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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday November 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 Allen 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 will ask Mr. Alagalak to do the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning Mr. Premier, ministers, and members. Orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' statement. Mr. Akesuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 008 – 2(3): Wildlife Regulations

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Good morning, Mr. Speaker. The development of a made-in-Nunavut system of wildlife management began several years ago with the *Wildlife Act*, which was passed by the Legislative Assembly in December of 2003. That Act was developed in partnership with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board involved in extensive consultation in Nunavut.

Since that time we have been working to develop the regulations that are necessary for the Act to function. The same working group that developed the Act has completed the 12 regulations and we have just completed regional consultations on these regulations with the Hunters' and Trappers' organization and Regional Wildlife organizations, also Nunavut's HTOs and RWOs.

This week a second round of consultations is taking place here in Iqaluit. This second meeting was being hosted by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and will involve representatives from all HTOs and RWOs. This meeting will entail a detailed review of all the matters that fall within the jurisdiction of NWMB.

Following this week's meeting all feedback from HTOs and RWOs will be analyzed, the final changes will be made and drafts will be submitted to the NWMB for their review and decision. Following the NWMB decision making process the regulations will be finalized and prepared for implementation. I expect that we will be in the position to implement the regulations in early 2006. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Picco.

Minister's Statement 009 – 2(3): National Child Day

Hon. Ed Picco: Ullaakkut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating National Child Day on November 20, 2005. National Child Day gives us an opportunity to recognize children and youth as full citizens and acknowledge their human rights.

Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage all Nunavummiut to take the time to celebrate our children and their potential. Children are the foundation of our future and we as families, caregivers, teachers, communities, and as a government play an important role in encouraging and supporting the participation of our children in society.

Our government provides programs from birth to adulthood that support continued learning of our children and youth.

The Healthy Children's Initiative gives all communities in Nunavut access for funding for family-centered early childhood programs such as prenatal classes and Parents & Tots, to support the development of young children and their families.

Mr. Speaker, community-based services such as licensed childcare facilities, our public schools, and community learning centres help our children and youth become the best that they can be.

Here in Iqaluit, the licensed childcare facilities celebrate National Child Day by holding an annual parade. This is a wonderful way to let the children celebrate in a way they understand and show them that they are important and valued.

Mr. Speaker, this year, the parade will be held this afternoon (Friday, November 18, 2005), Mr. Speaker, this is beginning at three o' clock in front of the Legislative Assembly and it's going to end at the Cadet Hall; from the Legislative Assembly to the Cadet Hall is about 600 feet.

So I would take this opportunity to invite all of my colleagues to join with you, Mr. Speaker, at the head of the parade with Mr. Tootoo, and myself from his wonderful statement yesterday, to celebrate this wonderful occasion and to march with the children from the daycares in the community so that the people across Nunavut will see us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister Simailak.

Minister's Statement 010 – 2(3): New Assistant Deputy Minister and Assistant Comptroller General

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great pleasure to welcome the executive of the Department of Finance, Mr. Victor Tootoo as Assistant Deputy Minister and Mr. Gerry O'Donnell as Assistant Comptroller General.

Mr. Tootoo played a major role in the development of the Department of Finance from 1998 to 2003 in the capacity of Assistant Deputy Minister of Fiscal Management. For the last two years, he has been an Assistant Deputy Minister in the Department of Health and Social Services. He now has responsibilities for the Policy and Planning Branch, including fiscal and economic policy, corporate services and planning, and for financial relations with Ottawa. He will also manage support for the Crown Agency Council.

Recently, Mr. Tootoo has earned a Certified General Accountant designation, becoming, I understand, the first Inuk in Nunavut to acquire a professional accounting designation.

>>*Applause*

We all recognize that this is quite an achievement.

Mr. O'Donnell, also a Certified General Accountant, joins us from the Government of Alberta, where he has acquired over 25 years of senior financial management and systems experience.

He has worked as a Director of Finance, Director of Internal Audit or Senior Finance Officer in several departments and agencies. He has responsibility for the Comptrollership Branch, including government accounting, compensation and benefits, financial operations, and regional financial services.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that the Department of Finance will benefit greatly from the experience and ability of these two executives and I am very pleased to have them on my team. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Minister's Statement 011 – 2(3): Midwifery and Maternal Care Initiative

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good morning everyone. Mr. Speaker, as part of the Department of Health and Social Services' Closer to Home Strategy we are expanding the range and location of maternal care and midwife services in Nunavut over the next few years.

With the help of dedicated advice the department is involved in a number of programs and processes that will train new maternal care workers and midwives and promote the professional development of midwives and stakeholders, formalize maternal care initiatives, and develop legislation to support the professions in Nunavut. Enhanced maternal and health care is an important part of building healthy communities in Nunavut. We all need to make sure our children get the best start possible in life.

Mr. Speaker I'd like to share a few specific examples. First, a two-year long training has just begun in Rankin Inlet. The program is a result of a partnership between Nunavut Arctic College in consultation with Manitoba's new aboriginal midwifery education program. The training program offers a stepped approach. Graduates of year one will receive a maternal care workers certificate. Those who graduate in year two will receive a diploma.

The program is now being piloted by two students. By the time classes end in June of 2008 Nunavut will have more than two dozen people qualified to work in maternal care and midwifery in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the midwifery system in maternal care is part of our traditional practice and I am pleased to see emphasis in this direction. Second, in addition to the new training program, work is underway with Manitoba University College of the north to develop a degree equivalency program. This is available through distance education including tele-health to Nunavut based students. This professional development would allow current and maternal care workers to significantly upgrade their skills while living working in Nunavut.

Third, the Department of Health and Social Services is now in the early stages of developing legislation to support the practice of midwifery in Nunavut. Legislation would be similar to that found in other Canadian jurisdictions with features to Nunavut.

Currently, maternal care staff follow policies that have been in place since 1993. The department has developed new standards of competency and practice that are now in approval.

Fourth, the Midwives Association in Nunavut was formed earlier this year. It will focus on building a network among midwives and maternal care workers in Nunavut as well as provide advice and support to government and others.

Mr. Speaker, I think the department's action makes clear our commitment to enhancing maternal and newborn health services. I would note in closing that we are also committed to accountability. To this end Nunavut's midwifery implementation update has been prepared that I will be sharing with health committees, mayors and councils, Inuit organizations in Nunavut, and Members of this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 012 – 2(3): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand up today to thank the Members of this House in coordinating the recommendations of the newly appointed 15 Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit members. I am pleased to announce Kananginak Pootoogook and George Qulaut are the co-chairs. For the next 3 years I have increased the Katimajit membership to adequately insure that each member's life experience, interest, knowledge, and skills are fully utilized in their areas of expertise.

Their mandate is to provide advice in the incorporation of Inuit societal values to all government programs. Mr. Speaker, the second legislature reaffirms the important role of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit in achieving the government's commitment and goals.

I look forward to the advice and help in improving the operations and services within all aspects of the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 032 – 2(3): Condolences to Ovide Alakannuark on Death of Wife

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to extend my condolences to those of Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay and to our former MLA Ovide Alakannuark on the recent passing of his wife, Victorine.

Ovide and Victorine were married for over 40 years. Their marriage was a long and happy one, and produced many children and grandchildren. The couple was well known and respected in both communities.

Ovide's long record of public service is well known to the Members of this House. I would ask my colleagues to join me in extending sympathies to the family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 033 – 2(3): Elder Abuse

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address an issue that can be considered a hidden tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, the Commissioner's Address that we heard earlier this week contained many fine words about the role of elders in our communities. The speech read "We respect the accumulated wisdom of our elders and they help us combine traditional ways with modern knowledge. Elders provide an inspirational and cultural link from one generation to the next."

These words describe an ideal situation that is not always the reality for our elders today.

Mr. Speaker, that is the way it should be for elders who have worked hard all their lives. It is only in their later years that most elders have the opportunity to rest and enjoy their remaining days in peace and comfort surrounded by family and grandchildren, or even great-grandchildren.

However, Mr. Speaker, in many cases there are elders in Nunavut who are not enjoying their twilight years. At the recent Kitikmeot Inuit Association AGM in Cambridge Bay the issue of Elder Abuse was raised.

What is elder abuse? It doesn't appear to be as recognized a problem as child or spousal abuse. I have talked to my constituents about this issue. Here are some of the examples that they provided to me:

- Relatives harassing elders for money on a weekly basis, even if the relative has their own money but uses it for drugs or alcohol.
- Relatives asking for cigarettes, or money for cigarettes.
- Relatives using elders' houses for alcohol or drug use.
- Relatives taking control of an elder's house, even though the relative is not the actual tenant.
- Relatives damaging the elders' houses and making the elders responsible for damages.
- Relatives residing with the elders don't help pay for the rent or utilities even if they are working.
- Relatives under the influence of a mind-altering substance causing physical harm to the elder.

I don't have any hard numbers on how widespread the issue of elder abuse is across Nunavut, but I think it is an issue the Government of Nunavut should investigate. We owe our elders no less.

I am sure that every Member of this House will join me in encouraging our communities and agencies to help care for our elders and do whatever possible to help them enjoy their remaining years with us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 034 – 2(3): Lack of Care for Elders with Cancer

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in regards to the elders. A lot of us have witnessed where our elders go to the hospitals and after being diagnosed with cancer they are returned to the community and then the relatives are given the responsibility for the care of that elder.

There is no place to call, for those cancer patients, for them to be given moral support. There is nobody to talk to and the relatives of that patient go to their loved one and there is nothing where they can get more information on how to make that patient more comfortable. This is for all of us because we all get affected by those patients, so we should look at this more. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 035 – 2(3): Unqualified Teachers

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we just heard that today is National Child Day. I am very happy. It should be a day for the children every day, for all the children, because they should be healthy and safe at home. Maybe we should recognize them 365 days a year. For that reason they should be taught well so they can have a good, steady job when they are adults.

There are students who are going to Arctic College taking the Teacher Education Program. There are some teachers in the communities who have never taken formal training, who don't have the training to become qualified teachers. And, there are a number of people, teachers, who come up North to teach but they are retired teachers. They don't have the same eagerness or anticipation of teaching the children well.

For those teachers who have the jobs, who are not qualified, that is one of the things where the students are kind of hesitant to attend school.

This is one of the factors that should be looked at more by the Department of Education and those teachers might be teaching something wrong but they don't realize it. This should be looked at further in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 036 – 2(3): Golf Club Donations

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As he just said, about National Child Day, (interpretation ends) I rise today to inform the House of the generous support Pangnirtung youth and children, and Nunavut, as a whole, have received during my Golf Club Donation Drive.

Almost two months ago while traveling to Winnipeg for meetings; I came across a colleague of mine who initiated a chain of emails asking for unused golf clubs from the Ottawa area that they may be able to donate. A couple of days later we were getting ten phone calls from all over the country from people and youth wanting to donate golf clubs, balls, and equipment.

Mind you, we even had offers for a couple of golf carts, some mountain bikes, and artificial greens, which due to transportation costs, we, unfortunately, could not accept. At the end of our two-week's donation drive we had over a thousand golf clubs, over 8,000 golf balls, and other equipment that kids badly needed.

All this equipment had to be transported, of course, up here and First Air generously offered to fly the equipment from Ottawa to Nunavut.

On top of this, Rick Lefebvre, who I had the pleasure of recognizing the House earlier this week, is also holding a golf clinic in Pangnirtung for the kids in the new year. Plus and individual from the Gallis Law firm is holding a clinic for the kids again in the summer. To top this all off Mr. Speaker, 4 youth from Pangnirtung will go to the Annual Cisco Golf Tournament in Ottawa in the 16 years and under category.

Mr. Speaker, this promises to be a very good Christmas when I give the clubs to the kids and the youth of Pangnirtung, especially for those whose parents may have no wage income or for those who cannot afford the expensive equipment through no fault of their own.

Mr. Speaker, I've also made sure the other youth and kids from other communities will benefit from this drive. I have parked a couple to a few complete sets for each of my colleagues to take back home to give to the youth and kids for Christmas who, again, may not have otherwise been able to afford the equipment.

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

Speaker (interpretation): The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Proceed.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. Finally, Mr. Speaker, this was all made possible with the assistance and effort of Janice Brady of Ottawa who I stand today to thank along with all those who donated to this worthy cause, which youth and kids from all Nunavut will appreciate. With that Mr. Speaker I want to end by saying Tiger Woods here we come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 037 – 2(3): GN Office Closure Standards During Blizzards

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform my colleagues that this morning in Rankin and maybe in other Keewatin communities that there a strong winds up to 40 kilometres and expected to go up to 60-80 kilometres, but they are still in school. The public servants are working and people are working.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make a point that the policies they use is inconsistent with the other regions, like in Iqaluit they close the buildings when it doesn't seem to be so windy or even the schools like yesterday. So for that reason I wonder if the government can make policies that are consistent throughout Nunavut and not just in one particular area.

We should be concerned about the safety of those public servants and the students so for that reason I will be asking the government if they can make rules or policies when there is bad weather because they have to try and go to school even in bad weather. So for that reason our children and our public servants shouldn't be in any kind of danger. I wonder if this can be considered by all the Members. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement 038 – 2(3): Aboriginal Veterans Ceremony in Belgium

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I do my Member's Statement I too, want to send my condolences to Ovide Alakannuark and as well to Luke Nuliayok's family in Gjoa Haven. He also passed away yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, I want to highlight an event that took place in France and Belgium in honour of aboriginal veterans that fought in both World Wars. A number of Nunavummiut elders and youth accompanied aboriginal veterans representing the various nations throughout Canada.

I'd like to recognize my mother who was part of the events and she is also a member the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajjit, and was one of the participants from Nunavut. She led the ceremonies at the Canadian War cemetery in Normandy.

Mr. Speaker, aboriginal people played an important role in helping all Canadians maintain a freedom we currently enjoy. I would like to thank *ananaga* Miriam Aglukkaq, Peter Irniq, Sylvia Sharp, Kuttaq Irniq, Lois Suluk, Pauline Pemik, and Delilah Niqsurlaaq for paying tribute to the veterans and for representing all Nunavummiut at this important ceremony. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 039 – 2(3): Art of Politics

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In light of the fact what my colleague from Rankin Inlet North just said about setting up policies with respect to stormy days, I would just like to say something humorous and it's dedicated to the Cabinet side of the House. I hope they don't take it personally and it's the 'Art of Politics'.

Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly, and applying the wrong remedies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 040 – 2(3): Accomplishment of Inuit on Designations

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a statement today acknowledging another first for Inuit.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance indicated that a gentleman by the name of Victor Tootoo, I don't know who he is, who was the first Inuk to get his accounting designation. And Mr. Speaker, sitting directly across from me in this House is the first Inuk to be a lawyer.

Also, Mr. Speaker, today I heard on the radio, this morning, and I know that the father is sitting back there in the interpretation booth, that Atiima's son Thomas became, last week, the first Inuk to get a doctorate in Geology.

So I would like to congratulate him and acknowledge his hard work and the dedication that he received from his family over the long time it took for him to achieve that. Mr. Speaker, it had also been pointed out on the radio this morning that NTI provided Thomas with a congratulatory plaque and \$1,000.

Mr. Speaker, I know that over the last four years, this individual received nothing from the Department of Education to support him in achieving this great goal in furthering his education and becoming another first in Nunavut.

I remember last month I questioned the minister about looking into loopholes and things like this in the FANS program and he had indicated, at that time, and I'll quote his words, "Yes" that he would. I look forward to questioning him to see if this first student achieving a doctorate without any support over the last four years from the Department of Education will be the last time that happens. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Going to the Orders of the Day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Netser.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning, I would like to recognize an individual from Coral Harbour who is here in Iqaluit to review the *Wildlife Act*. He has been the Chair of the HTO for the last nine years, Willy Nikuvak. I would like to welcome him to the Gallery, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Going to the Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 032 – 2(3): Provide Details of I.T. Contract

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education. I believe it was on Wednesday that I asked him some questions about the I.T. technicians in the schools and whether his department is going to be supporting the schools. I am very pleased that the minister is going to be looking into the issue.

At this point, the minister stated that the Community and Government Services and other government departments are there to give support to the communities in regard to computers.

I will say his response in English. (interpretation ends) The minister responded to one of my questions, it stated, "We also contract for public works Community and Government Services." I would like the minister to provide the details of that contract to this House.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I was saying in answer to member's question, different departments of the government, the government is one as a whole.

The quick answer is there is usually an as and when contract in place. For example, if the government departments are having issues with its equipment, whether that's computer equipment, or other equipment within the school, or in a government department, then usually the department is responsible, in this case it would be probably Community and Government Services that deal with public works, under that and then we would provide staff to help facilitate that.

If that is not available, then the department, in this case the Department of Education or a school, has the opportunity within, for example, it could be through the DEA budget, or other school services, or the regional office, to be able to contract the private sector, if it was needed, to be able to help out in that type of incidence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: I appreciate that explanation, but it is, in fact, that if there is an existing contract between Public Works and Government Services, that this policy is fully applied and should be understood by the community because, I am responding and I wanted to explain to the minister, you received a letter from the DEA in July stating that the Chairman of the DEA at Rankin Inlet stated to you in one paragraph, "I have been informed by the Informatics Division of Community and Government Services in Rankin Inlet that they will not involve themselves as technical support of any type at Rankin Inlet's three schools."

Why is there such a discrepancy between the services you say the contract exists to provide services? And maybe it's not the same as the headquarters in Iqaluit.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was talking about inter-service cooperation between government departments. When we look at inter-service cooperation between government departments it follows the whole range, and the member is correct, that should be in place. For example, if there was an emergency and one department had equipment that the other department needed, then you would be able to help facilitate that between the two government departments.

In this case, there was a concern raised in Rankin Inlet where capacity, it might have stated that once there is a capacity issue with the I.T. services, that they weren't able to supply those services all the time, as it were, probably to the schools in Rankin Inlet.

The letter, as the member raised, was I think it was in July and the school wasn't in. Within the budget, and I recognized the issue with I.T. support, that's something that we are working on within the Department of Education, is to try to fund those positions. As we said in the House that you actually need dedicated I.T. professionals or staff within the department to be able to provide the logistic, administrative, and computer support to the schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't want confuse the questions here but I do appreciate the Minister for attempting to clarify the existing policies and current practice of provide computer technician services to the three schools in Rankin Inlet.

But, the District Education Authority stated to you that Community and Government Services has stated that all set requirements were to be handled by the Department of Education. Now my question is which one of the versions is correct.

The contract that stated existed but the Community and Government Services has stated that they will not provide any services any longer and such a requirement would be handled by your department. Could you clarify that information to the schools of Rankin Inlet and to this House please.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have responded to that letter in July to the Member and tried to clarify exactly what had occurred. In this case, in Rankin Inlet the schools had requested IT help within the school itself. My understanding is that Community and Government Services were there to try and to help facilitate that. But after that they acknowledged that with their workload in the community they weren't able to respond to all calls at all the schools because of other issues that they had within other government departments.

In this case, when you have IT support for example in one of the departments they usually try and help the other departments - no different in what we call the Helpdesk where technicians will service the Legislative Assembly or the other areas of government.

Mr. Speaker, that contract we talked about is not a written contract. It's an as-and-when. There is a convention in government for inter-service help within the department that the Member is aware of. I think the bigger issue and I think the Member is correct is that Department of Education needs to have dedicated IT specialists on the ground and in place so that we can actually help and provide those services to our schools.

At the same time if that support is not available from the government directly under the budget allocations within the schools and the District Education Authorities, they can actually use some monies to be able to provide that support at the present time. But, there is a void there and we do need to have those staff members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 033 – 2(3): Gaps in Student Funding – Hadlari

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I note that today the Minister of Education is doing much better with pronunciation so I will ask him a question today. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my Members' Statement I had asked the Minister of Education on March 11, 2005 questions about gaps and funding for students continuing to pursue their education and Ph.D.s, and in the case of Thomas Hadlari, his Doctorate. I'd asked him if he would look at ways in the interim to try and deal with situations like that so that students would get the assistance.

At that time Mr. Speaker, he indicated that he only knew of one instance right now that has been brought to his attention. He'd also indicated that yes, we will be doing that when I asked him about looking into to it immediately to try and find an interim solution to support these students. I'd like to ask the Minister if he could update us on what they did in regards to that situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated at that time, a process of the internal review of the finance program is underway and initiated by the Department of Education to look at the gaps in the Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students programming at the same time look at the amounts our students receive in support of their furthering their educational studies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He has the same answer that we are doing that right now. Mr. Speaker, at the time, I asked him if he would commit to reviewing a specific situation that he had indicated that it had been brought to his attention right away and try to come up with an interim solution to fix that.

My question is that, I know that he had indicated at that time that there is a review going on but he had indicated that he would commit to doing that. So I would like to ask him if he could specifically identify what steps he took in that particular case that he committed to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In conversation with Mr. Tootoo and the specific case that he was talking about, we did do an internal review of the situation to ascertain what the facts are and so on. Under the rules and regulations of the FANS program, the appropriate steps were taken on that case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know that the minister indicated at the time, and again today, that there were cracks, gaps, holes, and loopholes in the system and that's what they were looking at.

He had indicated, then, that he would look into it and try and come up with an interim solution. It sounds to me like they just looked at it and said, “Oh yeah, we can’t help him.”

Is that basically what the minister is saying; that they looked at it, they realized that there was a problem there, but they said they didn’t do anything about it. is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, that is not correct. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It’s nice, for a change, to get a short, concise answer from the minister.

If it’s not correct, I wonder if he could outline, to us, what they did to help this individual or end up not helping this individual to achieve another first, a milestone for Nunavut. So I’d like to ask him, in that review, if he said they did something, what did they do? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because of the issue raised by the member, other members, and the public at large, we did a review as I said. We initiated a review as the Department of Education. There are rules and regulations in place and I would hope to be in a position to be able to bring those changes forward as quickly as possible, as expeditiously as possible.

So the issue that was raised by the member, within the context of the FANS program and services, was dealt with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqurmiut, Mr. Arreak.

Oral Question 034 – 2(3): Providing Information to Communities on HTLV-1

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I had asked some questions and I will try and ask that question again, today, to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

As we have heard, although I didn't say that HTLV-1 started from Clyde River, I just wanted to point that out first. I didn't say that it started from my community first; I think we need to fix the Blues.

Will the minister follow up on this and inform the Clyde River residents that this can have an impact on anybody outside of the internal office, perhaps provide information through the ads such as the media? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From what I understand, the department had prepared information flyers for every community and those are available through the health centre.

I believe there was an ad in the paper or in the process of being an ad in the paper related to HTLV-1 to educate the general public as to what HTLV-1 is. If the member is suggesting we put an ad in the local television, I can direct my staff to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad that the Cabinet can respond to our questions. I have asked for investigation as to who leaked the information, as to who that high-ranking official was. If you are unable to pinpoint who the high-ranking person was, perhaps the minister, the minister is lucky because we have a consensus government because I didn't ask her to resign. If you don't find out who the high-ranking official was, perhaps if you can move to this side from that side. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I mentioned yesterday that the department had researched with the newspaper who that high-ranking official is. I have no control over what the Nunatsiaq News reports. Perhaps the individual, Mr. Bell, who sits in the Gallery today, can identify who the source was in terms of the high-ranking official identified in the newspaper.

Once we have that, we can investigate internally with the assistance of the Department of Human Resources process; if there was a breach of confidentiality, that's a serious issue internally and we have procedures in place to follow in dealing with employees that breach confidentiality.

But I want to reassure the member again, the department did investigate it, we reviewed the file, we reviewed the letter, there was contact made with the paper, and there's nothing at this point in time that we can work with or to go on.

I mentioned yesterday I can't control what the media reports. Internally, I can control what we've done to address HTLV-1 through the Public Health Division. At this point in time, we don't know whom the source is and we are not able to proceed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have stated yesterday that the media, I'm not blaming the media and I don't think that the minister can control them and I wouldn't want her to control them, but she can control her department and staff, and she can control her department internally. So I'm urging you to initiate on that. I'm not worried about the media that you cannot control, I'm just concerned about the department.

Mr. Chairman, will the minister follow up on this and I would like her commitment on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Health has been working in cooperation with the Public Health Division as well as Public Health Agency of Canada to deal with the issue around HTLV-1.

The step, to date, the department has taken to deal with HTLV-1 has been in partnership with the community health centre, the Health Canada officials, and there has been public education that has occurred through the media interviews.

The CHRs in each community, hamlet council meetings, health committee meetings, and the fact sheets were also distributed through, again, every health centre, and there have also been radio shows conducted by the community health representative on HTLV-1.

Health and Social Services will also conduct further education promotional information items related to HTLV-1. Personally, I'm very pleased with the response the department has done to deal with HTLV-1.

In terms of the members comments about us investigating further, if the member knows of the individual that News North or Nunatsiaq News reported in the paper, I can then follow that up but, as it is right now, we investigated and we have nothing to go on other than the fact that there is a line in the newspaper identifying a high ranking official.

That high-ranking official can also be a high-ranking official of another department. We don't know who that is so we can't address it if we don't know who it is. I share the member's concern. We did try to investigate it and to date we have nothing to go on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the ministers are responsible for high ranking officials within the government. And this was leaked by the high ranking official of the government.

Even if the high ranking official doesn't come from your department, I don't mind. But we need some answers. I want this to be replied to. If you can't find out, if you're not going to investigate this, it seems like there is some reluctance to do some investigation.

The government officials that are in high ranking positions, if you find out who that is, perhaps remove that individual from his or her position. If the minister is unable to find out who the high ranking official was, then the minister should be sitting on this side.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday and today I have said in this house that we have conducted an investigation. We cannot determine who that person is that is the high ranking official.

We can't proceed with an investigation when we don't know who the person is or who the individual referenced by Nunatsiaq News is. So we have asked for that name. We were not given that name. I want to reassure the member that it was investigated.

But, if we don't have a name to go on, there is no other stuff that we can proceed with. The disciplinary procedures are in place related to individuals that breach confidentiality through the department of Human Resources. Every employee signs an oath of office and secrecy when they are employed by the government and if that was breached we would follow that process investigating it.

As it is right now, we don't know who that person is, whether it's even with the Department of Health. We don't know that.

I want to again reassure the member the investigation was conducted, and I said that yesterday in the House, and I'm saying it again today. I don't know what more we can do without a name to go on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 035 – 2(3): Update on Kugluktuk Health Centre

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Last year on November 9, 2004, I asked the Minister of Health about the Kugluktuk Health Centre.

The centre needs some kind of fencing and wire mesh to help prevent risk to the people, especially kids, from going under the building and starting fires there. There was a fire incident in early 2004.

A year ago the Minister told me that she would look into this issue. My question today is, "What has been done to address this concern?" Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's the first I've heard about this incident, so I would have to look into it and speak to my staff before I can respond. Whether it was looked into or not, I would have to follow up with the department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Question is taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Netser.

Oral Question 036 – 2(3): Update on Nursing Recruitment Strategy

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will also direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, last March the Minister of Health and Social Services made a statement regarding the on-going success of the Department Health and Social Services International Registered Nursing Recruitment Strategy.

Less than a month ago Mr. Speaker, the Kivalliq welcomed a number of new nurses from India and the Philippines. Can the Minister provide the House with an update on the success of her department's Canadian Registered Nursing Strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Health and Social Services has undertaken International Recruitment Initiatives. We have currently recruited up to fifty international nurses. The department in partnership with the Department of Human Resources has done a number of orientations - a month long orientation in Iqaluit and once the orientations are completed the nurses are placed in the communities where there are vacancies. So I am pleased to announce today that we have hired fifty international nurses to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (inaudible) of staffing and all registered nursing positions was to have been achieved this September of 2005. Can the Minister confirm for this House if that goal was reached and if not why not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are various stages of the recruitment. The first intake of individuals that came for their orientation came within the month of August. Currently, the second intake is finishing off their orientation in Iqaluit and sometime next week is the third intake of additional nurses. They are at various stages. One of the things we also assist in getting the nurses is getting their work permits completed. At the same time the international nurses are required to complete the national exams to work in Canada. So, we are at different stages and we are achieving what we set out to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister clarify to this House how many of the department's newly recruited nurses are international recruits and how are Canadian recruits. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The 50 I mention are all international. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Members of the Legislative Assembly we are told of different concerns from our constituents. The nurses that are out of the country are replacing the nurses in the communities and they have been in the communities for a long time and they are being taken over from outside of Canada. What are the plans for the present nurses in the health centres.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The international nurses that are being hired are being hired to fill current vacancies. The nurses that we have on staff ; some stay and some leave for their own personal reasons. There are always on-going efforts to fill the vacancies that we deal with in the whole nursing field. We try and keep our nurses, but for various reasons they leave and they are not being replaced by international nurses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Barnabas.

Oral Question 037 – 2(3): Toll-Free Number for Cancer Patients

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under Member's Statements, I stated about the patients that are sent home after they've been diagnosed with cancer.

I'd like to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services if there is a toll-free number where those patients can get some counselling over the telephone or, that is available to them, or to their relatives? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently there is no 1-800 number for Nunavummiut to receive counselling related to cancer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Then how are those patients that are sent home counselled or assisted, or even their relatives in regards to the cancer patients? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the communities we have the community health representative staff, and we have the nurses there. We have social workers as well as home care workers that are available to provide that support to individuals that are in the final stages of their life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the smaller communities, most of the staff are *Qallunaat*, and the older people who are unilingual Inuit cannot speak English.

Most of the time, those are the ones that are sent home and the nurses can't speak Inuktitut. Is there somebody who is available all of the time for those Inuktitut speaking patients? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All home care workers in Nunavut are Inuit and speak Inuktitut and they provide support to individuals who require care at home in the final stages of their life.

We also have available, translators that assist the nurses in the communities that provide home care services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In some communities there are volunteers like women's auxiliaries and some staff for the health centres. For those whose patients need 24/7 care plus they work from nine to five during the day, they get people from the women's auxiliary or just from the public.

They get assistance. I wonder if the Department of Health can provide funding for the volunteers so that they can get a bit of payment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Homecare workers do make scheduled visits to homes to assist individuals who require care.

Homecare workers provide care not only to cancer patients but to other patients that require assistance in living. The hours for homecare workers, when there is a need for assistance of cancer patients, are flexible to accommodate that particular individual needs. Those schedules are made at the community. I know in the case in Gjoa Haven the workers rotate their hours in the final stages of a person's life.

In terms of the people, the women's group, the volunteer group, I would have to look into that whether there is compensation available to volunteers. I would have to review that further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 038 – 2(3): Preparing Nunavummiut for Mining Jobs

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education. Mr. Speaker. The 2005 Nunavut's Economic Outlook was released earlier this month. In it was noted that mining has a significant potential for Nunavummiut to participate for contracts and employment. The report also stated that Nunavummiut will not be able to participate because they are not trained for the jobs.

Mr. Speaker, the minister stated that one of the greatest labour shortages in the foreseeable future will be for the mining industry. Therefore, training is needed for Nunavummiut so that they can fully benefit from those activities. My question for the Minister is, "Can the minister explain what the Government of Nunavut is doing to prepare them for the mining sector?" Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in my statement earlier this week Mr. Speaker, there are some opportunities within the mine training right now but at the same time the Government of Nunavut and many other stakeholders are involved the Nunavut Mining Training Group Mr. Speaker. That group has the potential for different occupations within the mining industry.

Mr. Speaker, in the past we thought about mining as an underground with a pick and a shovel Mr. Speaker. The jobs around the mines now are many and include heavy equipment operators. Mr. Speaker, and if it is located at an isolated site, as an example, you need snowplough operators, people to clear the runways, you need administrative support, logistic support and so on.

So, Mr. Speaker when we are talking about industrial or mining training it takes in a whole number of occupation that are not just unique to a mine. Mr. Speaker that work is continuing with the Nunavut Mining Focus Group. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that update. I am glad that there is work underway. Mr. Speaker, in May 2004 I asked the Minister about the status of his department's funding application to the federal government Aboriginal Employment Skills Partnership Program. At the time he told me they submitted their proposal to train Nunavummiut for mining. My question to the Minister is, "Can the Minister update the House on the status of that proposal that was submitted in 2004?" Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member is correct indeed. We submitted the Aboriginal Employment Skills Program AESP proposal to our federal partner. After the House sat this past spring I had an opportunity to meet with Minister Bradshaw, the labour Minister responsible for the AESP. It was my understanding at that time the Nunavut proposal was in the top 4 percent received across the country.

However, because of issues with financing or funding from our federal partner they were looking at more of a moderate approach in training or skills program development. So they wanted a modified approach from the department and from Government of Nunavut and we proceeded with that and the latest update we have is again that everything is now contingent on what happens federally with the election. We would hope to be in a position to receive funds for the program that we had applied on under the federal program. So that is where it stands right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that update. As I noted in my question I asked that question in May 2004. It seems it takes a long time for

approvals from Ottawa. It looks like to we are facing a potential delay because of a pending election.

Mr. Speaker, there is an initiative underway in the Kitikmeot to acquire the assets of the Lupin Mine for a mine training school? It's very important to train Nunavummiut for jobs in the mining sector.

My question for the minister is: can the minister confirm that his department is seriously considering the potential that this initiative has to train Nunavummiut for jobs in the mining sector? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the last couple of weeks, senior members from the department, including our lead capital planner and so on, have met with individuals from KEDC, the Kitikmeot Economic Development Corporation, to review their opportunities for the Lupin mine site, and I would suggest to you that the proposal that is being put forward from the Kitikmeot, I believe, is a strong one.

What they are recommending, what they are saying in the preliminary discussion, again they are all preliminary, is that the KIA, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and the Development Corporation would operate a training site at the mine using the infrastructure that is there. Let's say they wanted to run a heavy equipment operator course, then the Government of Nunavut would be able to purchase seats on this course and the training would be delivered at that mine site.

I think that it is a good move. It's the private sector moving forward on a training initiative. It involves the region and it supports the local economy. That is something that we are interested in doing. We are trying to plan right now an on-site visit to the Lupin Mine site and follow up the discussions from there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that answer. It's well known that the government can't do everything on its own. It should seek out partnerships and the private sector as well should seek out partnerships. I hope in the spirit of partnership that the government can find a way to work with those folks over there.

Earlier this week the Commissioner's Address mentioned that the government proposed to invest \$10 million in a trades school. My question to the Minister is, "Can the minister tell me if there is any money available from the Northern Strategy or other sources to invest in a mine training school in the Kitikmeot? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, I think there are a couple of points that need to be made with the focus on mine training and strategies and the position that we are moving in with the PVD school. I think all of this is connected to trades and the work that is underway. I would suggest that in the next couple of weeks, after we have an opportunity to do an on-site review, hopefully we would be in the position to make an announcement with the KIA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. The members for Akulliq, Mr. Mapsalak.

Oral Question 039 – 2(3): Review of Wildlife Regulation Changes

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Environment. The minister stated in the Ministers' Statement that they will be reviewing the wildlife regulations and he stated that that was completed in the regions and in the communities. He stated that there were going to be some changes and after this is completed he would be giving it out to the public. From what I have heard only half of the work that is required has been completed.

I would like to ask the minister why only half of the document is getting reviewed when we have the HTOs here for a conference?

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the first time that I hear that only half of the documents have been given for review. I will look into the issue but we'll do all we can to finish the review.

We are working with Nunavut Tunngavik and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. This is the first time that I have heard that they have half of the documents to be reviewed. I will look into the issue and see exactly what is happening. But then again from what we know Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board have been working closely together with our department and we have full participation from the HTO. I will look into the comments to see if it's correct that they only have half of the documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Minister for agreeing to look into the issue. I am well aware that there is a lot of work to do when you are going to be reviewing the regulations for 3 days. They only have 3 days to do the review and that means they have to put in a lot of work to get it completed.

Are they going to be given more time to review the regulations or what is going to be happening afterwards? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board as I stated earlier has been working closely with our department and after the consultation we will see exactly what is going to be happening. Afterwards we'll see how much work will be required to make changes to the regulations. We will be working on that this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When are you going to inform the Members as to whether it is true if those organizations only have half of the documents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have given them the draft and we are seeking input from the HTO and we've also told them if they have any other concerns they could write to our department and they will be included in the follow-up. We are more than open to getting input from the communities.

Speaker (interpretation): Your last supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question was when are you going to be informing the Members. As the Minister stated he will look into it and when are you going to let us know if only half the documents were made available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will have a meeting with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and I will very likely inform the Members, possibly next week, as to what the situation is in regards to the conference that is held in Iqaluit.

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

Oral Question 040 – 2(3): Maintenance of Community Freezers

Mr. Kattuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Environment. I was pleased to hear the Minister's statement yesterday when he said his department will be reviewing the Nunavut Harvesters' Support Program.

One issue that I would like him to look at is community freezers. The HTO in Sanikiluaq has asked me to raise the issue of the community freezer. As the minister knows, most

communities have these, but they are often old and not working. Community freezers help to support traditional harvesting practices.

On February 17, 2000, a former Minister said in this House that the GN was working on a discussion paper on the community freezer program. At that time, community freezers were the responsibility of the former Department of Sustainable Development.

My question for the Minister is, what assistance is available from the Department of Environment to help communities with the repair, replacement and maintenance of community freezers?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Responsible for Environment, Mr. Akasuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The community freezers were built quite a while back.

With the Department of Environment, I'll see what we can do with the community freezers. We're not exactly sure whose responsibility the freezers are within the Government of Nunavut.

We have been talking to Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and I will see if the community freezers were part of the discussions. I'm well aware that the community freezers are fully utilized.

I will talk to my staff and to Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and see if they have been part of the discussions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kattuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will his department be responsible for that community freezer? Will the department's upcoming review of harvester support programs also look at the community freezer issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Akasuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is important that we work on something that will contribute towards the community.

A community freezer would be a very good capital project for any of the departments that are willing to deliver it. But then again, yes I will look into it with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and if it goes under the policy of harvesters support, certainly I'll look into that. But, then again, it's hard for me to say yes or no right now, whether to start community freezers and again, I think it's something that we could consider under our review on the policy. Thank you.

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

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): The minister stated that he will be reviewing this matter. Once you have looked into it, are you going to inform the House as to the outcome? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akasuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will inform the member as to what the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. are doing on this issue. I will inform the member as to which department will be responsible for the community freezers.

If the Environment Department is not responsible, I will see whose responsibility it is and look into the issue. Thank you.

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

Oral Question 041 – 2(3): Discussion on Arviat Water Quality

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We know that we are men of our trades; some of us are good at motor vehicles, heavy equipment, and I'm very glad that we don't have any missiles or destructive equipment up here. I will be directing my question to the Minister responsible for Community and Government Services.

Yesterday, I was talking about...well, I'm going to be an expert in water because we do anything. I asked some questions about the quality of the water or the lack of it in Arviat. If we are looking into the future, there's nothing planned for Arviat on this issue. Starting from the 1960s, we have had poor quality water in Arviat.

The minister stated that she was aware of this problem we have in Arviat. The people out there know and the Hamlet of Arviat lets the public know about this problem; it's becoming more and more of a problem in our community. Have there been any discussions about the quality of the water in Arviat and is your department aware of this growing problem we have in Arviat? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Community and Government Services, Ms. Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The quality of the water has been...well, I have been briefed on the quality of the water in Arviat and I was told about the problems, I think it is part of the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit.

Also, I was informed by the Inuit that in the winter, after the sea ice has thickened, if the water is too low, the quality of the water becomes inferior and there's an odour in the water.

I'm not an expert in water quality, but I do get briefed. We are aware that Arviat is on the flatlands and the streams, creeks, or rivers are very shallow. So the water gets stagnant because there's no flow going through.

In the winter, like anywhere in the world, there are germs or little insects that are caught in the ice, there are bacteria in there, and when they die and go down to the bottom, they affect the quality of the water.

I'm sure that the people of Arviat have been concerned about their quality of water for a very long time. Our department has been asking the consultants or the engineers to do a study on the water, and they started a study in August and they completed the study in October 2005. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I know that you are aware of this but I don't understand what your department is going to do. Yes, we are aware of all this because there was lots dirt in there and I think you were talking about the bacteria. I didn't hear you say what you are going to do about the water in Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I am trying to say is the engineering consultant did a water supply study.

(interpretation ends) They started in August 2005 and they had hoped to have it completed by the end of October 2005. Project funding of \$25 thousand was approved in May to undertake a water supply study for the Hamlet of Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased. Perhaps if I know that the results will come out eventually we will be able to initiate something. I would like to get a copy of the report from the engineering consultants. Also Mr. Speaker, we heard last year they did a study on the surrounding area lakes; whether they are good water or not, how deep the lakes are and how far away. They did a study on that and we haven't heard the results of the study. Perhaps you can give me the results from that study as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, definitely we have to share that information and share the results. I agree with you and yes, I will do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions are now over. Orders of the Day. Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Peterson.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 005 – 2(3): Performance Bonuses, Settlements

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question is for the Honourable Paul Okalik, Minister responsible for the Senior Personnel Secretariat and it concerns Performance Bonuses, Settlements and Termination Pay for the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year.

1. For the 2004-2005 fiscal year, broken down by department and Crown agency, but not including names of specific individuals, how much was paid in performance bonuses to members of the Public Service of Nunavut and employees of Government of Nunavut Crown agencies?
2. For the 2004-2005 fiscal year, broken down by employing entity, but not including names of specific individuals, how many persons were eligible to be considered for performance bonuses to be paid by the Government of Nunavut?
3. For the 2004-2005 fiscal year, broken down by employing entity, but not including names of specific individuals, how many persons were actually paid performance bonuses by the Government of Nunavut?
4. For the 2004-2005 fiscal year, broken down by department and Crown agency, but not including names of specific individuals, how much was paid in termination pay, negotiated settlements, lump-sum payments or any other form of monetary payment or compensation to executive-level members of the Public Service of Nunavut who departed the Public Service?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Written Questions. Item 8. Orders of the Day. Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Okalik.

Item 13: Tabled Documents

Tabled Document 015 – 2(3): Annual Report of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document; the Annual Report of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the period of April 2004 to March 31, 2005.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Tabled Document 016 – 2(3): CLEY Schedule of Votes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Grants and Contributions for the Fiscal Year 2004-2005

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth's Contribution and they are numbered one, two, three, four, five, and these are the applicants from that year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

Tabled Document 017 – 2(3): Canada's Northern Strategy by Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a document by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The title is; *A New Deal for Northern Communities*, submitted to the Minister of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Canada's Northern Strategy by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, on August 3, 2005.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

Tabled Document 018 – 2(3): 2004-2005 Annual Report – Nunavut Development Corporation

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table the following documents to the Members of the Legislative Assembly, the Nunavut Development Corporation 2004-05 Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Tabled Document 019 – 2(3): 2006-2007 Nunavut Development Corporation
Business Plan**

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document; the Nunavut Development Corporation 2006-07 Business Plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Tabling of Documents. Item 14, Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Item 15, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16, Motions. Motions.

Item 17, First Reading of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills**Bill 08 – Statistics Act – First Reading**

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for South Baffin, that Bill 8, *Statistics Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstention. The motion is carried. Bill 8 has had first reading. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills**Bill 05 – An Act to Amend the Conflict of Interest Act – Second Reading**

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 5, an Act to amend the *Conflict of Interest Act* be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill will clarify that the Act applies to public agencies as defined in the *Financial Administration Act*. The Bill also changes references to the Northwest Territories Supreme Court so that the Act will refer to the Nunavut Court of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. Comments or questions to the motion. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Bill 5 has had second reading and can be referred to a standing committee. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one day notice requirement to allow the second reading of Bill 8, *Statistics Act*.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 62(1) to have Bill 8 read for the second time today. Are there any nays? There are no nays, please proceed Mr. Okalik.

Bill 08 – Statistics Act – Second Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 8, *Statistics Act* be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill will establish a new *Statistics Act* and the Nunavut *Killisinniaqtiit*, Nunavut Bureau of Statistics. The Act will govern the collection, use, and disclosure of statistical information by the Nunavut *Killisinniaqtiit*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. Comments to the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Bill 8 has had second reading and can be referred to a standing committee. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 06 – An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 6, an Act to amend the *Financial Administration Act* be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill will increase financial accountability of public agencies by requiring them to submit their operating and capital budgets, and any amendments to those budgets to the Financial Management Board for approval each year.

The current provisions requiring the Workers' Compensation Board to submit budgets to the appropriate minister will remain in place. The Bill also will allow regulations to be made about contracting by public agencies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Bill 6 has had second reading and can be referred to a standing committee. Second Reading of Bills. Ms. Brown.

Bill 11 – An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act – Second Reading

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, be read for the second time.

This Bill amends the Fire Prevention Act to clarify the appointment of the Fire Marshall and other officials and to clarify the duties and powers of the Fire Marshall and those

officials. It expands the Act's application to explosions related to fire, updates the offence provisions, and corrects inconsistencies in the language of the Act. It also updates provisions respecting the conduct of inspections in order to comply with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The Bill, specifically, confers a new power on Fire Marshall to review plans and specifications for the construction or alteration of buildings. It also provides exclusion from liability to the Fire Marshall and other officials acting in good faith in the performance of their duties.

Finally, the Bill clarifies the regulation-making provisions and adds new regulation making powers to reflect the changes made by the Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Bill 11 has had second reading and can be referred to a Committee.

Second reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 07 – An Act to Amend the Liquor Act – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 7, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*, be read for the second time.

This Bill amends the Liquor Act to clarify the provisions regarding the sale and delivery of liquor, the issuing of liquor import permits, the appointment of the Liquor Licensing Board, and Liquor Commission employees. It also authorizes an appeal to be made to the Executive Council from an order of the Board that suspends a license or imposes a fine.

As well, the Bill amends the Act so that all regulations will be made by the Commissioner, on the recommendation of the Minister, and adds provisions regarding the possession and transport of sacramental wine and other liquor in a restricted or prohibited area that has been set out by regulation. The Bill also changes references to the Northwest Territories so that the Act will refer to Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Bill 11 has had second reading and can be referred to a Committee.

Second reading of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

Bill 09 – An Act to Amend the Exemptions Act – Second Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin South/Whale Cove, that Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Exemptions Act*, be read for the second time.

This Bill updates the provisions respecting the amount of property that is exempt from seizure by creditors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that this amendment to the Exemption Act is something that is long overdue. The numbers and the things that are exempt under the current Act are outdated and do not reflect the realities of Nunavut. However, after looking at this I hope to be sitting down with the minister responsible and looking at possibly strengthening the amendments and hopefully bring forward some friendly amendments the Minister would agree to amending or adding to the exclusions there.

In particular Mr. Speaker, one thing is just dealing under the act with what is considered recreational items like snowmobiles, firearms and things that people use to hunt for food. I want to make it very clear in there in there that these items should be exempt to ensure that Nunavummiut will be able to carry out their rights under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement to be able to hunt and harvest without fear of these items seized where for some unfortunate reason that might happen.

I will be reviewing this and reviewing legislation from other jurisdictions to see where there are other amendments that we could make to make this stronger and reflective of today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): To the Motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Exemption Act* has had second reading.

Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and other Matters. Bill 1, Appropriation (Capital) Act 2006-2007 with Mr. Arreak in the chair. Before we proceed we will take a one hour break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House Recessed at 12:02 and resumed at 13:13*

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

Chairman (Mr. Arreak)(interpretation): Thank you. Yesterday the minister completed her opening comments. I now ask the Chair of Standing Committee to do opening comments, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chair of the Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development, I am pleased to be able to provide opening comments as we begin the review of the 2006-2007 capital estimates for the Department of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Community and Government Services in September to review the draft 2006-2007 capital estimates.

Mr. Chairman, this Standing Committee has frequently urged the government to allow municipalities to have a say in determining their own infrastructure priorities. The Members are pleased to note the formation of the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee. Committee Members hope that this newly formalized partnership between the Government of Nunavut and the Nunavut Association of Municipalities will allow communities to have a meaningful role in decision-making with respect to both federal and Government of Nunavut community infrastructure initiatives.

Members are aware that different cost estimates exist with respect to the actual municipal infrastructure deficit in Nunavut. The 2005 Nunavut Economic Outlook states that the Government of Nunavut's own rough estimate is \$650 million.

Members were pleased to note that the minister has negotiated for federal infrastructure funding under the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund and the New Deal for Cities and Communities.

However, tremendous concern remains that the message of the high cost of construction in Nunavut and the ongoing infrastructure crisis is not getting through to key decision-makers in Ottawa.

(interpretation ends) Members remain concerned that the Government of Nunavut will be unable to meet increasingly stringent federal regulations such as those that are being drafted regarding tank farms and turbidity levels for drinking water.

The standing committee supports the minister in efforts to secure additional support in meeting the requirements of new regulations and looks forward to receiving updates as this issue progresses.

Mr. Chairman, members noted that the Government of Nunavut recently engaged a consulting firm to undertake a survey on the department's behalf to examine dry cargo

delivery in Nunavut. Members look forward to reviewing the results of this survey with the minister.

Members continue to be frustrated by the lack of comprehensive information and total actual project-by-project spending by the department. Significant amounts of money continue to be transferred between projects within the department. Members have consistently asked the department to provide a comprehensive listing of transfers.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recommends that the department table information in the House concerning the final costs of its major capital projects, including information on Inuit content of each project as well as any bonuses or penalties that have been assessed under the NNI Policy.

This information will be of use to all members in evaluating the success of the NNI Policy, and will serve to enhance the transparency of the government's expenditures.

Mr. Chairman that concludes my comments on the capital estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services. Individual members may wish to raise question or make comments of their own. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chair (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Madame Minister, you can proceed to the witness table along with your officials.

Thank you, Madam Minister. Can you please introduce your officials.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is Mr. Tom Rich my Deputy Minister and to my right Mr. Doug Sitland.

Chairman (interpretation): Welcome to the Assembly. Before we proceed I would like to remind the Members of Rule 77(1). According to our rule you can make general comments for 10 minutes and Rule 77(2) at the discretion of the Chair you can make comments more than once only after all the Members have made general comments.

(interpretation ends) I suggest to Members wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during page by page review of the departmental estimates. Do Members have any general comments? Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome Minister and her officials. First of all, I have heard concerns, from meeting with the Hamlet Councils in Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, about Community Government and Services moving their staff support of Hamlet operations from the Baffin to the Kitikmeot regional offices and the Hamlets were not even told about the move. When we look at these detailed expenditures of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord funding I believe it was included in the Kitikmeot. The Hamlet was not informed at all and a lot of times when they requested information they encountered problems after it was moved to Cambridge Bay.

When it was moved just like that to the Kitikmeot region both the Hamlet Councils asked me, both Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, that it be transferred back to Qikiqtaaluk because they were more aware as to the financial situations of the Hamlets in Resolute and Grise Fiord.

I was also told that land leases are not reviewed often enough. Those people that are requesting lots sometimes get un-surveyed lots and they wanted to see improvements in that area. This is one of the things that has to be looked at.

Our community centres are too small for the population especially during Christmas time when there are activities, especially in Arctic Bay. You get elders and they don't have room and the community centre is way too small. This definitely has to be looked at especially concentrating more in the smaller communities. The community centres are way too small for the size of the community. This is not the first time that I have brought this up, Mr. Chairman.

There need to be improvements with the services and they should be given adequate funding to provide those services within the Hamlet. Some things are incomplete that have to be delivered by ship, especially in Resolute Bay, things have been delayed where they were supposed to get pipes for the foundation of a lot and they requested it from the housing association but they didn't have them.

That is preventing the construction of houses up there. I'll leave it at that for now but I'll be raising questions later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Kattuk.

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and welcome Madame Minister and your officials.

What my colleague just mentioned in regards to the concerns of the hamlet councils, in my constituency, there have been a number of concerns that have been raised, but I'm not going to list them all.

Our water reservoir is way too close to the community and it's a growing concern for the population because maybe pollution might be going into the water reservoir and in the future they want to get a better located water reservoir. If this can be looked at, maybe you can instruct your staff to visit the community of Sanikiluaq and meet with the hamlet council and try and see which lake they would be able to use as a reservoir.

The same thing with the sewage lagoon, because the population is growing, and the number of houses are increasing, the sewage lagoon is getting too small.

Maybe those two can be studied in the future. That is a concern from the hamlet council. Just before I came up, I met with the youth as to what they would like to see in the future or whether they would want to see a gymnasium.

One thing that they really wanted was a swimming pool because we're on an island, and the lakes that we do have in Sanikiluaq, they don't get very warm because we're surrounded by the ocean and those lakes are very close to the graveyard. So, that was one of the requests the young people made. They would like to see in the future a swimming pool, if that can be included in the capital planning sometime. The youth would certainly appreciate that.

Those are my general comments for now as the concerns that were brought up to me in Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. I have no other names on my list. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and her officials for coming today.

I share similar concerns and comments as my two colleagues. In my riding, we are a decentralized community. It's a growing community because every thing is coming there. There are a lot of services, and a lot of business development. There is a lot of pressing growth needs in our community.

I talked to our hamlet council and they're quite concerned, looking out 5 or 10 years, that the infrastructure they have there now is not going to be suitable for the size of the community that will be there then. It just barely meets our needs now.

They gave me a list of things before I came over here and I'll just run through them for you. We require a new fire hall. For additional rolling equipment such as water trucks, sewer trucks and other vehicles, they need an extra three bay garage.

They require a new water storage tank beside the heat station near the water line that runs to the water lake. The fuel storage tanks, I think they've been there since the town was built. They need larger ones to deal with the growth throughout the next few years.

That building that they're in, I think it was designed originally as a regional government office back in the late 70's in front of our ice arena. It was not really designed for a hamlet complex but on the top floor are the hamlet offices while the bottom floor includes the curling rink, lounge and the dressing rooms for the hockey arena.

The growth is something we're concerned about. Also a new bridge to the old town site; the bridge that goes across the river, you can see that it's not very safe. It's an old Bailey bridge from the 1940s. It's had its use but it now poses a danger, especially to people going out to their camps, or tourists going out to Mount Pelly, soon to be named Uvayok

In May, we had a bit of tragedy, our community hall caught fire. A couple of young kids were playing with matches underneath the hall near midnight. We had a quick response from the fire department, and in their quick thinking, they were able to save most of the

community hall. It wasn't a total write-off thanks to the way the (inaudible) was set up. I think we're going to be able to have that rebuilt by December or within a few months.

That was certainly welcome news to us. I was standing across the road. I think there was a crowd of 250 people and they were very upset because when you lose a community hall, you're looking at maybe two or three years before it's replaced. That community hall was built close to 20 years ago, and maybe even longer.

It's clearly undersized for our community. (inaudible) whatever they can do with it. I know our hamlet council when they participated in the discussion on whether to build a new one or repair the damaged one, that they anticipated the expansion of the community hall in a few years.

They will be, I'm sure when the mayors meet, they will be discussing that with your officials.

I was concerned when I read the Nunavut Economic Outlook 2005 and, as our chair mentioned, the Government of Nunavut's rough estimate of \$650 million for municipal infrastructure deficit. I was really, I don't know what the word would be, shocked because only a few years ago Nunavut Association of Municipalities estimated the infrastructure required in Nunavut was \$300 million.

I know across Canada it is in the billions of dollars and all the provinces and territories across Canada require more money. You are saying we have a \$650 million infrastructure deficit and your available budget every year is a little over \$20 million, \$22 million or \$23 million now. That is not going to do much for Nunavut. We are basically plugging holes. We can never get ahead or catch up and we have these conversations and discussions year after year.

I am not sure what the answer is if you are not having success every year with your federal colleagues when addressing the municipal infrastructure deficit. We are going to be probably facing a real crisis in the next 3 to 5 years. I know my colleagues and cabinet have the same concerns because even though we are Members of the Legislative Assembly, we and our families and our relatives all live in small communities.

We know first hand what happens if the municipal infrastructure is damaged or destroyed or not available. We don't enjoy the same standard of quality of life as the other Canadians who take it for granted. When I tell Canadians down south about the infrastructure deficit that we have here, they think we are making the stories up.

I assure them that I am not. I know this from my days with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. We used to make presentations to the federal standing committee on finance and we would use terminology like "third world conditions" in our own country.

It's a shame. Canadians living in the north can't enjoy proper facilities like other Canadians do enjoy. A lot of concerns are valid. The funding is short, but I'm not sure

what our answer is if we can't find more money every year to address this \$650 million deficit. That means we are never going to catch up. I am hoping that when you meet with your federal colleagues and in your federal, provincial, territorial, and Premiers' meetings that you make that argument loud and clear.

I know that there was a document two years ago or within the last two years that your department put together as lobbying document to use in Ottawa to stress upon the federal officials how serious the situation is up here. I would be interested to hear what their reaction was to that lobbying document to see if it had any sort of effect or if we are making any inroads in getting the attention of folks in Ottawa.

I know over the years we have also encouraged federal Members of Parliament to come to Nunavut. Some have. I know when MPs would come to Cambridge Bay I didn't just give them a tour of all the tourist sites, I'd almost invariably take them out the metal waste dump and showed them our water supply system, all those things that our federal MP's should see. They took notes but there are 308 MP's in Ottawa in different parties and we get only 10-12 MP's that come to Nunavut every year visiting Nunavut. That is not enough. I think we should be encouraging individual MP's to come to Nunavut. They have a budget to travel and I think they get 67 trips paid for by the House of Commons. I think some of those trips, from what I understand, could be used to pay for trips to jurisdictions like Nunavut. If we could encourage them to come up here maybe we could make in-roads with those MPs as well so they could see first hand what we are up against, and maybe we could get their support when the decisions are made in Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome. I am very pleased to see you at the witness table. I would like to touch on some issues under the capital estimates.

If we look at all the figures over here it seems like some communities are getting more than the other communities. It seems like the Keewatin has been left out in the cold again. It's been a long time since any official has gone to Arviat. We do get a lot of fog and blizzards in particular times of the season, but then again, we have known very long, at the hamlet level and as having been a part of the hamlet, about what is needed at the community level when it comes to infrastructures, and so on.

Looking at the money that is geared towards the Keewatin, there is absolutely nothing in here, and Arviat's name is not even here. I'm even starting to think that the government has forgotten that there is a community called Arviat, and it's the second largest community in Nunavut.

We have all heard that, it's not like we're rich. The population is large and it's a decentralized community. We have quite a number of employees based in our community. As the hamlets are the local government, and when you are local

government, you would like the people to feel friendly, and that you have adequate resources, and you have clean water, and so on.

The metal dumps are over flowing. We've got a lot of problems in those areas. I think it was about twelve years ago that dock that was built. There were architectural drawings that were done and everything and we paid hefty dollars for the consultant to do whatever was required. They completed 30 percent of the required work and have not gone anywhere else to date on that. I talked to the minister and was told that they were going to deal with it. The federal government was going to be putting in money. We haven't seen anything new happening on that dock.

We have a very poor water reservoir and also the solid waste site in our community is not going to be able to be used for part of this year. We are not sure whether we are going to be able to build a new dump that has been approved. The hamlet stated that there have been no new monies at the hamlet level.

With the water reservoir; it's inadequate; it's smelly; it's totally bad, and you all know that you can't walk around in the spring without rubber boots. The water is bad, and also for the water trucks, the snowploughs, the maintenance vehicles for the airport – they have to be shared because they don't have heated housing for the heavy equipment.

Where's all your staff that are supposed to be going to the communities and looking into what is needed and what is required and what needs replacement. We are trying to clean it up, there are metal dumpsters and monies set aside for those but we have to look at things like clean water and maintenance and housing our equipment.

I wanted to make those comments. I don't think it is going to do any good if you look at the 5 year capital plan. There is nothing here for Arviat to clean the metal dump. The welfare recipients go over there to get replacement parts. It is their Canadian Tire. But we hear that it is going to be filled. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I just want to make a short comment regarding the Kivalliq region. I am concerned; I don't believe that there are enough plans for community infrastructure like community halls. They are needed and they are utilized and there are a lot of competitions in the communities. Coming into different communities we understand that the school gyms are used, the arenas in the larger communities these facilities are getting too old and they are getting too small. They have been requesting to get new facilities.

But in the government's plan there don't seem to be long term plans for these and how is it going to be rectified. The Minister and her officials perhaps should have a clearer idea and I am sure it needs to be clearer. For one example here in Iqaluit they had made a \$31 million agreement over six years. Perhaps this should be expanded to other communities

for five or six years. Iqaluit is a tax based city and the municipality is provided \$4 million a year. It is up to the city on how they want to spend it.

If you can do that to one community I don't understand why this kind of agreement can not be expanded to the other communities as well as Iqaluit. Nunavut residents are not too happy if that can occur for one community and not other communities outside of Iqaluit. I will be asking questions in regards to that.

In Rankin Inlet, for example, we have been saying that the hamlet council chamber is too small. Although it has been renovated, still there is a lack of space. The staff don't have any space. In the capital plans there is nothing planned for that. If we look at other communities where there are ministers and where their constituents are they utilize huge amounts of money.

This should be clarified so that we can have a better understanding of where the plan is and when we should be expecting this or that, especially facilities which are recreational facilities in the community, when they gather together in the community hall some of them are unsafe now. I will just conclude with that for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I don't have any more names on my list at this time for general comments. We are on page J-6. (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Capital planning and technical services. Detail of capital. Grants and Contributions, Qikiqtaaluk Region. Total Qikiqtaaluk Region... Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Qikiqtaaluk Region, \$4 million is it just for Iqaluit? Qikiqtaaluk various, and under \$4 million that is going to be allotted, where is this funding going to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Netser.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): For the question, (interpretation ends) The block funding total amount is divided among the hamlets in the region and paid directly to them.

It also replaces all the programming of separate projects, funding for roads, sidewalks, site development and (inaudible) guided by standards and criteria, but basically administered by the hamlets themselves.

It also provides for extraordinary repair of hamlet (inaudible) units., graders and dozers, dump trucks and fire trucks. Funding during recent years has been insufficient for adequate replacement. Some major overhauls are required with greater frequency.

Also administered (inaudible) office as priorities, (inaudible). Capital standards that currently allow for retrofits of mobile equipment. Communities are expected to contribute a portion of material costs.

Chairman: Thank you, Madame Minister. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As your department stated that they were going to visit the communities and find out what their needs are. Did they do that in Qikiqtaaluk Region on this? Where is this community \$21 hundred thousand line item going to here in Qikiqtaaluk? Perhaps Qikiqtarjuaq? I don't know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Netser. Madame Minister.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. and I would like to thank you for your question.

In the regions the regional staff do visit the communities and visit the municipalities in all the three regions. That's what they do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the opening comments, I alluded to \$31 million in six years. That was found in 2002. Back in 2006-07, capital plan, separated, with Community and Government Services, on their substantiation sheets, that we had reviewed at the committee level, \$3.6 million special funds geared for Iqaluit, second one, \$400 thousand base fund, and the purposes are the same for the use of this funding.

My first question in English: (interpretation ends) why has the funding for the Iqaluit funding agreement been split into two different funds? Thank you.

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

Ms. Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley. I will ask Mr. Sitland to respond.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Sitland.

Mr. Sitland: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The split of that particular project, the \$3.6 million versus \$400 thousand, as the Member said they are exactly the same projects. It is an administrative issue during the compiling of the estimates that goes before the standing committee. They are exactly the same project and they have been combined into one project in the capital estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Sitland. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. There has to be a more substantial reason for that instead of splitting it into two separate items. Anyways further to my question: has there been any

third party funding that has been secured for the City of Iqaluit for 2006-2007? Any information you may have from third party contributors. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Madam Minister.

Ms. Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In order for you to understand when we talk about funding I would like to get an adequate response. Perhaps Mr. Rich can respond to the question.

Chairman: Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Rich.

Mr. Rich: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Recently with the signing last summer with the gas tax agreement with the federal government there is a portion of that funding that will come to the City of Iqaluit and that starts this fall. Actually we are working out arrangements with the federal government to start transferring the funding. So there will be some funding to 2006-2007 that comes through the gas tax funding. Other than that if there is third party funding that the City has access to I am not aware of the top of my head. We can certainly check with the City to see if they have other sources of third party funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rich. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. My additional question is dealing with that as well because it is important that we incorporate all these special funds of the federal government. Some maybe applied to some communities and some are coming forth as you indicated in the fall because many of the capital items listed with regions all fall into some pot.

I'm going reference my question in dealing with a single pot instead of breaking it down to the regions page by page. Mr. Chair my further question is recognizing the fact the federal government announced that Nunavut will receive \$69.5 million in infrastructure fund. And then the new deal facility committee will provide additional \$37.5 million and also the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund will provide \$16 million each from Government of Nunavut and the Government of Canada, gas tax funding to be seen as the Deputy Minister indicated.

So my question is: when will Community and Government Services identify special specific project for funding under rural infrastructure programs such as Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund, gas tax funding and new deal facilities in communities?

Is it possible to have some indication from either one of you people? Thank you.

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

Ms. Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a new committee that was formed and it will be utilized.

I would like to respond to your question. The funding that we expect in the new fiscal year 2006, they should be coming in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the minister's response, but specifically when can we expect some details on specific projects identified for communities throughout? If that is completed by the department, would that be tabled to the House so that we can have some information to go back to our communities? Maybe early in the new year. Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will let Mr. Rich respond to that.

Chairman: Mr. Rich.

Mr. Rich: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister mentioned the key component of this will be the new Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee. The infrastructure advisory committee, which is co-chaired by NAM and the Department of Community and Government Services, and has equal representation from NAM; three mayors are on it; one from each region; and also from CGS and Finance started meeting in September.

They have had three formal meetings up to date. They are charged with completing in January, a process for identifying projects and establishing priorities on projects. So they have been working hard in doing that, which is a huge amount of work to do. We anticipate then that in January we'll have from that committee the process they are going to use to work with communities to both identify and establish priority, and also how they'll be working with communities to develop long-range plans.

What that means is that probably in the first quarter of the next year, we'll be able to have that process identified. As you can imagine it's a long process to work with 24 communities and to identify capital projects.

So right now it's kind of hard to say there is going to be a list. I will say though that I was with the board in its initial meeting. I spent the morning with them at their first meeting and the NAM representatives were very emphatic in cautioning the department not to start allocating the gas tax funding and municipal rural infrastructure funding until the board has had a chance to review those projects.

So we are being very careful not to announce projects until we worked with the board on those projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's now almost two o'clock and we have to catch a flight at three o'clock, I would like to make a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. I have a motion on the floor and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. The motion is carried.

Thank you, Madame. Minister, Mr. Sitland, and Mr. Rich.

Speaker (interpretation): Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Arreak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Your Committee has been considering Bill 01, and the capital estimates and would like to report progress. Also Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): There is a motion on the Floor, is there a seconder? Mr. Netser. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Orders of the Day. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the day for November 21:

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. Notice of Motions
15. Notice of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 1
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Monday, November 21, 2005 at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 14:07*

