of Parliament, Nancy Karetak-Lindell, at the Elders' Place. It was a very productive meeting. The Elders told our MP about their concerns over old age cheques, their difficulties in getting firearms certificates, the high cost of food and shelter and the need for our governments to do more to help elders live a better life.

Mr. Speaker, the elders told me that it was good to have someone come from Ottawa to whom they could talk in person about their concerns.

Yesterday, I had the privilege of attending a community luncheon with many of my fellow Cambridge Bay residents where we were joined by INAC Minister Andy Scott, Minister Ethel Blondin-Andrew, and MP Nancy Karetak-Lindell.

Mr. Speaker, Minister Scott told us he had come to ask us for our input into the Northern Strategy, and listen to what we had to tell him. Mr. Speaker, we told Minister Scott about our hopes for a bright future for our families and children, our community and all of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, we told Minister Scott that Nunavut is a unique and special part of Canada. We told him that we needed Ottawa to invest more in more housing, post-secondary education facilities, the Bathurst Inlet Road and Port Project, wind energy, an economic development agreement, a regional development agency, help to advance our proposed Nunavut Mine School, and a stronger Department of Indian and Northern Affairs presence in the Kitikmeot. We also told him that we were looking forward to 2006 when Tahera opens Nunavut's first diamond mine.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Minister Scott heard our message loud and clear that we need more investment in Nunavut to help us create a healthy and vibrant economy with a strong private sector. We hope that he will do his best within the framework of the Northern Strategy to help us.

Elder Frank Analok said it best when he said good bye to Minister Scott. He said, with much dignity, "thanks for coming." We hope he comes many more times to visit us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 248 – 2(2): Inuit Reliance on Seals**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To make a supplementary comment that was made by my colleague, we are reliant on the seal. We eat it and we use it for clothing. We are very grateful that we do get beef and pork, but they will have to realize that these farm animals can not live up here.

They would have to be housed in a heated home, but the seals survive up here. As my colleague said, we would like to thank the support staff who typed and produced the Hansard; Eileen Kilabuk-Weber, Saali Peter, who is the supervisor, my sister Mary Kilabuk, Shuvina Mike, Jacopoosie Peter, Silasie Kilabuk, Mary Arnaquq, Johnny Manning, Anne-Marlene Kilabuk. These are the individuals who produce our Hansard on a daily basis and I would like to recognize and thank them. And also, our tireless interpreters in the House. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Ms. Brown.

#### **Member's Statement 249 – 2(2): Inuit Clothing**

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was not going to make a comment, but I feel that I have to make a statement. As one of my colleagues stated, I felt very much and one thing that I heard very much was whether or not we should wear furs.

When I go down south, I tell a story to make a little awareness. Yes, we are from a cold climate and it's not going to change anytime soon. We wear parkas with fur trim, and yes they do come from animals, but it's important. If you live in the north, I am sure your face would freeze right away if you are wearing a jacket without a fur trim or if you don't wear any skins.

I was watching Peter Mansbridge who came up here, and he was wearing a parka. I was very grateful that he was wearing a parka with a fur trim.

Fur is vital and important, and also the meat, I get sick if I don't eat traditional foods. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Going to the Orders of the Day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I would like to go back to Members' Statements. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member would like to return to Item 3. Members' Statements. Are there any nays? There are no nays, please proceed Mr. Kattuk.



**Member's Statement 250 – 2(2): Sealskins – An Inuit Tradition**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe you didn't see me raise my hands while we were on Item 3, but I would like to thank my colleagues for going back to Item 3.

In regards to the issue of seals and sealing, I worked on this issue extremely hard and I would like to come back to it. I would like those individuals to understand about how seals and by-products were used and are being used today.

In here, it states: (interpretation ends) animals being skinned alive. (interpretation) It's something that's not true. We never skin seals or any other animals while they are still alive because if you do that, it's going to come back to you. Inuit would never skin any animal while it's still alive. In the Inuit tradition, it would mean that it would come back to the individual who does that to a seal or any animal.

It also states here that they're used to keep you warm. Sealskins were used as tents, clothing because that was the only available product or available material. We didn't have any linen or any cloth available.

They were used for clothing, for shelter and for food. I eat seal meat, and I've eaten it all my life. As a person from Sanikiluaq, seal meat is available year round and it's one of the staples of an Inuk's diet.

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

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): We eat seal meat because I come from the north. When I eat seal meat in the winter time, my skin thickens and my blood is better for my health.

We eat seal meat all our lives and there are people that say that if you don't eat seal meat while you're out hunting, you get cold. But if I eat seal meat my body is more resistant, it is stronger. Those are the types of things that the traditions of the people of Sanikiluaq and other communities in Nunavut.

The male seal usually has an odor. Some people die when they haven't tasted that male seal. That's just an example that I'm talking about. There are some people that I know in this world, like Osama Bin Laden who has never tasted seal meat, as well as Saddam Hussein.

He was captured by the Americans before he had a chance to taste seal meat, which is unfortunate. That's what we talk about when we talk about seal meat because it's very

delicious and it's good for Inuit and we have been consuming it for years. I'm proud to say that I'm a seal hunter and I live off of seal meat.

Seal meat is my life. It's part of my life, it's my diet. When I get paid, I cash my cheque and the money is spent already. The hunters feel a sense of satisfaction when they provide seal products and sell them and they spend all that money to good use for the family. They are proud to be able to make a little bit of money out of that seal meat.

Going to the Co-op or the Northern Store and spending that hard earned cash almost as fast as they make it is part of their lives. It is very good that the seals is used by the hunters in a positive way and to provide food for the family.

I am proud to say that I am a hunter and I receive seal meat from other hunters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 251 – 2(2): Support Inuit Seal Hunting**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also stand to say that I am in support of seal hunting. Today we hear the *ajaajaa* song and this was made by Aksaqattaq, who was an elder of mine. When they went caribou hunting and they couldn't find any animals, that is when he sang the *ajaajaa* song. They had encountered problems with no food, no animals and so he made the *ajaajaa* song; and it goes something like this; "Qiujavit, qiujavit, qiujavaksinnarivit, alainaittuqappuq inuunialiqtungu ulluq sulit taava:.

It means, it was in the springtime and that individual was very happy to know that there is going to be wildlife again. The day is good and the stars are bright at night. It is going to be springtime. That is the song that he sang and he was my great grandfather. My adoptive parents were also very good hunters.

For that reason I would like to recognize the people who are working very hard to be able to provide food for themselves with seal meat and the women that sew sealskins to make beautiful clothing for us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' statements. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. 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. I had my headset off. I would like to recognize one of the individuals that work on the Hansard at Innirvik, Anne-Marlene Kilabuk. I would like to recognize her and welcome her to the gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Going to the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

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

#### **Question 315 – 2(2): Plans to Change the Capital Planning Process**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance in her capacity as chair of the Financial Management Board.

When you take a look at the five-year capital plan that was tabled last fall in this House, we'll see that the planned totals for the coming years decline each year. We know that's because while part of the overall capital budget is set, another part of it is left open for departments to propose new projects and to allow for flexibility in there.

My first question to the minister is: is the department considering making changes to the Government of Nunavut's capital planning process? And if so, what specific changes are being contemplated? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Finance, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every year we finalize the capital plans for the Government of Nunavut, and those were tabled in the House in the fall. The proposed changes that we are working with, we're looking at this in the summer.

We are looking at consulting with the agencies involved in planning capital plans, particularly the municipalities. We are working with Community and Government Services over this summer to develop a five-year plan with more consultation with the hamlets. That will be worked into the long-term five-year plan, but every year, each year, as we set the budgets, those targets are identified based on needs as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's good to hear that the government is looking at getting some input from the communities on this.

Mr. Speaker, it's my understanding that departments have a supplementary list. I know we have heard raised numerous times in the House, here, over the last few weeks, by

different ministers and senior officials here in the witness stands, that they have a list of projects. They have got a supplemental list that they would like to see included in the overall capital plan and that is something that the department would like to see in there.

Mr. Speaker, my question is: are these lists secret or are they available for members to have a look at? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every year in the planning process, internally, there's a capital planning process committee that works through each department to talk about the priorities of every department. I think we all know that there's a high demand for projects across Nunavut, and it's often difficult to meet every single project based on needs. Our needs are greater than what we are able to fund each year.

The information that we work with, the departments continued plans, are all working documents, and the only concern that I would have ensuring that is that if they are working documents, and they are not final... I have a concern about presenting a plan to this House that is not final and that is in draft stages on a regular basis.

So, each year when we have a better idea of our funding position, we are able to allocate funding for capital projects. But as it is right now, internally, it's a working document; it's not a secret to internal staff. But, presently, I would have concerns about tabling that in the House in the draft stages. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know over questioning in the House here, over the last few weeks, different ministers have indicated that is something that is in our supplemental capital plans and members ask questions. We don't know that it's there.

I can appreciate that it is a working document, but I am wondering, if it's something like departmental priorities for capital projects that are not listed on the allocated five-year capital plan, if it would be something that could be put forward to members of this House so that we can be reaffirmed that the minister is not just saying that it's on there.

We recognize that it is not something that is there, it would be a priority for the departments to try and put into their capital plan, but I think members would love to see that there is a list somewhere, with the projects that are not on there, that affect their communities, in front of them and in black and white. So, would the minister look at providing something like that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, there is an interdepartmental capital planning committee that sits with every department to develop the capital plans on an annual basis. This summer we're looking at further defining that with municipalities, so the plan changes on a regular basis. The target dollars that we have available basically dictate what we're able to afford to deliver each year.

Again, I'm reluctant to share draft documents in the House that are not final. I know through standing committee meetings, every minister shares with the standing committee members the plan for the upcoming year and there's an opportunity for regular members to provide input into that process. At the same time, I also committed to this House that we would be consulting with the members in developing the five-year capital planning process this coming summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems odd to me, we recognize that it's not a capital plan that we want, but just simply a list of priority projects that the departments have and recognize that could change from year to year. But, a lot of times it's said that's in the supplemental plan, a priority of the department, that the government doesn't want to let the members of this House know what their capital priorities are individually.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the minister indicated that we do have limited dollars and that does dictate what the actual plans end up being. How does the Financial Management Board make its final decision on deciding which projects or priorities will get onto the plan for the allocated amounts that are there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, there is a working committee, internally, that reviews the Government of Nunavut's capital priorities, if you want to call it that. But, at the end of the day, the projects that are approved are based on needs and different issues. It all depends on what the project is.

Just to give an example, we had a plan two years ago that we had to adjust to accommodate the school here burning down. That's the kind of change that we have to be flexible to deal with in the capital planning process, and the concern I have in sharing a draft document in the House is it will raise unnecessary expectations in the general public, to share a needs list, by every department, in this House.

What I do want to say is that I'm seeking the members' input; the members do have input into that process at the standing committee level, on capital planning processes that we'll be introducing this fall. So, again, I want to say that it's not a set plan. It changes on a regular basis, but to table it in the House would be raising unnecessary expectations in the House as well as the general public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 316 – 2(2): FOL Site Use as a Trades School**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

Not too long ago, he told me about the FOL site in Rankin Inlet. The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs is in town, and some of us won't be able to meet with him. For that reason, I would like to ask the minister: you have said that you had written a letter that the FOL site could be used as a trades school and that the community wants to use it as such. I wonder if the minister can indicate to us if he ever got a response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did have opportunity this morning to speak briefly with Minister Scott, at breakfast. The issue of the FOL site did not come up at that time.

The member is correct: we are still pursuing options around opportunities with that type of infrastructure on the ground in Nunavut, in particular the FOL site. We will follow that up with the federal minister. I did have a response from the minister that they were looking into it, but they were very non-committal. That is why the hope is, over the next couple of weeks, after the House is finished, to arrange some of those ongoing meetings with our federal counterparts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It should be said that there is an urgency for the discussion of this. I wonder why you felt that this was not an emergency matter? I would like to ask the minister if, while this federal minister is here, he can discuss this with them. Maybe that is the only way that the defense department will start doing something, because you have more of an idea of where he is. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Scott has arrived; he has been in town for less than 24 hours. He will have meetings all day today with different stakeholders and groups. I believe this morning he was in senior-level meetings with the Premier and other officials of the Government of Nunavut.

My understanding of the file is that the responsibility, as the member has pointed out, lies with the Department of National Defense and that minister. What Minister Scott would

be able to do for us, if he acquiesced, would be to be an advocate for the issue and indeed a supporter, hopefully, around that federal cabinet table.

These discussions are at a very preliminary stage, and again, I would hope to be in the position to follow them up in a couple of weeks in a face-to-face meeting with the federal minister of defense. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 317 – 2(2): Dog Team Slaughter**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated before about the dog team slaughter, I would like to ask the Premier: (interpretation ends) will the Premier support this inquiry and talk to the DIAND minister about it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have advised the standing committee, and we are happy that they were able to discuss it because this has affected us and it has to be looked at closely. The committee is behind us regarding this slaughter. They have advised us to pursue this inquiry. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 318 – 2(2): Nunavut's Economy**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. It is concerning the simulator project that was announced as being rejected in the Nunatsiaq News this morning by the federal government.

I know quite a bit about this simulator project because I started working on it in 2001. We applied all over the place: Aboriginal Business Canada and other places and most recently to the Nunavut Economic Forum. It's quite surprising that it got rejected because it was recommended as one of the top 20 projects by the Nunavut Economic Forum in 2004; in fact it was in the top 10.

So, my question for the minister: will the minister tell the House if he will be meeting with the minister of DIAND today, while he is Iqaluit, to discuss moving the decision-making for our share of the \$90 million Northern Economic Development Strategy funds to Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that's an ongoing discussion that I am having with the Ministers that are here now, the Minister of INAC and also the Minister of Northern Development, Ms. Ethel Blondin-Andrew. So, that's an ongoing discussion that we are having on that file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. I am glad to hear you are having ongoing discussions, but we have been having ongoing discussions for years, since we first got elected and since this program was announced last year.

I am wondering, concerned, Mr. Speaker, about the message we are sending to Nunavut's private sector when they learn that our funding program for Nunavut is going to be administered in Ottawa and not by decision-makers in Nunavut such as the Nunavut Economic Forum.

So, can the minister tell me and tell the House if he's worried that investors in Nunavut will lose faith that the Government of Nunavut is in charge of developing Nunavut's economy, as stated as one of our priorities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I don't see it like that. We have an ongoing discussion with the businesses in Nunavut, and they seem to be happy, and they are doing work within Nunavut. So, I feel quite confident that it will go ahead. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank that minister for that. I am very pleased to hear the minister sound so optimistic, because when you are dealing with the federal government you have ongoing discussions. Ongoing discussions could mean years, Mr. Speaker, but we don't have years available to us.

I am wondering if the minister could commit today to work with the Nunavut Economic Forum and the federal government to meaningfully review the criteria as used to apply for funding, and work on streamlining the application process so that the priority projects for Nunavut receive the funds when they're in need of it, in the year they apply. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's actually a part of the discussions that the officials of the two levels of government are having; that's one of the items that they are discussing and trying to find ways, like he says, to streamline the process. It's



also something that we are doing within the department itself, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation itself. So, yes, we are working on that at the two levels. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Can the minister tell me what his department will do to help the Kitikmeot and Nunavut acquire the simulator so that we can begin to train people for jobs in mining, DEW Line cleanup projects, for work for the municipalities and construction companies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I still have not seen the application, so I don't even know what it looks like. But once I see the contents, then we will try to assist the Kitikmeot with their request. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 319 – 2(2): Separating Couples**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to address the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. We all know that the elders that were present here yesterday are trying to implement Inuit traditions. I would like to ask the minister if in Inuit culture the man should be separated from his wife or spouse and his children? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not too sure if it's the Inuit culture. It would be advisable to ask that question to the elders. What they tell me, after working with them, they say that if there are problems, instead of separating they would deal with the problem. I don't think it's Inuit culture. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once the minister hears from the elders, with the help of the Minister of Justice and with another minister, will they work together on this issue? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The first Legislative Assembly had already established the Elders' Council on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, and it's obvious that they are operating well. That's why the elders came here for a conference, to meet about Inuit knowledge.

The Elders' Council is set to review the government's *Pinasuaqtavut* planning. It states that the Government of Nunavut will work hard to incorporate Inuit traditional values and societal values. The public should be friendly and know the Government of Nunavut and own the government. The elders' traditional knowledge council is working on this issue, and also, they have asked my colleagues and my colleagues have accepted to do a pilot project in the two communities so we can incorporate Inuit societal values and so that the elders can be involved in resolving some of the problems that occur at the community level.

I know the Department of Justice's deputy minister and also my department's deputy minister are working very hard to deal with this issue and we will also work with the Department of Health and Social Services. It will be mainly for social issues.

After the conference, I aim to provide information to the cabinet about if we are going to look at how the system is going to operate. I believe that the three departments, CLEY, Department of Justice, and the Department of Health and Social Services will have to work together. As ministers, we have also agreed to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

### **Question 320 – 2(2): Judicial Decision on the Allocation of Shrimp Quota**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Justice and our Premier.

The recent decision in federal court dealing with Northern shrimp quotas was just come to, and the federal government had decided to throw out the decision made, throw the case out of court, and the decision that the Nunavut government is appealing was to try and get more of the shrimp quotas that were allocated.

Again, if you go back to my statement yesterday, I indicated Nunavutmiut feel we are there, we are ready, we need more than crumbs. We need the whole cake or the whole cookie or in this case a whole lot more shrimp. ...

Mr. Speaker, the judge decided that the distribution of the Northern shrimp quotas off Baffin Island, in 2003, was fair. It went on to say that it has gone up significantly compared to other groups in the area. I guess before we had none, so any amount would be significant from that. I wonder if that's what they looked at.

He went on to say that he was sympathetic to our claim, that it was not enough, however. It wasn't enough reason, he felt, to throw out the quota decision. He ruled that the quota does try to respect the interests of Nunavut.

My question to the Premier is, what kind of reaction is coming from our government on this decision? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We've been in discussions with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. We're not the only parties to this, so, we're disappointed and we do not agree with the decision that was arrived at, but we have to review our options at this point.

I had a good discussion with the DIAND minister. I believe the fisheries minister is coming here in the near future. I do hope that we can make movement, but at this point, we're reviewing the judgment and looking our options.

It's not helpful, but everybody knows that we are treated in a different manner than what you would see elsewhere in the country. We need the resource more than anybody, because we have the highest unemployment rates in the country, and we could sure use those jobs in the fisheries sector.

So, we'll continue to do what we can and we keep raising it, but at the same time, we're looking at our other options, whether we have to back to court or not. We remain open to the best avenue to pursue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It might be a good opportunity to net the federal fisheries minister when he is here and pull on his ear a little bit when he is here to try and make him realize that.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier had indicated that they're in discussions with NTI on this and I understand that this is a recent decision, but is one of the options, that both parties are looking at, going back into the courts and appealing that decision? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, we remain open. We have a window of opportunity to possibly appeal, if we want to, or pursue a different action. So, those are our options at this point. At the same time, we'll continue our discussions. I had a good discussion with the minister of Indian affairs on this very subject this morning. The minister of fisheries is coming next month to discuss this further.

What we would like to see is a fair allocation, not in the mind of the judge, but in the minds of Canadians. If you look at anywhere in the country, any allocation made to a jurisdiction is around 85-90 percent, and the shrimp allocation that we get is around 21 percent. That's not even close. So, that's something that is totally unacceptable and we'll continue to pursue this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I couldn't agree with the Premier more on this, and I have one suggestion: when the fisheries minister does come, that they get some wonderful shrimp from the Panniqtuuq fish plant and serve them and make sure that everyone around the table gets ten shrimp and that the minister only gets two. Maybe it will hit home to him how unfair it is.

Mr. Speaker, the minister had indicated that they are looking at other options other than pursuing legal action. I'm just wondering if he could indicate if they've determined what those other options are yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have ongoing discussions on the Northern Strategy. Everything that we have been able to put in there has been progressing, not to the extent that we would like to see it, so we'll form it as a part of our Northern Strategy and make sure that it is addressed.

The Prime Minister has taken a lead role on the Northern Strategy, so I think that is something that we will be placing on the agenda as one of the items that is outstanding and will continue to be outstanding until we are treated like any other part of this country. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Premier commit to requesting, when the fisheries minister comes to town in the near future, as he had indicated, if he would request that the minister meet specifically with the different interest groups involved with the fishing industry in Nunavut, aside from our government and NTI, but also the other groups that are involved in this as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have asked my minister to go on a tour, maybe to one of the communities like Qikiqtarjuaq or Clyde River, and see the level of unemployment in those communities and the \$50 million-plus shrimp fishery in their waters that they can take advantage of. The minister should see first-hand what the decisions that they are carrying out have as effects in those communities and the possibility of having employment in those communities.

So, that is what I have asked my minister to do. I think that once they see first-hand the effects that those decisions are having, they will open their eyes, and, hopefully, their ears to our situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Question 321 – 2(2): Wildlife Regulation Consultations**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I would like to thank the Premier for inviting his minister colleague to go to Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

In his minister's statement in regard to the regulations in the Wildlife Act, he stated that they would start on July 9; that is only three months from now. How are you going to notify the communities about to the regulations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Once the translation of the regulations into Inuktitut is completed, they will be distributed to the HTOs and the RWOs for review. This will happen prior to us arriving in their communities for the consultations. They'll have that information before the consultations. We will also provide the draft regulations to the standing committee and they will deal with them in the months of April and May. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are only three months left. Since the drafting of the regulations is not completed, then you will notify the communities and consult with them at the same time as you are supposed to consult them, and that leaves very little time for the communities to have their input. Does that mean you won't provide any opportunity for the communities to make amendments or changes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the regulations are being finalized, not just by the Government of Nunavut, we're also working with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and NTI. We have been working together to complete the wildlife regulations.

There has also been an agreement to start consulting with the communities to get their input and clarify some of the issues that are raised by the communities. We will also make sure that we will include the requests made by the Inuit so as to reflect the needs of Nunavummiut. Lastly, we will review all the regulations to make sure they are consistent with the Wildlife Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 322 – 2(2): Docking Facilities for Chesterfield Inlet Update**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister Responsible for Transportation. The people of Chesterfield Inlet have been asking for docking facilities for a number of years now. Could the minister give us an update on this request from Chesterfield Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have put in a request to the federal government and there will be a response shortly, from the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

Our staff and the federal department have been working together and we have identified the seven communities that will be getting support. I don't know whether the minister is going to be approving this request or not, but we'll keep the member informed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister stated seven communities: is Chesterfield Inlet one of them? Thank you.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Chesterfield Inlet is one of the communities. The problem is we don't know whether the minister is going to be approving this request. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since there are seven communities that are being considered, which community is the minister supporting to have the facilities built?

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support all those seven communities that need the docks, but of course we won't be able to do all the work in all seven communities at the same time. We have to request the money from the federal government, and we don't know how much money is going to be given to our government from them. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Chesterfield Inlet, when the barge arrives, it can't go right to the community because the shoreline is very shallow. We would seriously like your department to consider Chesterfield Inlet because of those problems. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't hear a question, but I agree with the member. I have gone to Chesterfield Inlet in the summer a few times, and I know exactly what the problem is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 323 – 2(2): Emergency Snow Clearing Fund**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We hear that we should just wait because, of course, you are ministers. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services. Over this winter, there has been a change in the climate and we had some problems with the buildup of snow, Iqaluit especially.

Usually, the snow removal is done by private contractors, and usually in the municipal budget the largest chunk is snow clearing. They have to keep the roads open because they have to go to the airport and there are emergency services that are there and there has to be public access. But, the government doesn't have an emergency pot of money.

There are some communities that might come into problems. Is it possible to start up an emergency snow clearing fund, instead of just waiting for the minister? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because of the large piles of snow over this winter, we've been informed by the communities that they have been running into a lot of problems. We see the request for support at the regional offices. Over the winter it's been a little different because a lot more of the communities have been asking for money from the regional offices. We can review this and take it from there. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. What I'm trying to say is that the government usually has contingency funds, and in the Kivalliq region they are in an emergency situation. If there is another blizzard, then they won't be able to clear the roads anymore. There are even contractors who were stopped because the regional offices said they didn't have any money anymore. So, that's putting those communities in an emergency situation and that is unacceptable. There are medical emergencies that take place, and elders have to go from point A to point B. The government and your department will definitely have to do something about it, and these concerns are voiced to us over time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into the issue in the Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Baffin. As I said earlier, we'll see what has happened over this year and see if we need more funds, and I could direct this request to the cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question, then, is even if you do get a request, with the mayor and the council, they usually hire private contractors and then the regional offices say that they have no more money, and then all work has to stop. What happens in that case? Could you involve this in part of your review? When they run out of money, is it possible for them to make a request to you personally? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The hamlets in Nunavut deal with snow clearing. Over this year, we have seen requests for additional dollars from two or three communities, and they have asked me directly. We have been able to give them financial support, and as I stated, I will look into this issue and make sure that none of the communities are put in an emergency situation. If there is, then we'll deal with it directly. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

### **Question 324 – 2(2): Size of Sealskin Pelts**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question that I brought up when we began the session, in regard to sealskins. I will direct my question to the Minister of Environment.



An individual from my community has stated that sealskin pelts that are too small or too large are returned to the community. What size does the sealskin have to be in order to be sold at an auction? What is the minimum or the maximum that a sealskin pelt has to be? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to sealskins, the member previously wanted some information on how seals are sold at an auction. At the time, I agreed to table our Sealskin Price Schedule and Manual in the House so that it will be made available to everyone. This will explain to the public will learn how sealskins are bought and sold for the auctions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank him very much for that response. My question was, what size does a seal pelt have to be? What is the minimum and what is the maximum? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't buy the sealskins personally, but everything will be identified in the information that I will be tabling. The member's question will be answered by the information included in there. It will give you the details on how the sealskins are bought and how the whole process goes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister said that he has got some information. A lot of the people out there don't read those documents. The minister stated that he will be putting out the information, but my question, again, is what is the minimum and the maximum for sealskin pelts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have said, I don't have that type of information. I don't personally know what is the minimum and the maximum size.

I can assure the member that the information is available out there. It will be the same right across the board. The information is available to everyone and each of the HTOs will be following the same policies and standards. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What about the sealskin pelts that have been scratched by polar bears or other predators? Does that affect the price of the pelt? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we look at the results of the auctions in North Bay we know that we used to sell pelts at \$30 and now we're selling pelts for an average price of \$70. At the auctions, the ones that fetched the highest price, the popular ones are the highest quality ones. We would like to buy the best quality pelts because that is what sells at the auction. We follow the standards of the auctions. We buy what is most popular.

As a government and as the Department of Environment, we would like to see good quality pelts coming in. The harvesters can help by carefully cleaning and handling the pelts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

#### **Question 325 – 2(2): Number of Bidders on the Fuel Contract**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister Responsible for Petroleum Products.

Mr. Speaker, in a previous question during this sitting, I asked the minister about the savings that was projected and announced by the government, on how much it would save with the new fuel re-supply system and contracting practices that they have in place, if there was a difference between that amount of projected savings, at the time based on the new contract, which is a supply-only contract, and the previous contract, which was a purchase and supply contract.

I understand that since then the minister has indicated that the \$20 million savings that was projected would be based on the cost we were paying in the final year of the previous contract, which was a buying contract, to what we are paying now for just the supply end of things. Mr. Speaker, at that time it made a lot of people think that the previous contractor was charging \$20 million more than it should have been, over three years, to supply that fuel.

I am just wondering if the minister could indicate how many people bid on that contract and then what was the difference in the pricing on it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A very good question. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I don't have the information my colleague is seeking in front of me; however, I will be open to reviewing this information with my colleague at an appropriate time. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When he is looking into it, can he also look into if they have figured out how much they are actually saving from previous years as well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I could do that. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I had indicated before, and something that everybody knows, is with the concerns that have been raised on delays of deliveries, fuel spills, and things like that, it reminds me of that old saying, "You get what you pay for". I am just wondering if, given some of the things that have gone on over the last few years with the current supplier, the minister would commit to reviewing and evaluating whether or not... . Maybe we should be revisiting the whole contract and looking at putting it out again and evaluating and keeping in mind the fact that you get what you pay for. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a matter of fact, the issues that had arisen over the last re-supply were scheduling, the number of spills, and... . Well, again, Mr. Speaker, we have dealt with some of these issues. I will also add that Transport Canada has been involved very much in the inspection, investigation, of these spills and we are still waiting for their final report on the intent of the department of Transport Canada.

So, a lot of these issues have been dealt with, in regards to these spills, and I will also add that the scheduling of sealift and the number of boats which may be required to do a more timely re-supply are all being considered at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 326 – 2(2): Rising Cost of Fuel**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to address the Minister of Community and Government Services in regard to the fuel re-supply.

The world market is around \$67 for light crude, and I feel that it probably is going to get higher. The supply that's going to be delivered to communities this summer, it looks like it will cost probably about half as much more as it did last year. So, with the impact that we're going to be experiencing, has that been examined, what it will do to our finances? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Looking at the world price of oil, the member is correct, there has been a concern because it's been going higher and higher. Looking at the rising price of oil, the PPD department is a little bit nervous. PPD is aware of that, but what the impact is going to be in the North, we're not really sure at this time, because we really don't know what the price is going to be in the final stages. So, as soon as we hear what's happening with world oil prices, we will provide information to the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, consumers in the South are already experiencing higher prices, even in the Yukon, I believe they're paying one dollar per liter, 99.9 cents a liter. So, once the new supply is delivered, I'm sure it will be more than 99.9 cents per liter.

I wonder if the minister can meet with the Financial Management Board, because we know that Qulliq Energy Corporation receives funding, because we're going to have be subsidized as residents and hunters. Can you, at the beginning, meet with the Financial Management Board to deal with the rising cost of fuel oil? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, my colleagues in the House and cabinet are keenly aware of the rising price of oil. The public out there knows that it's now \$39 or \$54 a barrel, and people have wondered if it's only \$39 per barrel, why we are spending a lot of money. But, I just want to point out to the member that that is the price of oil before it is refined. Mr. Speaker, I will continue to keep my colleagues updated on the changing prices and planning that we do in the purchase of the fuel supply. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): I would like to thank the minister for saying that he'll be meeting with the ministers. There already is a subsidy in place with the Qulliq Energy Corporation, but the hunters and Nunavutmiut should be getting a subsidy as well. Maybe if you could put \$22 million into a subsidy for the hunters and the residents, it would be a great relief for the people that go out fishing and hunting. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform the members of this House that, for example, the revolving fund didn't have very much money. It went down \$1.6 million, but if we need to give a subsidy to Nunavumiut, we will do so. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I say to the hunters and the residents of Nunavut that they would be able to get a subsidy when they're purchasing petroleum products?

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

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We would all like to say that, Mr. Speaker, but we're not really sure what the real, true price will be at the end. Because of that, it's kind of hard to say, but I would like to inform the members that I will give them information as to what the communities will be expecting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Question period is now over. Item 7. Item 8. Item 9. Item 10. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Mr. Tootoo.

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

#### **Committee Report 004 – 2(2): Recent Developments of the Workers' Compensation Board of Nunavut and the NWT**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today of presenting a brief report by the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability on certain recent developments concerning the Workers' Compensation Board of Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

As Members of the House are aware, the Worker's Compensation Board is shared between Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. This unique situation has, at times, created challenges with respect to coordinating such initiatives as amendments to each jurisdiction's Workers' Compensation Act. During the First Legislative Assembly, the appropriate Standing Committees of each Assembly maintained open lines of communication with respect to proposed amendments to the statute.

Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, our Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability has oversight responsibility for the Worker's Compensation Board. When the next major amendments to the Act come forward, they will be referred to the Standing Committee for review. I anticipate that the relevant

Standing Committees of both legislatures will work together, to the appropriate extent, in scrutinizing the proposed legislation for the benefit of our constituents and communities.

Mr. Speaker, a motion was passed last week in the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories calling for the Auditor General of Canada to undertake a performance audit on the Workers' Compensation Board.

This motion was unanimously supported by the regular members of that House. Members of the Standing Committee have received correspondence from Mr. Bill Braden, the Northwest Territories Member of the Legislative Assembly for the constituency of Great Slave.

At the appropriate time, I will table this letter in the House, and Mr. Braden moved the motion and it was successfully adopted. In his correspondence, the member outlined his rationale for having moved the motion.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee has reviewed this issue and wishes to state, for the record, with support for this motion.

Mr. Speaker, while the Standing Committee recognizes that a number of the issues that are of concern to our counterparts in the Northwest Territories it may be specific to the operations in that jurisdiction. Members are nonetheless of the view that this audit will likely result in information that will be of use to the governments and legislatures of both jurisdictions.

As mining development in Nunavut accelerates, Workers' Compensation Board issues are likely to increase in prominence.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, there are ongoing concerns in Nunavut with respect to such issues as coverage for harvesters and carvers. Mr. Speaker, I would anticipate that the next report of the Auditor General to this Legislative Assembly is considered by the Standing Committee.

Members will take the opportunity to urge the Office of the Auditor General to carefully examine the operations of the Workers' Compensation Board as they relate to Nunavut.

Members are cognoscente of the need to ensure that Nunavut has a strong voice in the operations and governance of the Workers' Compensation Board and look forward to monitoring this issue with attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tootoo.

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

**Tabled Document 105 – 2(2): Letter from Bill Braden Regarding the Performance Audit of the Workers’ Compensation Board**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table to the correspondence from the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the constituency of Great Slave in the Northwest Territories with respect to the Workers’ Compensation Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Please pass the documents to the Clerk. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Simailak.

**Tabled Document 106 – 2(2): Nunavut Business Credit Corporation Annual Report for Year Ending March 31, 2004**

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to table the following document: the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation Annual Report of the year-end March 31, 2004. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Please pass the documents to the Clerk. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Curley.

**Tabled Document 107 – 2(2): Constituents Concerns on Bad Gasoline**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table, I believe there are over 23 and still coming of the people whose machines, snowmobiles, outboard motors, ATVs, and cars whose machines have broken down. I don’t know who to direct them to. That’s why I am tabling it and the phone numbers are there. Simon Kowmuk, October is the first one. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Item 15. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Netser.

**Item 16: Motions**

**Motion 013 – 2(2): Referral of the 2004 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut to the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS The 2004 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer was tabled on February 22, 2005;

AND WHEREAS Members are of the view that this is an important document which covers the groundwork of Elections Nunavut, accounts for the conduct of the 2<sup>nd</sup> general election, outlines the next steps for the organization and contains 27 recommendations by the Chief Electoral Officer;

AND WHEREAS the Second Session of the Second Legislative Assembly of Nunavut will reconvene on April 26, 2005;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik, that the annual report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut be referred to the Committee of the Whole and that the Chief Electoral Officer be invited to appear before the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): To the motion. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in my motion the 2004 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer is an important document which covers the groundwork for Elections Nunavut, accounts for the conduct of the 2<sup>nd</sup> general election, outlines the next steps for the organization and contains 27 recommendations by the Chief Electoral Officer;

The elections across Nunavut are important to democracy. We need to carefully review any recommendations made by the Chief Electoral Officer as well as the general public on how elections are conducted in Nunavut and how they could be improved.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this motion and while we are at home for the month of April, I encourage all members to talk to their constituents about this issue so we can bring them back into the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): To the motion. Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the seconder of the motion I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak briefly to the motion before the House today.

Last year's general election was the first to be held under the new Nunavut Elections Act. As one of the 19 members of the Legislative Assembly I look forward to opportunity to raise some observations and suggestions to the Chief Electoral Officer who reports directly to this House.

This discussion will be an opportunity for members on both sides of the House to make positive contributions including the legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. To the motion. Does the mover have final comments. All those in favour of the motion raise your hand. Opposed. Abstained. The motion has been carried.

#### **Motion 014 – 2(2): Extended Adjournment**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik that, notwithstanding Rule 4, that when



the House concludes this present sitting in Iqaluit, it shall be adjourned on April 26, 2005 and further, Mr. Speaker, that at any time prior to April 26, 2005, if you are satisfied as the Speaker of the House, after consultation with the Executive Council and the Members of the Legislative Assembly that the public interest requires that the House should meet in Iqaluit at an earlier time during adjournment, Mr. Speaker, which is you, may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and shall transact its business as it has been duly adjourned to that time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion raise your hand. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Peterson.

**Motion 015 – 2(2): Recommendation for Re-Allocation of \$500,000 in Deleted Funding**

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

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly has reduced the 2005/06 main estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services by \$500,000;

AND WHEREAS members are of the view that this funding should be reallocated to other areas of activity that benefit our community and constituents;

AND WHEREAS specific third party funding for training initiatives for volunteer search and rescue organizations was last provided in the 2001/02 main estimates;

AND WHEREAS search and rescue organizations have an invaluable role to play in fostering safe and healthy communities;

AND WHEREAS volunteer search and rescue organizations across the territory are critically under-funded;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin Inlet North, that the Legislative Assembly recommend that the Government of Nunavut bring forward a Supplementary Appropriation Act during the spring sitting of the House to reallocate the \$500,000 that has been deleted from the 2005/06 main estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services; and that the funding be primarily directed toward contributions to community-based search and rescue organizations for local priorities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When a loved one is lost on the land, it's hard for communities to hold their collective breath as members of volunteer search and rescue organizations mobilize the community to begin the search.

Mr. Speaker, volunteer search and rescues are prominent and well-funded. I can only imagine the cost of the two-week training exercise includes search and rescue training, which will be held in Nunavut in April. In comparison, our local search and rescue organizations operate on a shoestring budget.

Mr. Speaker, members of local search and rescue organizations take personal risks every time they go out in a harsh environment to look for a lost, stranded or possibly injured person. Often people use their personal equipment for the searches.

Mr. Speaker, the first stories of our local organizations losing valuable search time when they have to borrow equipment. Mr. Speaker, in my communities, reference to business that donate money and in-kind contributions to support our local search and rescue groups.

Mr. Speaker, \$500,000 is not a lot of money when it's divided by the number of search and rescue organizations in Nunavut.

However, it will be a help for those organizations to work towards their current goals. I am sure, to some of the organizations, the new equipment will obviously be invested in training. I don't think that hands should be tied when choosing how to spend this money.

Mr. Speaker, it all comes down to my first saying: 'If someone is lost, they are not faceless names; they have friends and families.' People searching for them are friends and families.

For that reason, I ask all members to support me in this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. As seconder to the motion, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we mentioned before, we stated that a lot of search and rescue organizations are not supported enough and they organize themselves in the community whether it's summer, winter, it doesn't matter what time of the day.

Those committees go through a hard time and we know the military and RCMP but in the Kivalliq Region during searches they don't go down too often but they do in the Eastern Arctic. For that reason, that \$500 thousand that we deleted from Community and Government Services maybe they'll be able to meet together and give advice to each other.

I would like to tell the communities that starting now please lobby your government, ask your government because the members on this side are in full support of this and those volunteers, we like to recognize you because you work very hard, whether it's the middle of the night and a lot of times, right in the middle of winter.

When it's very cold, you risk your own life and the government would like to recognize you and compliment you and we want them more organized, have proper training, not just by Southern standards because they cannot be up here. They have a lot of knowledge and they should meet and exchange their knowledge.

I urge the members to support the motion. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am in support of this motion Mr. Speaker.

When you come from a smaller community, when you have to search and rescue hunters, it becomes very challenging and difficult, especially when the weather is so cold in the winter time, especially when the younger people go hunting and when their snowmobiles break down, it becomes really difficult to look for them.

The search and rescue teams are really concerned and they don't know what to expect when they find an individual. Some search and rescue have to go look for the individuals prior to the actual search and rescue team coming and this needs to be funded and at times the hunters lack funding to do their search and rescue.

So, therefore I am in support of this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Comments to the motion. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This motion is serious and it means that the hunting equipment that we have is outdated.

In Arviat there is a lot of search and rescue happening all the time and I've been talking with Mr. Kilabuk in regards to the search and rescue for the youth who have gone out hunting.

The reason why I'm supporting this is because we need to update the equipment of search and rescue teams. Their outboard motors have been effected by the bad gasoline, so therefore I am urging all the members to support this motion because the search and rescue are lacking funding all the time and they definitely need their support.

They've never been given any form of assistance or support and they only have to do their fund raising to do their work and I know that the members are in support of this and if this motion passes, I will be very pleased because even though \$500 thousand is limited, at least we'll give them some expectation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Comments to the motion. Mr. Arreak.

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I too am in support of this motion and I urge all the members to support this motion.

For too many years I have been working with the search and rescue team and we always lack funding in my community. The search and rescue have to use their own equipment. Even if their snowmobiles break down they're not going to be compensated.

Search and rescue teams have saved many lives in all of the communities, and we don't recognize them and we don't acknowledge them enough and they are not lazy to go out and search and rescue and they are just willing to go out and do their job in order to save the lives other hunters that need to be looked for.

Yes, I am urging all of the members to support this motion to reallocate this funding to search and rescue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. We will ask the mover of the motion if he has final comments to the motion. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my fellow colleagues for speaking so eloquently in support of the search and rescue organizations across Nunavut. I think this would be very much appreciated by the search and rescue organizations in our communities and make our communities much safer.

We have to keep in mind that, as legislators we always want to improve the lives of our communities, our families, our friends and neighbours, and also visitors to the north. We get many visitors to the north who we have to rescue. They don't understand how harsh it could be sometimes.

So I appreciate my colleagues speaking up, and I look forward to all of the members supporting this motion while we vote on it, and furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I would like to request a recorded vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. All those in favour of the motion please rise.

Mr. Peterson

Mr. Kattuk

Mr. Tootoo

Mr. Evyagotailak

Mr. Barnabas

Mr. Curley

Mr. Arreak

Mr. Netser

Mr. Mapsalak

Mr. Alagalak

All those opposed to the motion. All those abstained. The motion is carried.

Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Mr. Speaker, there was no indication of which way the cabinet voted; did it not abstain, did it not oppose the vote? I don't believe there's any other voting category.

>>*Laughter*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. All those who abstain please rise.

Mr. Tapardjuk

Mr. Akesuk

Ms. Aglukkaq

Mr. Okalik

Ms. Brown

Mr. Picco

The motion is carried. Thank you. Mr. Curley. The motion is carried. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Motion 016 – 2(2): Reinstatement of Private Accommodation Rate under NIHB**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS ensuring high quality health care for Nunavummiut is a priority for all members of this Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the non-commercial private accommodation rate for parents or escorts staying in private homes when traveling for medical treatment was reduced in October 2004;

AND WHEREAS the cost of living in Nunavut is the highest in Canada;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Nunavut's own collective agreement with the Nunavut Employees' Union recognizes the high cost of living in Nunavut by providing for a higher rate to be paid in cases where employees stay in private accommodations while on duty travel;

NOW THERE I MOVE seconded by the Honorable Member for Quttituuq that the Legislative Assembly call on the Government of Nunavut to make every effort to lobby the Federal Government for the immediate reinstatement of the private accommodation rate provided under the non-insured health benefits program immediately, prior to October 2004. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. The Secunder of the motion. I'm sorry, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to publicly thank the Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services and her staff for being open to many suggestions brought forward by Members of this House with respect to her department's Client Travel Policy for Nunavut residents who are traveling for medical care and treatment.

Mr. Speaker, this openness shows a genuine concern for the well-being of Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, the motion before us today is not one which will change the world. It is simply one that recognizes the contribution of private citizens and seeks to have them fairly compensated.

Mr. Speaker, one of the realities of health service delivery in Nunavut is that people from the outlying communities cannot always get the necessary medical services at home. They have to travel to a larger centre where the appropriate equipment or personnel are located in order to have their tests or treatment.

When the boarding homes are full, as they so often are, patients and their escorts have the opportunity to be billeted with relatives until they return home. In return for providing a bed and food and sometimes even local transportation to medical clients from out-of-town, billets are entitled to a payment.

Their support is greatly appreciated as our government does not have the necessary infrastructure to provide such a service. Mr. Speaker, the people providing billets are not professional hotel operators. They are not operating commercial bed-and-breakfasts.

They are hard-working folks, like you and me, Mr. Speaker, who are opening the doors of their personal homes to meet a need. And, in many cases, our health care system relies on their ability to provide this accommodation.

According to the Department of Health and Social Services' Client Travel Policy, the amount of that payment should be the same as the private accommodation rate paid by the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, again as my former colleague from Baker Lake would say, it is no secret that the cost of living in Nunavut is higher than almost anywhere else in Canada. The Government of Nunavut's Collective Agreement clearly recognizes that fact and explicitly allows for a Nunavut rate that is consistent with the high costs of living, or at least with the high costs of providing adequate room and board, in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut's Collective Agreement sets a rate for private accommodation outside of Nunavut and it states that this rate will be adjusted as federal rates are changed.

I find it ironic, Mr. Speaker, that according to our Minister of Health and Social Services, Health Canada reduced the amount paid for private, non-commercial billeting services in Nunavut, to "bring the rates more in line with the rest of Canada".

Mr. Speaker, it is clearly unfair that when the cost of food and the cost of shelter and the overall costs of living in Nunavut are not "in line" with the rest of Canada, that the amounts paid to individuals for providing food and shelter in Nunavut should be reduced to southern levels.

The current policy takes an unfair advantage of those members of our society who provides much needed service. I urge all members to support this motion to reinstate the amounts to Nunavut appropriate levels.

As mentioned earlier, this motion won't change the world but it will restore fairness to those who live in a small corner of that world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The seconder to the motion. Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the minister for listening to the concerns. I am sure that we are all aware, and for those of us who come down to Iqaluit from the outlying communities, if you look at the Boarding Home it is always overcrowded. The homes are very friendly and the patients are very well taken care of.

Usually those people who open their doors have children. They use their own money to buy the food for their family and for their billets. If you look at the Boarding Homes they are used on a daily basis. Some of the medical patients usually have to stay at the hotel.

For those reasons I fully support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Question has been called. All in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried.

Item 17. Item 18. Item 19. Consideration in the Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Tabled Document 52-2(2), Bill 8, Bill 9, Bill 10, Bill 11, Bill 12, Bill 13 and Bill 14, with Mr. Evgotailak on the chair.

In accordance with the authority vested in me by Motion 3-2(2), the Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out. We'll take a lunch and resume at 1:30.

Sergeant-at-arms.

>>*House recessed at 12:23 and resumed at 13:34*



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

**Chairman** (Mr. Evyagotailak): I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In the Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Tabled Document 52-2(2), Bill 8, Bill 9, Bill 10, Bill 11, Bill 12, Bill 13 and Bill 14

What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with Bill 8 and review concurrently the main estimates for the Department of Human Resources, Tabled document 52-2(2) and the appropriate hansard.

If time permits, we will commence the review of the main estimates for the Department of Environment.

**Chairman**: Do we agree that we deal Human Resources and Tabled Document 52-2(2). Are we in agreement?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tapardjuk. Please return to the witness table. We invite your officials to join you. (interpretation ends): Minister Tapardjuk, for the record please introduce your officials.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is Kathy Okpik, the Deputy Minister for the Department of Human Resources. On my right is Tom Thompson, the Assistant Deputy Minister.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome Ms. Okpik and Mr. Thompson. We will return to page D-5. Directorate. Human Resources. Branch Summary. We will return to Mr. Curley for questions. He still has five and half minutes.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): I will do that when I have ten minutes.

**Chairman**: I don't have anymore names on the list. Human Resources. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total. Operations and Maintenance. \$2,067,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Staffing. Total. Operations and Maintenance. \$6,590,000. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I have a question, but did have a lot of questions, but I do have a question. I had asked that same question when we were having our committee meeting.

There are no applications anymore for people who would wish to work for the government. They have to send out their resumés to the government. Is that still the case for some individuals who would like to work for the government but they don't have an office, they don't have computers. Usually they have a hard time updating their resumé.

Since there are a lot of people in that predicament, why is it that you don't just take applications anymore? Could the minister respond to that question? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you. In regards to the applications we are going to be putting that out again on April 1, 2005. It is going to be reinstated April 1, 2005.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could you say when? When is it going to start? What did you say? Could you repeat that again, please? You are saying that the application process is going to be put back in.

There was one time when I was asked for a resumé which I haven't updated in a while. I would like that answer please.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes, as I said we will be putting back the application process starting April 1, 2005. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): I'm all for the people who send in their resumés, but, I would like clarification on an issue about the aboriginal people. And there's a quite a number of people in one household that work, either the with the government or at the municipality level. With the government employees, and for people who are hired outside of the community, they have staff housing and usually the spouse of that individual gets a job right away.

Do you have any statistics on how many spouses work within the government?

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): We don't have statistics on that; we don't have any of that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Well I'm starting to think that there should be statistics done on that. Usually they have very good references. They know people who work with the government and they're able to get excellent references. Is it possible for your department to find out about that issue, because there's a lot of relatives working together or working within the government? In the application process, could there be a question where it asks whether they have any spouses working in the government. Thank you

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): When a job opportunity is made available, the candidates of course have to follow the procedures and policies. It would be relevant to ask the husband or a wife working within the government. It's not included in the process for anyone who wants to apply for a position can do so. Of course we have to follow the policies and the preferences.

Following our policy, it's going to create a problem. It might create a problem well; we can't turn anybody down just because they have a husband or a wife working within the system already. We have to treat everybody equally as a government and there's a possibility of problems arising if we did do so.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I would want to hear from the Deputy Minister because it's an implementation procedure. I am not saying that those individuals should not be hired; I am just saying that including that information would be good.

Following the Integrity Act, we can't hire any relative as a CA. For example, if it was maybe a distant relative, but not an immediate relative. With the senior management positions, nepotism is now becoming evident within the government's system.

If you could ask if a spouse is working in any one of the departments, maybe you can get information during the interview process. It's becoming more and more evident, then you hear more and more people saying that there's nepotism in the government system.

I would like your department to take that into consideration and I would like to get a report back on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, we can't ask that question when we are interviewing people because it would be kind of dangerous and that would depend upon the applicant not getting the job, and she could complain to the human rights people. So for that reason, there's no way that we can't answer that question.

When there's an applicant, we have guidelines that we use, and the people at Human Resources Office and at the regional offices have to find out if that applicant has relatives because if they have a relative working in the department or in the government, then maybe it's going to conflict, then they have to not apply. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Yes. Thank you. I understand. I was just thinking about the Interview Committee that could ask the question. My question was that we don't really understand the conflict of interest guidelines as yet, but what we do is we use the Integrity Commissioner's guidelines because it's very strict with the politicians, but I just thought that there might be a conflict of interest

If they can give me a guideline to see whether there's no conflict of interest on anybody's part within the government. They could go work for another department but as long as they don't work in the department that their spouses are working at.

I wonder if I can get some more clarification on that concern that I have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to reiterate that the people that are doing the interviewing the applicants, they have to declare themselves in conflict if they are going to be interviewing their relatives. So that's the way it is right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Yes. Thank you. I think we have to ask this question again somewhere because I know that you are not supposed to discriminate against anybody, but it creates a problem when the two spouses work together and there's usually a conflict when there's other people that don't have a good of a reference as others.

The young people are always being told that they have potential. The government used to say that the young people had a lot of potential and I have to tell them that in the pamphlet, in the guideline or the procedure that the government should not say that you have a certain individual has a lot of potential.

If they do have a potential, we don't have to tell them that. We just grab them because it gets tiring when people keep on telling you that you have a potential. Yet at the same time, they don't hire them. They should just hire them right off the bat instead of just turning them down and saying that they have potential. Usually, the young people give up because of that.

The Rankin Inlet residents have been telling me that there has been a lot of non-natives that get government jobs right away when they come in from down south; they get jobs right away with the government.

There's a loop hole somewhere in the Human Rights Act. So I will ask some more questions on that concern that I have later on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. That's not a question, just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the things on this page here that this division looks after is the Summer Student Employment Program. As I mentioned in my opening comments, there have been some concerns raised in the past with respect to issues of fairness and equity in the treatment of some categories of students underneath that program. I am just wondering and I know there are some changes that were made to it. I am just wondering if the minister or one of his officials could give us an update as to exactly what those changes are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There were some problems encountered last year when we ran the program. So the Human Resources staff had a meeting with the management and the trainers, and made a decision on the changes to be made.

The change to this Summer Student Employment Program is now changed to Summer Student Employment Equity Program; equity meaning that the government wants to be able to train or to be able to hire those students because they use the funding to go to school. The training aspects of it also changed and another one is that if a certain person goes on the training and then comes back, then they're given on the job training. So what we did was we took the training out and replaced it with on the job training. That's another change that we did because if the departments are going to hire summer students, they have to have the individual trained on the job. That's another change that we made.

As to who can participate in the summer employment, the beneficiaries would be first hired, from there, the people who have been living in the north for quite some time. Those are the ones that will be hired first. I think there was about 30 last year that were open for summer employment in the department. Now there are 40 of them.

We've put more money into in the amount of \$250,000. There will be an additional 10 this summer. The people who are trying to get a job and are denied, they will have another chance to try out again as long as they can tell us the experience that they have.

We will also be getting a committee to look into the people who have been denied summer employment to look at all the things that the student has achieved the committee

will be looking into that. The changes that we have made are the students of grade 10 and 11 have not been changed and we will be considering them.

The students that went to southern schools that live in Nunavut, they will have a chance to apply to the government for employment as of May 1<sup>st</sup>. Those are the changes that have been made from last year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister when you are going to respond to a question, can you make your response a little bit shorter. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I'll try and keep my answers short and to the point too.

The minister had indicated all these changes. I know one of the issues that were brought to my attention on numerous occasions last year where there were non-beneficiary students that lived their whole life in Nunavut that were told no we can't hire you because you're not Inuk.

I'm just wondering how have any of the changes that are made for this year's program going to address that issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The beneficiaries will be given priority and the students that are going to school in Nunavut, they can be identified as beneficiary as long as the parents or guardians are from Nunavut. To be eligible you have to be in Nunavut for twelve months. They have to have a Nunavut health card in order to be considered as a Nunavut resident, or if that person has attained 21 years of age and has lived in Nunavut for a year. As long as they have the Nunavut healthcare card they can be considered as a Nunavut resident.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to confirm and I think the minister had pointed out earlier that you say whether their parents or guardian or someone that had lived here for quite some time that that timeframe that is set out in the policy is 12 months. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes in order to be considered as a northern resident they have to have at least 12 months residency in Nunavut. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister also indicated that that program is going to be starting May 1<sup>st</sup>. It was brought to my attention last year while we were well into June some time and students were still being told no we can't hire you yet, you have to wait. There were non-beneficiary students that again had lived up here all their lives.

Is there going to be a waiting game played again this year after May 1<sup>st</sup>, if a student applies for a position? What process is going to go on there? Last year there was set number positions that were identified for beneficiaries.

Is that going to be the same thing this way this year? Given that will the number of positions that are available for non-beneficiary northerners will those be filled as quickly as people apply for them? Will they have to wait and see again? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No they will not have to wait. To clarify maybe I didn't say it properly. This will open April 1<sup>st</sup> because that is the government's fiscal year. Up to May 1<sup>st</sup>, the applications, we will be receiving the applications, even at this time.

We are advertising if students are interested in getting a summer job that they can start applying. They will start receiving the applications in April up to May. On that day, May 1<sup>st</sup>, if there is still more funding that might be left over then at that time we can examine the situation and also look at the different departments and see how many summer jobs they will have for students. If they start earlier, they can be dealt with earlier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the department have any idea how many student employment equity positions that they are going to have available this summer? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The money that we have identified I think I said \$250,000 for the positions. The positions that we have available are ten more than last year, but we have to wait for the Department of Health, Economic Development, and other departments to see how many summer students they wish to hire.

Once we get that information from the departments, and if we are lucky to be able to identify as to how many positions there will be; we can estimate at this time about 140 depending on how many summer students each department will have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the department have a deadline in which to let Department of Human Resources know how many students are going to be wanted to hire, and if so, what is it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They have to start identifying because we are aiming for May 1<sup>st</sup> and we want everything to be done by May 1<sup>st</sup> so that we will be able to identify as to exactly how many summer jobs there will be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When they do finally figure out the total number of positions that are going to be available; are there going to be a certain number of those that are going to be set aside for beneficiaries and certain numbers set aside for non-beneficiaries? And then if that's the case; how are they going to determine what that is? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy can respond to that.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the applicants for summer jobs, we always give priority to the beneficiaries and we look over the applications of their qualifications, especially if they have been identified by the department.

The people who work for Human Resources identify that they select maybe about five people to be interviewed and to prioritize as to which would be most qualified and that's how we will look at it this year. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to clarify my question. Right now the minister indicated that they are estimating 140 positions to be available for summer student employment. He had indicated that they are still waiting to hear from the departments as to how many they are going to want.

So once they finalize how many positions are going to be available out there; say it's 140 for example, how many of those are going to be allocated for beneficiaries and how many



of those are going to be allocated for non-beneficiaries. How does the department determine what that's going to be? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you. I will let Ms. Okpik respond to that.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's kind of premature to say which and how many will be hired by the departments because as the applications come in, then we will designate so many because they will not be open at the same time; it will be as the positions open from the departments, then we will bring in the applications. At this time it is kind of premature to say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know last year I think there were 17 positions that were available to non-beneficiary students. I am not saying as each one comes along out of the total number of positions that are going to be available. How does the department determine how many they want to fill with beneficiaries and how many do they want to fill with non-beneficiaries regardless of when the positions open, or which department they are in.

Is there a formula or something that they use in order to determine that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not identified that we will hire so many Inuit or so many non-Inuit. We haven't made that distinction. What we will go by is who would be considered priority for the job. I can say last year that 82 percent were Inuit and the remainder 18 percent non-Inuit. In total, 105 Inuit and 25 non-Inuit. It was like that last year.

I am assuming that the percentage will be very similar but we will go by their qualifications. What the difference this year will be they will be able to go through the appeal process if they feel that they qualify and they didn't get it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If memory serves me correctly, there was a specific number last year that were identified for non-beneficiaries and the rest the department was trying to fill with beneficiaries. I have no problem with that.

What I am trying to figure out is if there is going to be approximately 140 jobs out there. I know when we are done here the parents of the students are going to be asking me and other members of this House, how many jobs are going to be available for our children to apply for.

There was specific number last year. I am just wondering if you have an idea of what it is going to be this year. Is it just going to be just 18 percent again? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't made a distinction on how many will be for Inuit and how many for non-Inuit. I keep emphasizing we go by our policy. We have to go by who we think qualify.

I would like to state that we added from grade 10, 11 and 12 students. On January 20 during the Standing Committee and I was asked by the Standing Committee that we were told that it should start from grade 10 so that we can also include the outlying communities. That was one of the emphases that were given to us.

So that's one of the changes that we have included and we are trying to go by what the Standing Committee recommended on January 20. We are not saying so many percentage of it will be Inuit or non-Inuit. We are just going by our policy and that's what we will go by. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to review Hansard from last year and I am sure the minister's staff will be doing the same thing, but I am pretty sure that was a set number last year.

One of the concerns that were brought to my attention last year by a number of students was that the administration starts in May. In April, people can send in applications at any time, and there were individual students that had the applications in right at the very beginning, and in a lot of cases, they were told, "We can't hire you yet because I don't have anything for you." In a lot of cases, most of these students work, use the summer months to be able to earn money to carry them through the next year of continuing education.

In some cases last year, I know a student just sat waiting for two months. So like half of their only time to earn income to be able to carry them through the next year was gone because they were told: "We can't hire you yet."

I am just wondering how the department is going to address that issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year, I think it was both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries that had to wait for their jobs because we were just setting it up at that time.

I believe is going to improve is that we are going to have a deadline in May 1<sup>st</sup> so that the student applicants can give us their applications before that date. Last year, we didn't set our cutoff date, but this year; we have stated on May 1<sup>st</sup> that we will start considering the applicants.

Last year, the problems that occurred; we met with the concerned parents and we listened to their concerns and got their input. We met with the concerned parents about the problems that occurred last year. After the meeting with the concerned parents, that's when we set up an Appeal Committee where the students can go to.

The problems that occurred last year by using that, I believe that we are going to go smoothly this year by doing it that way. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister indicated May 1<sup>st</sup> is their deadline for applications and does that mean then that anyone that applies before May 1<sup>st</sup> will get priority regardless of whether they are a beneficiary or a non-beneficiary over someone that applies after May 1<sup>st</sup>? And I guess will he be accepting applications after May 1<sup>st</sup>? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will start accumulating the applicants and we have already advertised that the applicants can apply now for summer jobs. After May 1<sup>st</sup>, during the screening, as I kept trying to say that our priority.

We do have a priority policy as to who we have to hire. It states that the beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement should be a priority for consideration of job applications within Government of Nunavut. That's still our policy for summer students and we will use that policy.

After May 1<sup>st</sup> it will be evident at that time how many departments will have summer student positions and how many applicants will be. If we have leftovers we will also have to consider the applicants because some of the schools will still be within their school year. Some of the schools don't close for the summer until after June.

We will have to consider those students too. For that reason, this system, during the summer, will be much better than last year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I won't argue that one of the things that led to a lot of confusion last year is there seemed to be different stories coming from different people. It would depend on who they phoned and who they talked to, or whatever.

In order to try and alleviate that problem this year, would the minister be willing to somehow publicly make available, whether it be an ad in the paper or something, outlining the summer student program and how it works so that there won't be the questions and the confusion on that this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This has been already publicized in last week's newspaper, in News North and Nunavut News. It has already been placed in the ad. In there it states if you want further information these are the information websites that you can connect to. So there is a website too that you can get some information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does that website have a current up-to-date policy on how it is going to work? I know in some cases in some departments, I have been told by people that when they go there it is a dead website. I just want to make sure that people are going there that it is going to have the up-to-date accurate information.

Also make sure that anyone that the public has to contract within the department, or any of the departments on summer student employment that they get the same information out there so that it does alleviate a lot of the confusion that it created last year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Assistant Deputy Minister, Tom Thompson will explain this further. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes the program is up and running. We are waiting for, obviously, the budget to be approved so that we can start allocating those funding. The program has been advertised in the paper commencing last week and will run for another month. The program application and new program guidelines exist on the webpage, the Department of Human Resources webpage as well as the application form.

Human Resource Coordinators with individual departments have been fully briefed on the program as well as all the staffing consultants in the regions. We just did that this week in Rankin Inlet at their staffing retreat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that is excellent. I think that this website will help alleviate all problems that we ran into last year. People are all seeing it from the same page.

My next question deal with the overall numbers on D-6. I am just wondering if the minister or his officials could give us an explanation as to why almost \$3.5 million was moved from Travel and Transportation and the Purchase Services line items in there into Compensation and Benefits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you. My Deputy Minister will respond to that. Ms. Okpik

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there's been a big change in the funding. It seems like there's a huge difference in there, because we just re-allocated the funding.

(interpretation ends): The relocation budget for the staff, the relocation expenditures and budgets starting in the 2005/06 year, the relocation budget of \$4 million and the future expenditures in the next coming year will be recorded to employee new benefits under the category of Compensation and Benefits.

In past years, the relocation budget was recorded in other expenses category by types such as Travel and Transportation, Purchase Services, Fees and Payments and other expenses. However, expenditures for the yearly accruals and removal of costs were being recorded in the compensation benefits category as employee benefits.

This caused the mismatch of the budgets in the expenditures. As a result, the periodic expenditure manage reports does not reflect the collect report of over spending or under spending from the relocation budget.

It's a re-allocation of just moving budgets to put it under compensation and benefits under staffing, so it's a relocation budget and this is the recommendation of the Auditor General, so we're complying with one of the recommendations from the Auditor General. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you Ms. Okpik. Your time has expired, Mr. Tootoo. I don't have names on the list. Human Resources. Branch Summary. Staffing. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I like to thank the Minister and his officials for coming today. I had a question, a follow up from the other night when we had the Minister of Health and Social Services before us.

I was talking about nurses and how they hire the agency nurses, contract nurses and indeterminate nurses. I heard a new expression from the Deputy Minister that night, he talked about delegated hiring. It's a word for nurses, and they said that Department of Human Resources had delegated the responsibility of hiring nurses to the Department of Human Resources.

I wondered if the Minister or his officials could explain what delegated hiring entails. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. My response was under the Public Service Act. The Minister of Human Resources is responsible for our employees of the government of Nunavut. The Minister is given the authority to delegate hiring some of these responsibilities have been given to the Deputy Minister. We have also given some of the responsibility to the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Social Services. The Health and Social Services has also been given the authority and, I'm just re-reading what I said yesterday. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, I wasn't in the House yesterday and we just got our Hansard, so bear with me. How does delegated hiring benefit the Government of Nunavut? How does it help the department? How does it prove the delivery of programs and services to Nunavummiut? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We have Tom Thompson who is responsible; I'll have him respond to your question.

**Chairman:** Mr. Thompson.

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the member is correct, and as the minister pointed out, MOU's were created with the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Education at the time that we dissolved the Boards of Education and the Health Boards.

We delegated the authority for staffing to education for teachers and principals and to Health and Social Services for nurses and doctors and certain other identified medical staff. The reason this was done was the departments felt that the expertise in those fields lay with them.

The Department of Human Resources, the minister at the time, we agreed that the areas of medical practices and teachers and principals, that that expertise did lay with those Departments. So, MOU's were agreed to and signed off delegating that staffing authority to those two departments for those specific positions only. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the minister could clarify, so delegated hiring to the Department of Human Resources is for all nurses, whether they're contract, agency nurses or indeterminate nurses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's the case Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. So the indeterminate nurses would be covered under the Collective Agreement but the agency and contract nurses would not be covered under the Collective Agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): That's a very excellent question but we don't know the answer to that and we'll give you the information once we have it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. I look forward to that information. The thing that I've been hearing a little a bit about in my region is you have indeterminate nurses who are full time employees of the Government of Nunavut and then you have agency or contract nurses who could be there for six weeks or less. You possibly have contract or agency nurses who are in charge of supervising indeterminate nurses.

That seems to me that that it could lead to potential conflicts between their reporting relationships. Then management relationships would lead to conflicts that could possibly result in grievances and appeals. It could cause a lot of difficulties for your department. I'm wondering how if we delegate the hiring responsibility to health for nurses, how you

overcome that to ensure that the quality of human resource services is maintained throughout the entire hiring continuum. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have our Assistant Deputy Minister respond to your question.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it would be my belief that under the PSA Act, all the nurses would be managed by the Collective Agreement and the Public Service Act, they are public service employees.

The contract nurses are a little different. As I said, we know the answer to that. We will only seek to find that out. But they would have some definite finite times for their employment because they are, as you know, on contract. The Department of Human Resources does have a role to audit the Department of Education and Health and Social Services with respect to those MOUs to ensure that staffing practices meet our standard of service as well as our compliant with the priority hiring. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Thompson. Last summer in Cambridge Bay, we had a situation where I think we had seven or eight nurses who were upset with the interference, if I can use that word, interference from the Health Department Administration. They were so concerned that they wrote a letter and seven or eight of them signed it, I guess maybe for protection.

There was combination of contractor nurses, agency nurses, indeterminate nurses. They were, from what I understand, a little bit concerned with the working conditions. They didn't know how to bring that forward to their employer. Your department delegated hiring to the department.

How would nurses in those situations, who were upset with their employer, because they don't know their responsibility due to mixture of all those types of nurses. Bring forth their concerns and be assured that they would be dealt with fairly, without repercussions for trying to improve their work conditions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this question to my Deputy Minister. At this stage I believe they work more in that field. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Ms. Okpik.



**Ms Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't really refer to that because we haven't heard anything about it. In the case of the nurses, they can go to the Union with their concerns. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You can rest assured that happened because I received a copy of the letter. It was signed by seven or eight nurses.

In my community health is a high priority and we like to ensure that our nurses, our medical professionals are happy. So when you have these kinds of situations that develop, it leads to a lot of concern and frustration amongst our population that the nurses are upset.

You might have two or three good nurses who decide that they would like to work somewhere else, and then they leave. We have this constant turnover. I think in all Nunavut communities we need long-term continuity so the nurses get to know the patients, get to know their files, and they don't have to rely so much on agency and contract nurses. The incident did happen.

That is what my concern is. They delegate the hiring but somewhere your department should have overall responsibility for ensuring that our workforce, whether they are nurses, or doctors, or whether they're engineers or teachers that they are all being treated fairly and squarely by the employing department.

I am wondering how you ensure that throughout the hiring process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Health and Social Services, will take your concerns seriously and if there is any problems afterwards we will make sure that it doesn't happen again.

For your information the Public Service Act was not made in Nunavut. It had been grandfathered. We will be reviewing this Act and amend it. To have it amended so that these problems will be dealt with accordingly.

That is the only response that I can give you at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. I look forward to seeing that information and getting a report on your findings, discussions with the Department of Health.

My next question concerns the appeals staffing process. I have a constituent, I think he is well known to the minister, I won't mention names who has been trying to find a job, get hired in a government department. He has been trained by the Nunavut Arctic College, he has a diploma. He has many years experience in the field he is pursuing.

I think he has applied to this particular department at least four times or more. For one reason or another, he just can't seem to make it through the interview process, although we all know that he's qualified for the job. He just can't get that minimum sixty score. You know how it is in interviews, you go in there and you have four people interviewing you, you get nervous and fidgety and the mind goes blank.

It happens in the House here quite often as well. So, you know how it goes. I'm wondering how a person who obviously is trained and qualified, has experience can't get a job with the Government of Nunavut, in the department that they're pursuing. How do they get over that sixty score.

I know a lot of the scoring, when you're trying to get that 60 per cent is subjective. So, you might get an 80 from one individual and then you get a much lower score from another. How do you overcome that? If people were to go to Nunavut Arctic College, or graduate with a diploma, you got years of experience. How do you help them get a job in the government department? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): I will refer the question to Tom Thompson, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I'm well aware of that situation, Mr. Petersen, and I'll be as cautious, you know, not to reveal candidates' names. I'm also aware of what you're referring to, I think I'm having one of those moments right now. But, I can assure you that in those situations where that candidate is unsuccessful in competing for jobs, they do avail themselves of the staffing appeals process.

In no other cases that we've examined were any of those appeals upheld. That doesn't address the issue of his employment, but there are, and we've had many conversations with this person to invite him or her into the government offices, to talk to about performing better in interviews, preparing better, all of those things that would help his or her performance improve during the interviewing process.

That process can also happen through the department of education, in the Career Development offices in various regions. We have had some discussions with the department about the possibility of examining direct appointments for certain employees

who have struggled with interviews. And we've had some success in that area as well. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Minister and Mr. Thompson. That's good to know that there are services available now, to help people pick up some additional skills to get through the interview process. I know this particular individual has taken them. I compliment the staff for being patient in working with him. But, the fact remains that he still can't seem to qualify for a job.

I know his background, he's worked in many places around the country in social services, and if he could just get that leg in the door, he could probably be a good employee. It would save a lot of costs because re-locating people from down south is very expensive and you have to re-locate them back. I hope that this individual and a lot of other people are given a fair shake across Nunavut, wherever they may be.

Another question I have relates to casuals, hiring casuals and overtime, and I want to pick on one department in particular, it's Department of Health. Across Nunavut, in last year's fiscal year, they had spent over \$5 million in casual hiring, I'm wondering, what accounts for them hiring so many casuals and spend over \$5 million. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): I will get my deputy to respond to that question.

**Chairman** (Interpretation) Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk, Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are a lot of casual employees over at the Department of Health & Social Services. Looking at the overall employees of the Department of Health, they have to have a medical background and because of the nurses going on holidays and being replaced by other nurses, looking at the type of job that they do, they have to have a replacement constantly.

I could say, at this time, we are working with the Department of Health to have a memorandum of understanding with them in regards to casual employees and we have to talk with the Nunavut Employees' Union as well on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and assistant deputy minister for that answer.

I don't think all of the casual hires are to replace nurses. I know there are a lot of people in my community and other communities in the Kitikmeot; from the community and they don't have nursing backgrounds or they are not medical professionals because I know a

lot of them have worked a significant period of time with the Department of Health. It makes me wonder how many of them are qualified to gain further employment with the Government of Nunavut and the Department of Health.

I am wondering, Mr. Chairman, if the minister or one of the officials could comment on whether Human Resources works closely with that department and other government departments to analyze each position that they hire on a casual basis just to see if there's some merit in making positions more permanent rather than relying on casual hires. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my deputy to respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we can work with the Department of Health and Social Services to look into the concerns of the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. (interpretation ends) Mr. Peterson, your time has expired. I have two names on my list, Mr. Tootoo on page E-6 questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the things in this division they look at recruitment and that of staff and one of the concerns that has been brought to my attention numerous times over the last two to three years from day one was the length of time it takes for a position, once a department okays a position to go out, and it's something like three weeks before it gets in the paper, and then another three or four weeks or even months before people hear on it and then applies.

I am just wondering if the minister or his staff could run us through the process of exactly what happens and why sometimes it takes so long. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want Tom Thompson to respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Tom Thompson.

**Mr. Thompson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that was one of the bigger issues that was in the report approximately a year ago about some of the issues of service at Human Resources.

We have worked fairly diligently over the last year to address many of these issues, and we developed a standard of service to address all of the submissions of documents from departments with respect to job evaluation, labour or employee relations issues and staffing actions.

We have a standard of service now with respect to the staffing procedures that we are attempting in all cases to meet, which is eight weeks from the closing date of the published closing date of the competition and an employee will be identified and we'll start.

It is conditional on a number of things that are sometimes outside of our control. Housing sometimes impacts that, as does the ability of departmental representatives to be available.

One small example, when we're doing Assistant Deputy Minister competition for health, we had four senior managers on that selection panel and it was over the summer time and it was just literally impossible to get those four people to get in a room together for almost two months, simply because of prior commitments.

So, all things being equal and everybody being available, Department of Human Resources is endeavoring to assign a standard of service for staffing from eight weeks from the date of the published closing of the competition, we will attempt to have an employee in the position. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What about the time from before it gets first advertised to one department, okay, so we need that the authorization to go ahead and get this out there. I know there have been delays in that area. I wonder if you explain what might have caused them and how they are being addressed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, those standards of service also apply to other divisions within our department. For instance, the job evaluation department has a turn around time of five working days on any job description that it is going to send in for evaluation.

Once that job is evaluated, it goes to the staffing department and then drafts an ad or takes an ad that is already in existence. We send that to the department for their approval. They must approve all the ads. Sometimes, that causes a delay when the department representatives for the staffing process are not available or don't get back to the approval of that ad and then that ad has to be placed with our media broker. That is done by a deadline, usually by the middle of the week and then that runs in the paper one week after that.

So, there are some time frames in there that, again, are outside of our control. But, our standards of service, I'm happy to announce, our department is meeting. There are sometimes the ways that are outside of our control, but we attempt our best to minimize to those. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You said a certain length of time that a position ad or an ad for a position has to be run or advertised for? Is that like a offer for tender or set time periods for positions being advertised for there, like maximum and minimum times at all, and if so, what are they? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Mr. Chairman, yes, typically ads are run and then closed two weeks together. That's to allow for the ad to saturate the market so people have time submit their resumes and hopefully their job application forms and so that we have a fairly wide range of candidates to select from.

There have been situations where departments need, Mr. Chairman, an employee to be or a position to be filled on a quicker basis. We have short tracked closing dates one week from publication. And that has occurred, but typically the industry standard is two weeks from the date of publication. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the department keep track of the ones that they've short tracked and have an explanation there as to why? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, Mr. Chairman, we don't keep statistics on short track competitions. It is a case by case basis as discussed with the department and their immediate needs. We try to attempt to explain to the department that two weeks is the industry standard which allows for better saturation of that competition throughout the market.

One week is a little tight for people. Although, as I said, the competition does have a published closing date, we would accept applications right up until the moment which the competition is screened. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the department keep track of your standards of service that you have indicated, you know like for five working days and

eight weeks, are you keeping track of whether you're meeting those and or not, how many you are or how many you aren't and I want to know as you indicated there are reasons why, but do they keep track of that information? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Each competition is run, does have some inform where they indicate when the ad was placed when the competition was completed, when the interviews or screenings were done, when the interview was completed, when the job offer was made, and when the candidate starts.

We developed the standards of service last summer during our business planning session and during our performance management review this year for employees we will be reviewing, at random, some files in the divisions to determine what type of compliance rate we have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for the record, I guess, and I know and I acknowledge the minister's comments over and over again about the government's obligation to meet its obligations under Article 23 and I don't have a problem with that. I think it's great that that's there.

Given that we have a priority hiring policy in place and when positions are advertised, I am just wondering if I can get the minister or one of his officials to go through step-by-step once the ad gets put out. I know they have to go out and they say priority is given to beneficiaries and they leave it up to the individual to identify themselves as a beneficiary in their application.

But just to go through step-by-step right from when the applications are received, letters are sent out saying we acknowledge your application bang, bang, bang all of the way through to job offers being put out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Mr. Thompson to answer that question.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Departments identify vacancies in their divisions or their departments, they fill out a staff action request which they submit to the Department of Human Resources with the job description; that job description is reviewed for the duties and assign the report rating on the modified ace system that we use for job evaluation. The department also verifies that the staffing record has been

signed off by the proper authorities and he indicated that the standard of service for that is five days.

Once the job has been evaluated, it's then submitted to staffing for competition. The staffing division; they are assigned to various staffing consultants based on their departmental assignments.

Those consultants are in contact with the hiring department, the submitting department to determine if it has had a successful or competent ad, that ad is then placed with our broker, the ad then runs in the newspapers as the industry standard is two weeks for closure.

Upon closure of the competition, the staff consultant communicates with the hiring department and sets up a meeting where those applications are screened, and as I said, we will accept applications right up until the moment of screening. The applications are then screened, and then candidates are identified and interviewed applying the priority hiring policy, reference checks are done, and then job offers are made, and if they are accepted, then our corporate services division kicks in and does the employee relocation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once those applications are received, are there other letters sent out to the people that applied for these positions acknowledging receipt of their application? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** That's a difficult question to answer so I will explain how that happens in that process. It's the answer to know. Only those people that we interview are actually contacted.

However, as more and more resumes and applications come in online, there's an acknowledgement sent out because many of these candidates are also asked for job descriptions, but all candidates who apply in a competition who are eligible for appeal rights are informed of that to any position, and then if it's a beneficiary or a current Government of Nunavut employee, they all have appeal rights.

So any candidate who has applied for a competition who does have appeal rights is notified of the successful candidates and notified of their appeal rights, and of course, all of the candidates who were interviewed are contacted by mail or in person to issue the staffing regret and of course, the successful candidate is contacted as well.

We do not send out form letters to every single application, we just don't have the resources to do that. Some of our competitions generate, literally, hundreds of applicants. We hope that the development and implementation of P2K system will at some point



allow some automated service where there is acknowledgement to every single applicant. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman. Let's just say for numbers sake, we'll use the tabled document Return to Oral Question that Mr., the Minister made to Mr. Curley, just to follow, we can numbers to go with here and follow up through the process. On that particular position, there were 48 applicants, 19 were beneficiaries. 29 were non-beneficiaries and the selection committee, I would assume, have decided to interview five beneficiary candidates.

Would then that assume all the other candidates that applied for the position were screened out because they weren't qualified for that position? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a particular competition and I have the data before me. The answer to that is yes. The five Inuit candidates who were screened in were invited for interviews. I understand from that competition none of those candidates successfully passed the interview.

At that point, the department met with Department of Human Resources and they looked at hiring the top two candidates as casuals, to help them develop some of the skills that are performed in the duties of that job.

Any candidate, as I said, who applied has appeal rights, and that would include all Nunavut Land Claim Beneficiaries, as well as all current Government of Nunavut employees, they would have been informed of their appeal rights in that situation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Out of the 29 non-beneficiaries that applied for that position, from this then, that would indicate that none of them were qualified for that position. None of them met the screening criteria, is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Thompson.

**Mr. Thompson:** That's not necessarily correct. When the staffing consultant reviews the file, they would attempt to identify all Nunavut Land Claim Beneficiaries first. And if we had, in this case, five Nunavut Land Claim Beneficiaries who were qualified, we wouldn't necessarily look at the other candidates.

We would be looking at those because of the Priority Hiring Policy. If we were unsuccessful in finding a successful beneficiary candidate, the department then is able to look at the non-beneficiary candidates.

As I said in this case, this was the Department of Finance, they were very cooperative and really wishing very much to find a beneficiary for that job, so, they indicated that they wanted to attempt to take the top two scoring candidates and hire them on a casual basis, they hired one which didn't work out. They're hired now the second candidate and I understand that person is working out. But, these were candidates who had beneficiary status.

So, it doesn't mean that some of the non-beneficiary applicants weren't qualified. It simply means that we found candidates who met the Priority Hiring Policy Standards, as well as met the criteria for the screening. We would look at those candidates first and exclusively, until we've exhausted that, and then we would move onto other candidates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As far as meeting the criteria, I understand how I think I understand how Priority Hiring Policy works is that if any beneficiary that is screened in for an interview achieves 60 or more on interview, regardless of whether a non-beneficiary applicant achieves higher than them.

That beneficiary would be offered first crack at position. Like I said, I have no problem with that. Mr. Petersen indicated earlier and talked about an individual case that you're aware of where the person is competent, but he has a hard time in interviews.

But in this case, if you are indicating that one of things that you have to achieve to be able to meet the criteria of the priority hiring policy of 60% on the interview, and if they didn't, then you'd also said that the policy, you go to the non-beneficiaries that applied for the position.

And if I can read between the lines here and this on is that, the department and the government didn't even bother looking at applicants for that position in particular, but the numbers in front of it that were qualified and that were non-beneficiaries.

Even though after applying, the priority hiring policy and the screening and interviewing applies beneficiary candidates, none of whom passed, is still disregarded the applications of the non-beneficiaries that were qualified that applied for the position, is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Essentially, yes, Mr. Chairman. With what I'm trying to convey here is that departments throughout the Government of Nunavut are making what I consider to

be legitimate and honest attempts to find beneficiaries to fill the positions, especially positions that we might consider entry or mid-level.

In this particular case, the member is correct, the five applicants who are beneficiaries who are not successful, who we are interviewing, who are not successful in the interview, normal process would indicate that you would then look at the file and identify perhaps the non-beneficiary candidates who met the qualifications, the screening qualifications and interview them.

That would have resulted in a non-beneficiary being made a job offer to a position that we probably feel better could be met by a beneficiary. So, the department at this point and time has not staffed the position, to the competitive process, they met with our department and indicated that they would like to take the opportunity to take the candidate in the interviews who scored the highest mark, even though they weren't found suitable, but found that they had the highest mark and work with that candidate and hope that they could, while on the job, develop and train some, learn some necessary skills to be successful in that role. I understand the first attempt of that was unsuccessful.

They then move to the second candidate and I understand that that has been working out much better for the department and I hear from them that they are contemplating a direct appoint of that candidate which would put a beneficiary in that position, which is what we're all here trying to accomplish.

So, I recognize that is outside of the normal procedure of the competition process, but we certainly are happy that the department came to us with that request and that we worked with them to identify and help to develop a beneficiary to fulfill that duty. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in the minister's opening comments and in the Hansard from December 1, as a number of times where they say that all hiring in the Government of Nunavut is guided by a priority hiring policy and guidelines are developed and in place to insure consistency and fairness and departments are required to comply with that.

It appears that the assistant deputy minister just indicated with a situation that didn't follow those guidelines and I'm not saying, I've seen lots of cases like this happen over the years and a lot of times what departments will do is they will offer a non-beneficiary a term position and work with the beneficiaries that applied to be able to train them, so that at the end of that term that beneficiary can do the job and is qualified and able to do the job.

But, my concern with this, and I believe it is one of the responsibilities of the Department of Human Resources is to ensure fairness and equity and to ensure that policies and procedures are followed and they are there for a reason, so that we don't get sued.

I'm just wondering if the fact that the job ad didn't state for a beneficiary only; does that open the door up because of what happened in this particular case and the potential for liability or a discrimination claim to be made on the government, and I think that that's something that we have to be very careful to steer away from and that's why our policies and procedures are in place.

It looks like in this particular case you just opened the floodgates wide open for, I am not saying it will happen, but if that's followed, again, that has the potential of happening, and I think it would be remissive of any of us to not try and identify areas of concern like that where we could, as a government, end up being liable for not treating people properly according to our policies and procedures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a valid point and we recognize the complexity with which the staffing process undergoes with all of the demands and pressures on people to work as hard as we can to find Inuit employment. We are sensitive to non-beneficiary applicants. We are responsive to that process as I pointed out earlier.

This situation is not ended, I mean this employee is currently a casual, and because they need to do these as a job to be fulfilled. So the person is occupying a job as a casual. So it's very easy for us to go back to our regional office in Rankin Inlet and meet with the departments say: 'How do we want to proceed with this?'

We can go back to the active file, we can look at the non-beneficiary candidates, we could identify a candidate who is suitable for the job, hire that person on a term to train the casual person who seems to be working out fairly well, and that would be a good solution to that.

So I very much respect the member's point; it's very important that we are aware and we will take every step to ensure that those processes are adhered to and then followed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In a case like this, I believe it's, with the system that the minister indicated, it was the department that came forward with that proposal.

Would it not be the department be obligated to inform them that it did go outside of the procedures, and then offer the different solutions to them, and that action that they did something like that would and could potentially open them up for some type of a claim of a discriminatory action?

So did the department do that to the Department of Finance? Did they inform them that by doing that action if that's what they would actually be doing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson:** No, Mr. Chairman. What I would like to express is that the department needed a person in that position so they hired they say now the second candidate as a casual. The competition has not been filled; that position still remains as an indeterminate position, vacant.

We will go back to the department and talk to them about the very thing that the member has raised that if they want to follow procedures, we would be of course insisting on the fact that they go back to the file, look at the non-beneficiaries, find somebody who may have the suitable qualities to perform the duties of that job, hire that person on an interim basis to train the candidate that seems to be successfully being able to develop those skills.

So I would say that this situation has not yet been resolved, it's still open only because the employee is occupying a casual position and has not been offered a full-time permanent position.

The department has suggested to us the possibility of a direct appointment. Our advice to them will be along the line to what Mr. Tootoo suggested that it would be wiser, with respect to the procedures, that we hire a non-beneficiary if they qualified on a term position to train the beneficiary candidate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Tootoo your time is up. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I look at the stats here, you appear to be doing slightly better than previous years if the information I have on this public service annual report is correct. We now have on or about 45% of the Inuit beneficiaries working for Government of Nunavut. Am I correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes, it is up to 46% Inuit beneficiaries working for the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** That still says to me that stats only indicate the Inuit beneficiary employment status. It does not say non-beneficiaries government employee, so I would try and indicate that there is probably roughly 64% of the government employment is still non-beneficiary, so you quote far from your objective, if your objective is what, what is your objective in the long run?

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Our objective is to hire Nunavut Inuit beneficiaries then we would like to get representative numbers. We have a goal which states that 85% of Government of Nunavut employees will be Inuit. So, that's what we're trying to follow by.

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

**Mr. Curley**: Correct, that message is clear. Why would you want to create an employment of 85% or more, why not 100%? What is the magic number and why are you taking such a slow approach in achieving, trying to achieve 85% representative level and could you maybe tell this house exactly what you mean by beneficiaries staff in terms of land claims agreement? What is the big deal about that 85% thing in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement?

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Well, Article 23 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement of Nunavut states that Nunavut Government employees will have to follow the representative, we have to be representative of the population, so therefore the 85% target was set.

Article 23 is stating that Government of Nunavut employees will have to have a representative level of the Nunavut population and we consider this in various ways within the Inuit employment division. We even have a division of Inuit employment within our department to make sure that we comply with that article of the Land Claims Agreement. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley**: Yes, I want to be clear because I want to share, I do believe in the objective. If there were a court case to try and challenge that whatever your policy is, I want to ask you a question. If that were to happen, would the Article 23 provision in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement prevail over the Government of Nunavut policy? Not because I want to challenge your ruling, but what are the chances that someone that is a non-Inuit beneficiary were to challenge that employment policy and say: 'I have been discriminated.' Is the Article 23 discriminatory? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): If we look at Article 5 in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement why Nunavut was created, and it states in there and I am sure all of us are aware why we started negotiating land claims about 30 years ago.

In the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement it states: 'Once Nunavut is created, it will be called Government of Nunavut, but it will be a public government.'

Having said that, Article 23 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement specifically states as to how many employees they should have. Since Nunavut was created through Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and the Nunavut Act, if we try to change Article 23, Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada will have to consider this jointly if they wanted to make amendments to Article 23.

So this agreement is in between the three parties and it's in the constitution. So we are just trying to comply with the legislation and statutes. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley:** So the answer is that Article 23 is not discriminatory because it has a certain provision and recognition of the constitution.

I want you to confirm that. In the event that the government's current employment policy for hiring civil service is being conflicting with Article 23 or in the eyes of some individuals or Members of the Legislative Assembly. Is there a provision in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement of which should prevail?

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): First of all, as to which statute or agreement would prevail, it's evident that if we were put into court, I am sure we will have to protect the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, but it would be up to the courts to make that decision.

But in regards to Article 23 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, it includes this and that's why we are complying with it and we are working hard to comply with it.

So it can be in two ways: Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated can approach us and tell us to look at this Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, there's Article 23, how come there are not enough representatives of Inuit in Government of Nunavut workforce? I thought you all had agreed to the number of Inuit employed.

If that happened in court or if there was a liability case, I am sure the Government of Nunavut would try and protect Article 23, but it would be up to the total discretion of the court decision.

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

**Mr. Curley:** The reason I am asking that is because I seem to recall that Article 2 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement as a clear provision in the event there was a conflict

between laws of governments, including Government of Nunavut, including municipalities that agreement is quite clear that the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement would prevail.

So I want the minister to be quite clear that I think you are on the same ground in trying to at least put 85 percent level of Inuit employment because not all non-Inuit people train more workers coming in.

I think it's vice versa because people that are not beneficiaries normally have to be trained to be sensitive to the representative level and the demographics of the population in this region as well as including the orientation for sensitivity as well with the cross-cultural training needed to effectively carry out the job.

Is that part of the training that normally is taken into consideration? It's not just one-sided, Inuit must be trained because some are getting along quite well through the educational system. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Article 23 states that the government has authority to have a representative of the population. So that's why we have amended our priority hiring policy.

So during the consideration of those, we have faced difficulties and challenges. If you become a government employee, these are the things that you have to know.

We do orientation to Government of Nunavut staff about Inuit societal values and also, it states in there that if a non-beneficiary is hired within Government of Nunavut that they should be orientated of the uniqueness of Inuit and their culture.

In there, we still want to do some Inuktitut as second language to the individual staffs to train them in the Inuktitut language for the non-beneficiaries. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. In reference to the comment that you just made in the teaching of the Inuktitut language and the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, I believe that's a policy of the government.

There have been workshops held in the communities to orientate the new employees about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and how much money is used to hold those workshops? Are the participants mostly non-Inuit? Thank you.

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



**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have my deputy minister respond to your question.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a government, we orientate employees of the government, and especially the new government employees to teach them about the government procedure, and also to teach the non-Inuit about the Inuit culture, and also the way the system works up here.

For example, just last week on March 14, we had a workshop for new employees, and the majority of the participants were Qallunaat. There were some Inuit but it was a whole day workshop, we taught them what their rights were, what was about their salaries and how the whole financial system works, their leaves and credits and also on Pinasuaqtavut which outlines the goals of the government.

Also, they were oriented on the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement that we hosted through Nunavut Tunngavik, we also get people who used to work or negotiate for the agreement, we also teach them about the Inuit culture and we have also sent them out on the land on a day trip or to in the summer to go out there on the land with participants from the elders and interpreters are provided.

And we're starting to do that outside of Iqaluit also and in the ten years we have a goal to orientate 1,500 employees. We're going to start going through the planning process with that goal in mind. The one is culture orientation and the employment orientation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I'm very pleased to hear that we're seeing these orientation programs and I see more Inuit teaching. The employees are orientated and even the teachers are starting to do that and I'm sure that the new employees enjoy those orientation programs. Are most of the government departments doing those orientations and are they planning for it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for clarification. The Department of Human Resources are not the only ones making those types of plans. The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth are involved in that and we work together to put those plans.

In regards to your second question, it will be answered by the deputy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do, we want to start putting plans together so that they can have an orientation programs at the community level and in the Kitikmeot, Baffin, and Kivalliq, there have been participants. We have had regional representatives sitting in on these planning sessions and in order to help the communities we have put together a CD which will be updated shortly.

This CD will be given to the new employees and for the ones who are hired at the larger centers can access that information through the computer or through the internet. It will give you an outline of Inuit culture, the government's goals and priorities and for the smaller communities, and those who don't have access to the Internet will be receiving the CD's. We are looking at September 2005 where we will be giving out the updated CD's. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. That's very good to hear. There are more and more people who are working for the government.

Another question that I wanted to ask is in regards to the Inuit hiring policy. Even though we do have a policy, I don't think it means that you are going to be hiring people who don't have the adequate training or skills. There are quite a lot of people who have not worked for the government, but because of the education level going up, there are more people coming in.

When we say priority hiring it doesn't mean that you are going to start hiring people who don't have the qualifications or the skills. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Well it doesn't mean that. For example, if a job opportunity comes out and if the interested individuals; we will make sure that they have the skills and so on.

We just follow those policies, but we do focus on the beneficiaries and they are always the first ones to be screened. Once every applicant is reviewed and if the beneficiaries don't qualify for that position, then we will look at the other applicants. If a job opportunity comes up, the beneficiaries would be the first ones reviewed. If there's none there, we would review the others.

We look for the qualifications and skills required to fill that job, and again, we have the Inuit Employment Division which is there to provide support to beneficiaries... we're constantly evolving and changing. We are looking at how everyone can better help the Inuit get government jobs through resume writing workshops and so on.

But in order to answer your question, if it's an Inuk, it doesn't mean that they will automatically get the job; it depends on their qualifications and skills, but they would be reviewed first and foremost. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): I have another question either to the deputy minister or the assistant deputy minister.

When we talk about on-the-job training, people out there automatically think that they are doing that just because it's an Inuk, but I have been working for a very long time, but when a Qallunaaq goes in or an Inuk, even if they start at level one as a clerk, they get training so that they can up the rope.

People out there think that they just train Inuit, but I don't think that's the case. Maybe the minister can clarify this. Even if you are an Inuk, Qallunaaq, French, there's always orientation training and professional development available to all of those employees. Isn't that the case?

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's very true. Once you start then you get the training. What I was saying is when the Inuit are applying and during the interview process they are a little bit intimidated by the whole thing.

So, were going to change the interview process so that the Inuit feel more at ease at the process and after the interview of course they would be rated as the interview goes along, and he might be very well qualified or skilled to fit into the position but through the rating system he might not make it to that minimum mark.

So, we would suggest on how he could improve the resume writing or the interview process. If he can't fill out the application, even though he wants to try for a job, then Department of Human Resources can help him the resume writing and the job process.

There are training programs available and there is even a coordinator and at this time we are, we now have policies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I would even believe that if they say that Inuit are just being preferred but we do want to see a representative of the population in the government system.

Does the aboriginal self government, which I do believe in, the ones who did that, they failed. I wanted to see a public government and Inuit are not the only ones working here. We have the majority of the employees in the government are non-beneficiaries. The

Government, and there is also larger non-Inuit in the private sector and there is more non-Inuit living in these staff houses.

We have contributed a lot as Inuit and we're going to keep doing so as we create jobs within the government. But what I want to see is 85% in the government which would be representative of the population and I think we are moving too slow in that direction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes, I agree with the member. We have to do more but if our government is going to run properly, we have to be able to hire competent people.

So, with that, then that is why we'd like to be able to train summer students and also we have goal and we have our policies and our guidelines that we have to be able to hire competent and this is what we are going to be doing in our Department of Human Resources.

And we'd like to be able to rush or try to get the Inuit employees into the government departments. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. As I stated earlier, subject to the discretion of the chair, Mr. Tootoo you, I'll give you one more. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to go back to that item that we referred to earlier about the return to oral question.

Mr. Chairman, so once the selection committee, I guess, says here that you unanimously agreed to re-advertise that position at a later date and hoped that they would be able to recruit a qualified beneficiary.

I would interpret that competition is closed and you have decided that they are going to re-advertise it at some future point in time. Would that be a correct assumption? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Thompson**: No. In the competition filed, if it's six months or less, we consider them to still be active and as I said, the position is currently staffed on a casual basis, but the department has expressed some interest in looking at a direct appointment.

Our advice to them would be to go back into the file, look at the non-beneficiary candidates who are qualified, interview them, and maybe make them an offer. The term position that can train the casual who seems to be doing well in the position as I stated.

If the file is over six months old, it tends to be dated and some of those candidates have found other work and may not be interested. So in situations where the file is over six months, we do tend to go to re-advertising. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to reassure my colleagues here that I am all for Article 23 and working towards a representative workforce in Nunavut of beneficiaries.

Having said that, we are a public government and we do have policies and procedures in place that are there for a reason would have to be followed. We have a priority hiring policy that's there to help our government, help Inuit try to obtain work and try to bring up our percentage of beneficiaries in the workforce.

But I think that that's and the policy is there for a reason. You had indicated yesterday that they are reviewing it and then looking at bringing on some changes, and hopefully some of these things that have been identified over the last couple of days will help refine that so that we can come up with something that does work better so that people don't feel that they don't stand a chance or that they don't feel that they are being discriminated against.

As you know as Mr. Curley pointed out earlier, there are a number of people, and Mr. Peterson as well, that I know that have a good education and they have qualifications yet and they are Inuit, but they can't get jobs. Some of the people that are there that talk to me, they don't even get screened in for an interview.

So maybe when you are going through this process of screening, who is on the screening committee and are there names of people that...I don't care if this name shows up or not we are going to look at it for whatever reason or what because that's, I think it's a growing concern out there, I have heard it from a few members and I have heard it in my community on a number of occasions from different people.

I just want, for the record, I know what the answer should be, but I would like to hear from you for the record so that they can hear it and see it for themselves that they should have the same right and the ability to get screened in if they meet the basic criteria for any position. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Ms. Okpik to respond to that question.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like Assistant Deputy Minister mentioned that they do the screening first before the interview. We usually have the screening people put in place even before we know, we put the advertisement in the media, they already plan before there are interviews or screening.

Because we usually have the screening criteria in place even before there is, we put out the advertisement. In accordance with the priority hiring, we always have the Inuit put in first, they screen them, and then before the interview, that's the way it has always been. We don't go around saying that I see this name, we don't want that. We don't do that.

And, we have a plan in place even before we look at the names or do screening or whatever. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am relieved to hear that for the record because I could have told the individual the same thing but you know I think it is important that they hear on the record, coming from the head of the department and I know that the heads make sure that their staff follow and the other departments follow those guidelines.

Mr. Chairman, the minister yesterday indicated that they're reviewing the priority hiring policy as per cabinet directive and I'm just wondering when they plan on having that if you can refresh my memory from yesterday, I think it was 2006 you said yesterday, so I wonder if I could get that clarified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes, Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The date or the month that I said would be completed for the review or the changes done is in August to be we would want to finish that by 2005.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When did that change from the March 31, 2005 deadline that's in the department's business plan on the 15<sup>th</sup>? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the member's question, I will get Miss Okpik to respond on why that date has been changed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we have, we always look at review everything in the business plans. Sometimes we have to delay some items because our policy people are have a lot to do during the exclusive handbook and public service act and so we have to delay a lot of stuff that we have to do so we have three casuals at the present time doing all those things that I mentioned. We could not be finished by March 31 so we put it to August. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to refer now to the Hansard that was handed out and I know that the minister and his staff have it in front of them. In his response to the written question that I asked him on November 29, he had indicated when I was asking a question on the hiring policy of the department and of the government, and one of the quotes, that was a nice quote from my question, and if look at page 645 the second last paragraph where it says that we are a representative government and are obligated to hire on the basis of fairness and equity and if the community feels that . . . this process is not fair, then we are obligated to ensure fairness and equity.

I am just wondering if the minister could refresh my memory through what was in between those dots? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): I am forgetful like you and I don't have the Hansard from that date but I will certainly inform him accordingly. I am not really exactly sure what those three dots contain.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Minister Tapardjuk, You don't have the Hansard on page 645?

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): I have the page 645 of December 1, 2004, I have a copy of it.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He has it there, if memory serves me correct and I didn't want to say it wrong, but I think if the community feel whether it's correct or not that this process is not fair, we are obligated to ensure fairness and equity.

Maybe I would just like to ask minister if he could explain that as a direction going from an employer to an employee if the lead department in the labour relations under the staffing could just explain that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will let my deputy minister respond to that.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Human Resources, we receive letters all of the time from the people who had applied for positions from the communities or from the employees or from the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

We study those and if there's an indication of why those people didn't get the jobs, we go through them to make sure that there were no discrepancies during the process. We respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the case where the departments are unsure of what to do and in the case like this when someone comes to them and say that something is not fair and again whether they're right or not, does the Department of Human Resources advise other departments in giving them advice on what to say on exactly like this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes, that is very true. The departments sometimes ask us for advice on what we should do. But then, their own departments and it's up to them and what has been the case before is that we tell the departments that it would be more, better according to the policies if you go through this route. But then it's up to the department. But we try and give them advice that in Department of Human Resources we have these policies and regulations and if you go through this route. We try and advise them on those things. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the part I was quoting from on there and then the minister almost quotes back on complete check of the words whether it is right or not correct or not. In this particular case, did the department provide advise to the department that had the questions in this case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I was already informed when they first started dealing with this and we were advised that the department would be runned better and be more effective if they do things in a certain way but we leave the discretion up to the individual departments and we continue to do that up to now. That is the advice that we give them. If they ask us for assistance, then we



tell them the same approach. But it is up to the department and up to those people. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, and this wording and the reason I was asking the question at that time was that you know one really looked that, you can see that, if the community doesn't feel that it is fair or right whether they are right or not, that the government is obligated to act and that could be anywhere.

And you know, I saw that, the dangerous precedents and if that is the case, you know if the community does not feel that something is fair or equitable, they want the government to act on it, who do they have the contact? And how many people have to contact who in order for them to be obligated to act on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have our own policies and regulations and collective agreement, public services acts and employ any new and we try to abide by those agreements. I don't know if there a problem in Iglulik or Hall Beach or one of the employees, if there is a complaint towards the employee, there are procedures that we have to follow and we do follow the procedures that we have to go through and if there is a concern, we can check into it and maybe have negotiate with the department but because it is mainly dealt with by the appropriate departments.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I still, I guess, wonder if my interpretation of that reading is even if a community doesn't feel that it's fair or equitable, they can go to someone and let them know that and then the government is obligated to act on it.

My question was: who do they go to and how many of them have to go who in order for the action to be taken? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes. It depends on who is having problems, whether it's individuals or the co-workers, but from what I have heard a lot of times it's the Members of the Legislative Assembly that get the most complaints from the people, and there are individuals out there who have difficulties.

As Human Resources, we have to abide by the policies and procedures that we have and we try to follow on that policy and procedure, but we try to advise them that it would be better for them to go through this route. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess having said that and heard that, I am just wondering a couple of things.

Is there, at any time, advice given from the Department of Human Resources that has been not taken and are there other times when the Department of Human Resources would say, "Okay, for whatever reason, you can't do that or you have to do this," and then instruct the department of that so that they have to go for whatever reason.

And I guess having said that, that statement on the government is obligated to hire on fairness and the basis of fairness and equity, and if the community feels whether correct or not this process is not fair, then the government is obligated to act on it to ensure it.

Would the minister and the department, would they concur with that statement that basically that anyone can go and complain to anyone that something is not fair and then the government is obligated to act on it. I know a number of us have brought up the idea of whistleblower protection legislation.

This is the kind of thing that could be looked at being protected, where the people whether, rightly or wrongly, are targets or they have malicious rumors or innuendo about them in the community, it doesn't matter where it is, it happens all over the county and I am sure it happens all over the world, but in most cases I know of, governments are not obligated to act on it.

It kind of seems odd that here, this government is saying that they are obligated to act on it and I would just like to find out from the minister if they agree with that statement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Just a moment, please. We have a point of order. Mr. Curley.

### **Point of Order**

**Mr. Curley:** The point is that the Article 23 or what not that the member is alluding to is really basing on the basis of the individual, not that the community has no status or rights. So, I am really trying to help you, that you would guide this committee, that the question raised be based on individuals looking for jobs or hiring, if that's what it is. But, no, the government doesn't hire communities, nor is there provision for appeal to the community. So, I'm just questioning, how the community of any kind, in heaven or hell, really apply.

**Chairman:** To the point of order, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe just to clarify it for the member, because it seems like he's a little bit out in left field on this one, I'm not talking about anything to do with Article 23. I'm talking about staff policies under the government, outside of Article 23, so, I don't believe there is a Point of Order. The document that I'm referring

to is here in front of us, and it has nothing to do with hiring communities or people, it doesn't matter where they're from. I don't know where the member's coming from on this point of order. Pretty sure when we hear back from the speaker on that ruling or someone that it won't be a point of order. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Curley, I have to listen to both of you. I rule no point of order and I have no more members on my list.

Mr. Minister, can you respond to Mr. Tootoo's question.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll let my deputy respond to that question. Maybe she'll be much clearer.

**Chairman**: Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to say that the Department of Human Resources definitely went to public pressure on when we receive any types of issues or complaints or any types of letters or inquiries, we investigate. We take every type of HR issue seriously and we respond by looking into it and we respond to people. We respond to people, whether it be a phone call or a matter and we, I'd like to say that we do not change our policies or procedures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Miss Okpik. I don't have any more names on my list. Branch summary. Baffin. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$6,590,000. Does this committee agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman**: Branch, Human Resource. Branch summary. Assistance Deputy Minister and Community Operations. Department. Total. Operation and Maintenance. \$2,658,000. Does this committee agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Human Resources branch summary. Job evaluation and operational design. Sorry, job evaluation and organizational design. Total operation and maintenance, \$729,000. Does this committee agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman**: Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've got some questions on this page, but I recognize the clock. I would just like to check with my colleagues before I go on with questions, if they'd rather report progress now and or continue on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is not a motion, just an inquiry.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. I'd like to ask the members of this committee if you want to continue on. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The members of the committee today or yesterday did not agree to sit tomorrow, which I would have preferred in view of the fact that we have two more days possible. I'd like to report progress. Thank you...

**Chairman:** Thank you. The motion is in order and it's not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. Thank you. I would like to thank Minister Tapardjuk and your staff, and I will now rise to report progress.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman Evyagotailak.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering tabled document 52 – 2(2) and Bill 8 and would like to report progress. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of this Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. There's a motion on the Floor. Who is the seconder for the motion? Mr. Tootoo. The motion is in order. All those in favour, please rise. Opposed. Abstained. The motion is carried. Orders of the Day. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Clerk.

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

**Clerk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Orders of the Day for Monday, March 21, 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. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in the Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Tabled Document 52 - 2(2)
  - Bill 8
  - Bill 9
  - Bill 10
  - Bill 11
  - Bill 12
  - Bill 13
  - Bill 14
  - The Report of the Chief Electoral Officer
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The House will reconvene on Monday, March 21, 10:00 in the morning.

Sergeant at arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:20*

