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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday November 28, 2005**

Members Present:

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. David Alagalak, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Honourable Levinia Brown, Mr. Tagak Curley, 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): We will begin with the opening prayer. Mrs. Brown.

>>*Prayer*

Good afternoon. Mr. Premier, thank you for coming back. Ministers, good afternoon. Good afternoon members. Orders of the day, Item 2. Ministers' statements. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 034 – 2(3): Priority Hiring Policy Extension

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Later on this afternoon I will table the extension of the Priority Hiring Policy.

Workforce data has identified that between 1999 and June 2005 the number of beneficiaries in the GN increased by 1,013. Overall representation of beneficiaries during this period increased from 44 percent to 47 percent. Staffing capacity increased from 42 percent in June 1999 to 80 percent in June 2005. The current GN target is for 56 percent representation by 2010. The Priority Hiring Policy has contributed to the increase in beneficiary representation and is required to ensure that the GN meets its target for 2010.

Mr. Speaker, given the continuing under representation of beneficiaries in GN positions, the Priority Hiring Policy has been extended and updated.

The revised policy:

- extends application to all agencies, boards, and Crown Corporations listed in the *Financial Administration Act*;
- eliminates responsibility of applicants for identifying their eligibility for priority consideration;
- outlines roles and accountabilities of departments and the Department of Human Resources;
- updates related legislation; and,

- revises the sunset date of December 2009, with an interim review in October 2007.

The Priority Hiring Policy complies with the requirements of Article 23 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NCLA) and is a clear demonstration of the GN's commitment to achieving a representative Public Service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 035 – 2(3): United Nation's Climate Change Conference

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon colleagues. From November 28 to December 9 Canada will host the first meeting of the parties of the Kyoto Protocol in Montreal in conjunction with the 11th Conference of the Parties, which are also known as MOP1 and COP11 respectively. The protocol came into effect in February of 2005 and this is the first meeting of the countries to sign onto it.

Up to 10,000 representatives from 189 countries are expected to participate, making this the largest intergovernmental climate change conference since the Kyoto Protocol was adopted in 1997.

Many of the discussions will be on the long-term measures to address climate change impacts for the period of 2013 and beyond. These discussions are of great importance to Nunavut and will, no doubt have a considerable impact on the daily lives of Nunavummiut in the years to come.

To ensure Nunavut is well represented, the Department of Environment has taken the lead in organizing our participation COP11. We are coordinating an exhibit, with participation from other regions, highlighting climate change in the Arctic and the impact on Inuit.

We are committed in incorporating *Pinasuaqtavut 2004-2009*, into our activities by, "Contributing to our country as a committed and active participant in the life of Canada and to the circumpolar world as an active arctic neighbour."

By being an active participant at the meetings, I am optimistic that Nunavummiut will benefit from the discussions in reducing global greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the effects of climate change. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 036 – 2(3): Congratulations to Sheila Watt-Cloutier

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to highlight the work of Sheila Watt-Cloutier upon her recognition of Northerner of the Year by “Up Here Magazine.”

As the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, it is my honour to speak in support of her remarkable achievements on behalf of Inuit, women, and northerners.

Because of Mrs. Watt-Cloutier's leadership, the world now looks to the circumpolar Inuit and our northern lands as a barometer of the planet's health. Ms. Watt-Cloutier has spent a greater part of her adult life in pursuit of preventing and correcting the damage being done to our environment, not just for Inuit, but for all people.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of climate change threatens our traditional way of life and the planet's health in general. Her struggles to focus world attention on righting the wrongs that we are doing to our environment have made a real difference.

On behalf of the Members of the Legislative Assembly I would like to offer my congratulations to Sheila Watt-Cloutier on her latest award and wish her every success in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, her efforts will help ensure that Inuit can live in the twenty-first century with dignity and vitality and that we will be able to continue to enjoy our traditional way of life both now and for the future.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 037 – 2(3): Update on Made in Nunavut Language Legislation

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The protection and promotion of the Inuit language is among the most important priorities of this government identified in Pinasuaqtavut.

My department has been working in collaboration with a number of government departments and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to develop new language legislation that will respond to the needs of Nunavut.

In the near future the government will be unveiling two new policies of language legislation. The *Inuit Language Protection Act* will include provisions to support the use of Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun as a working language of the Government of Nunavut.

It will support the right of Nunavummiut to have their children educated in the Inuit language. It will include new requirements for businesses to provide essential services to Nunavummiut in the Inuit language. And it will establish an Inuit Language Authority to help develop our language so it can be used effectively in all these areas.

The government is also developing a new *Official Languages Act* that will ensure that speakers of the Inuit language, English, and French enjoy equal access to government services in their language.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. Orders of the Day. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 065 – 2(3): Residential School Agreement

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my satisfaction that a comprehensive residential school settlement agreement has been achieved with the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, all of us have relatives or know people who were in the residential school system. In many cases, the experiences that they went through have had an impact on them throughout their entire lives.

Mr. Speaker, we need to recognize the fact that while a number of people received a good quality of education at the schools they attended, others suffered physical and sexual abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the longstanding efforts of people like Jack Anawak, Marius Tungilik and Peter Irniq for their work in achieving justice. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that this agreement will allow the healing to begin.

Qujannamiik Iksivautaq.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 066 – 2(3): Cambridge Bay Senior Boys & Girls Basketball Teams

Mr. Peterson: Koana, Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House about the activities and ambitions of the Cambridge Bay Senior Boys and Girls Basketball teams.

Mr. Speaker, Cambridge Bay's basketball program is one of the most successful in Nunavut, and, indeed, the entire north. Mr. Speaker, the Boys and Girls Basketball teams have attended many tournaments and won accolades and awards for their efforts.

Our community is very proud that they represent us well. Mr. Speaker, the players are always striving to improve and be the very best that they can be. Mr. Speaker, the players and coaches are now planning a "trip of a lifetime" to Cuba in April of 2006 during their school break.

Mr. Speaker, players and coaches and volunteers are striving to raise \$70,000 to take 20 athletes, three coaches, and three chaperones on their trip. As you can imagine, this is going to be a tremendous challenge for them. I am pleased to report that they have already raised \$15,000 from cakewalks, bake sales and other activities.

Mr. Speaker, they have some creative new ideas to raise funds. One is the senior boys' auction. The player has to cook a meal for two and treat their date to a skate or movie night.

Mr. Speaker, the teams have set high standards to participate on this trip.

Mr. Speaker, athletes must have 90 percent attendance in school, they must attend with a positive attitude, and their teachers must certify that they are working to the best of their ability.

Mr. Speaker, it occurs to me that perhaps we Members of the Legislative Assembly should look to these athletes for some tips on how to work with limited resources, keep a positive outlook on life, and achieve great success for the people that we represent.

Mr. Speaker, the hardworking coaches deserve a lot of credit for the success of the basketball program in Cambridge Bay. Daisy Eyegetok, Terry Aknavigak, and Jack Kupeuna Jr. are committed and dedicated to the boy and girls basketball players and their efforts are rewarded by the success their teams enjoy each season.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members of the House to join with me in congratulating the Cambridge Bay girls and boys basketball teams on their many achievements and all the very best with their fundraising efforts over the next four months. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 067 – 2(3): Coral Harbour Schools Lack of Resources

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak to an issue raised by the District Education Authority of Coral Harbour. The Coral Harbour DEA is very concerned that programs and textbooks are not always available to students in the school.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that teachers have curriculum guidelines to follow. These have been in place for a number of years. However, the problem is not with the guidelines, but with the lack of tools and resources that enable teachers and students to follow them effectively.

Mr. Speaker, I will give you some examples. For social studies, teachers from kindergarten to grade six do not have a standard textbook. They have to find whatever resources they can. Once the students get to grade seven, textbooks are available, but they are so old that the textbook is no longer published.

Mr. Speaker, we have a similar problem with the lack of science textbooks for classes for kindergarten to grade six. When the students get to higher grades, the textbooks they do have are too difficult for them to follow.

Language Arts is another area, Mr. Speaker, where there are not enough books such as novels, spellers, and grammar texts for our students to use. Many teachers pull together a selection of material for students to use but there is no established reading program for all students.

Mr. Speaker, the lack of consistency and availability of materials used to teach these classes and others makes it very difficult for teachers to determine whether skills have been taught and learned. It makes it difficult for students to build on what they have learned, or should have learned, from year to year.

Mr. Speaker, our teachers need up-to-date textbooks that allow for the consistent development of students' skills and understanding throughout the course of their education. There should be enough textbooks for all students and they should be in good, clean condition.

Mr. Speaker, we have often said that education is the key to our future. Let us work together to make sure that the key is not so rusty that it can't even unlock the door to life-long learning.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 068 – 2(3): High Winds in Pangnirtung

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I was going to make a statement on Friday. Since I changed my diet at the beginning of June, I lost 60 pounds, but I have something else to say.

This past Saturday on November 26, the winds were very strong in Pangnirtung, but I am happy to say that there were no injuries. Even though they keep track of how strong the wind was at the airport, there was no power, so, they didn't have the speed of the wind. There was a fishing boat that was unloading in Pangnirtung. It was there at the time, and they recorded that the winds were going 155 kilometres an hour.

That indicates how strong the winds were in Pangnirtung. So, for that reason, the power in some parts of the town was out and a lot of phones were out.

But, I rise today because I'd like to thank Billy Evik. I want him recognized because if he didn't help with the power, the shortage could have lasted longer and they wouldn't have had heat. Billy Evik was able to help the two. I would like to thank the emergency measure people in the community. They advised Pangnirtung as to what they were going to do from here.

And the mayor, Sakiasie Sowdluapik, really helped get the community involved, especially with assisting the Elders and by providing some naphtha in some units where they had to use a Coleman stove.

The whole thing went very smoothly and that's why I stand up to say thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 069 – 2(3): New Aquatic Centre Proposal

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today on an issue that I really hope will buoy member's spirits.

Last month, the feasibility study that had been commissioned by city council to look at a new aquatic centre in our capital was completed. Mr. Speaker, Iqaluit is rapidly outgrowing its current facilities. The swimming pool is operating at capacity and is open 70 hours a week.

I understand also that the lease for this facility may not be extended. Children literally line up half an hour to an hour in advance of public swims in order to get a chance of getting through the doors and into the water.

It is sad that not every child in line gets an opportunity to get wet. Mr. Speaker, the pool is not just for Iqaluit children. When youth from other communities come here on school trips, or for sporting events, a visit to the pool is often a highlight of their experience.

Mr. Speaker, almost every member of this House has raised the issue of our youth having access to positive programs in which they can take part. A new aquatic centre could provide that opportunity for youth.

Mr. Speaker, swimming and aquatic fitness programs are not only for the young. These activities are ideal for all ages and fitness levels, including Mr. Kilabuk who lost 60 lbs.

Learning to swim is a skill that can be used throughout life and can help you save a life. Mr. Speaker, also, besides swimming there is kayaking, this is a group that uses these facilities and will be homeless if no facility is there for them to operate out of.

Mr. Speaker, the feasibility study will be presented to city council on December 6. As of yet, no decision has been made and Mr. Speaker, I hope that the proposal for a new centre will receive full consideration and also Mr. Speaker, I hope that the Government of Nunavut, Community and Government Services officials will, if the city chooses to do so, work with them to try and achieve such a worthy goal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to welcome to the gallery some people that are well known throughout Nunavut indeed and also includes a class of students of Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to introduce students who are taking a course in Introduction to Northern Government at Nunavut Arctic College. This is through the Municipal Training Organization (MTO).

I will introduce each of them. First of all, they are Mr. Bruce Arnold, Mr. Keith Baines, Paul Barrieau, Amika Etuangat, Shirley Kunuk, Sarah Maniapik, Jonathan Machmer, and Sandy Taylor and their esteemed Professor, former Premier of the Northwest Territories and one of the creators of the famous Meech Lake Accord, the Honourable Dennis Patterson.

>> *Applause*

I also would like to take this opportunity to welcome one of the greatest Chicago Blackhawks fans other than myself in Nunavut. Well-known jurist, legal eagle,

recognized by International Governance as a legal expert especially in the Caribbean, Mr. Neil Sharky. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize the residents of Resolute Bay.

First of all, I'd like to recognize Hans Mittik Arranson. On May 16, 1986 Mr. Arranson came to Canada and just became a Canadian citizen on November 24, 2005.

>>Applause

He is a hunter and he assists a lot of people in Resolute Bay in regards to providing needs for our elders and I'd like to recognize his spouse Zipporah Kalluk Arranson.

She is a member of many different committees. I'll try and name them all but might omit one. She is the Chairperson of the local housing authority and District Education Authority, on Hamlet Council, a Tudjaat Co-op member, on the Economic Development committee and a court worker in Resolute Bay.

They also have a business, Utuks and Metiqs Outfitting. Recently, they had a meeting for Nunavut Tourism.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to welcome to the House, Mr. David Long, Vice President of the Miramar Hope project who is sitting over here. Mr. Long travelled all the way from Vancouver over the weekend to give us a luncheon update on Nunavut's next gold mine and hopefully that will be in 2007 or 2008 in the Kitikmeot.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6, Oral Questions. Oral questions. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Netser.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 081 – 2(3): Ensuring Adequate School Resources

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

I spoke earlier today about the lack of textbooks and program materials for our teachers to use when following the curriculum guidelines. The lack of consistency in materials from year to year makes it difficult for our teachers, Mr. Speaker, and the students to build on learning from year to year.

I'm sure Coral Harbour is not the only community with that type of problem. Can the minister outline for this House what steps his department is taking to ensure that adequate and up to date textbooks are available for all of Nunavut's students? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department has moved aggressively in the last 12 months to include a lot of new curriculum into the school. I'll just give some examples.

For example, this year, we're putting in a new archaeology CD-ROM for grade eight, the Inuktitut grammar CD-ROM for grades one and three, Inuktitut story teller for grade one and three, English as a second language units for grade eight, and English as a second language for grade nine. There are the units for grade twelve as well as Inuktitut language arts for grade twelve, English as a second language for grades seven, eight and nine, work experience guidelines for grades ten and twelve, modules in science for grade seven and eight, as well as archaeology grade eight CD-ROM and a teacher's manual.

Mr. Speaker, at the same time we do have a team of curriculum development people who work out of different locations. For example, in Arviat, there are individuals who are constantly reviewing the curriculum that we have in our schools and coming up with new curriculum as well as text and support material that the member was asking about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. CD-ROMs are good but if there are no textbooks then the teachers can go all over the place without following the curriculum.

Mr. Speaker, we have been told that the department's curriculum division in Arviat is working very hard to establish made in Nunavut curriculum guidelines for the K-12 system.

Can the minister clarify for this house what efforts are being directed at identifying and providing the resources for teachers to use to deliver the established curriculum? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The entire curriculum that is developed for our schools is authorized through the Department of Education.

At the same time Mr. Speaker, the curriculum that we are using in our schools includes work that has proceeded and has subsequently come from the Northwest Territories since division. At the same time we use the western education protocol, which includes the provinces of Nunavut, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, the Yukon, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

That's the process where we also develop and bring curriculum to those different groups and have it approved. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, curriculum is also developed in Nunavut. I just gave some examples of that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister commit to reviewing the resources and textbook situation across all schools in Nunavut, provide an update to the members of this House on the results of his review and how he proposes to address any deficiencies that he finds? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department continually reviews curriculum and resources that are in place, particularly regarding the situation that the member explained and described in his members' statement with the situation in Coral Harbour, where there seems to be a lack of textbooks and so on.

Mr. Speaker, we'll look into that immediately and see what the issue is. In all of our schools, as the member has outlined, there is a curriculum resource provided to the schools and to the teachers.

At the same time, there is an updating of the curriculum on a regular basis, and we gave some examples of that. If the major concern in the community is lack of resources, then that's something that we should be able to address very expediently.

So, I will make that commitment to the member to find out exactly what is occurring in the community and to see how we can expedite and facilitate getting the resources that are needed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 082 – 2(3): Update on the Improvements to the Larga Baffin House

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Some time ago, one of the other members and myself went to see the Larga Baffin Boarding Home, the boarding home for medical patients going down to Ottawa. At that time, while down for a meeting, we met with people who were down there, including patients and staff. We wanted to see some improvements in the Larga Baffin.

Could the minister give us an update on what has been happening to improve the services, since that time we were down for the meeting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The people that were represented at the meeting were Larga Baffin staff members. Meeting topics included the patients of the Baffin communities, building conditions, staff morale and renovations of the Larga House. Joe Enook, from Nunasi was also involved, as well as the staff from Northern Health Services.

These talks are not completed, but hopefully tomorrow, or in the near future we will meet again in regard to updating the situation, and as well how we can improve and expand the Larga House. We have also met with the Government of Canada in terms of funding for the Larga House.

We are now waiting for the funding to be in place so that we can improve the conditions of Larga House. As well, representatives from Nunasi and the Government of Nunavut are continuing to negotiate this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We speak continuously about the overflow at the Larga Home. What is the government doing to increase the capacity of this facility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are currently working with Nunasi. Joe Enook and I went to meet in Ottawa. We were looking at how the building is going to be built and also the costs. Once everything has been agreed upon we will work on it and we will be moving forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During that meeting, we also discussed the issue of safety in the Larga Baffin home. What has the government done to date on the safety issue?

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq (interpretation): Can you please repeat your question. I didn't get your question.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas can you repeat your question.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will speak in English. (interpretation ends) The issue of the safety of residents staying at the home was brought to our attention during our visit. What has been done to address this?

Qujannamiik Uqaqti.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The issue around the security for patients that are staying at the boarding home was brought to my attention. And there has been an increase in the surveillance outside the facility of the local RCMP to do security rounds around the building. At the same time there are new doors installed as well as cameras in the facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At that time when we were visiting the home we were told about the elders. What happened to the services that are provided to the elders especially the unilingual Inuit?

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there are translators at the boarding home to provide services to the unilingual elders. I recognize the facility is quite small and it is in two separate locations. To accommodate elders that may have difficulty going to the buildings and what not, there are ramps in the facility and translators available to provide the service of transportation to and from appointments.

But from what I understand the issue around providing assistance to unilingual elders and around escorts has also been addressed and we are putting forth a recommendation that unilingual elders going to boarding homes or traveling have the appropriate medical escort. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 083 – 2(3): Changes to the Down Payment Assistance Program

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

Mr. Speaker, last week the Minister did a statement announcing some changes or enhancements to the Nunavut Down Payment Assistance Program. The most part of that is directed towards residents in Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay and all other communities except for Iqaluit. These communities are going to see increases in the amount of funding that they will be able to receive under the program.

Mr. Speaker, I know from experience that Iqaluit is probably the most expensive place in Nunavut right now to buy or build a home and I know that for some people that high cost is a deterrent from them being able to come up with a down payment and a deterrent for them to enter into homeownership and being stuck in staff housing or other rented accommodations.

I am just wondering if the Minister can explain if looking at increasing the amounts for Iqaluit is something that they looked at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are currently working on the down payments. We saw a lot of construction around here in Iqaluit; I think this is the fastest growing community. That's one of the reasons why we haven't made any increases.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There's a lot of construction going on here in the city and it's the fastest growing community, but Iqaluit is the capital and there are a lot of people moving here. There are a lot of employment opportunities.

What I have seen in the new subdivisions that are being developed, for the most part, generally you are seeing rental units go up and also, families with dual incomes, the majority of whom come from outside of the community. There are a lot of people within the community that are from here that don't enjoy the same dual income levels as other families here, causing a large gap. I know of people who wanted to, but have not been able to, come up with the down payment because of the high cost.

Will the minister commit to looking at addressing that issue and coming forward with some kind of a proposal to look at deciding whether the amounts for Iqaluit should be increased or not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could look into the issue because, of course, we want to treat everybody fairly and to properly represent all of the residents of Nunavut.

There are quite a number of us who would like to build our own homes or to buy homes. We could look into the issue. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess my follow-up question to the minister is: how soon does he anticipate that he would be able to report back to the Members of the House on that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. Hopefully we can review it in the upcoming year. Before any changes are made to our budget, we will review it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister be able to commit to bring forward some recommendations for members or an update for members to hear during the first session after Christmas? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it's more important how our budget is being done in the next capital budget. And again, I think we will have to look to see if we could do it as early as February or March, but then again, I think we will have a better idea of how much money we spend on the Nunavut Downpayment Assistance program. I think we will have a better idea in the new capital budget costs. Thank you.

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

Oral Question 084 – 2(3): Financial Support for Adult Basic Education Students

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education. Some Adult Basic Education students in Cambridge Bay are struggling to make ends

meet. Many are single mothers. They are apparently ineligible for FANS. I am sure this is probably the same across Nunavut. Adult Basic Education is the first step for many individuals to upgrade their skills so that they can begin further education for future employment.

My question for the minister is, what consideration has the department given to expanding support for adult basic education programs across the territory? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The FANS program mainly has been put in place to deal with issues for post-secondary students, within Nunavut, or students that are taking courses in the south.

In this case, in some instances, depending on the student's situation, the majority of our students taking Adult Basic Education are on Income Support. They may be in a better position taking Income Support depending on the family situation, of course, instead of going onto the FANS program.

The FANS program is there for students who take a diploma program, a degree program, and so on. In most cases Adult Basic Education programs are of a short duration and are of a certificate nature. Because of that, most of the students involved in the ABE program would not be eligible for FANS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has the Minister, or the Department, set up access to funding for all of those that are interested in taking an Adult Basic Education program, and not just those on Income Support? If not, why has this not been done? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again the FANS program is in place for post-secondary school students. In the case of short-term programs, like ABE, and I taught ABE programs for several years, they can range anywhere between three and six months in duration. There isn't a mechanism right now within the FANS regulations to be able fit short-term students to have an uptake on the program depending, again, on the individual's circumstances.

That is something that we are looking into at the department to see if there is an opportunity within the FANS program to allow for more flexibility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. I'm glad to hear that he is talking about flexibility. We have been talking many times in the House about education, that it is the key to the future for Nunavummiut, and these ABE students are no different than other Nunavummiut.

Many of the students are encouraged by talks that we have in the House about all the opportunities that we have out there. However, these are adult students, and they are returning to school in their adult years. A number of these individuals have issues of self-esteem, which could be further complicated by other sources.

My question for the minister is can he tell us what kinds of counselling services or tutoring are provided to the ABE students across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In all of our communities, our Community Learning Centres are base funded for adult basic education programs. When we say ABE programs we are talking about basic literacy programs. They could also include a combination of life skills programs that would be delivered in each community.

At that same time we do have adult educators in the communities, with which you are involved. You're right at the very centre of delivering the ABE programs within that particular community. They also provide that type of counselling. We also have, as the member knows, career counsellors within the Department of Education, that also provide some of that assistance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary question, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister commit to a review before March 31, 2006, of all the programs and services available to assist the ABE students to stay in school and continue their education? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I heard the member correctly, he was asking for a complete inventory list of all the programs and services offered through ABE programming through Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, all of our adult education centres are based funded to deliver adult basic learning and indeed ABE and curriculum and resources are available at each centre.

So I think we will be able to comply with the Member's request and have that available to the Member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 085 – 2(3): 50 Percent of Education Budget to Iqaluit

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Good afternoon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister perhaps for Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, we should all remember that when Nunavut was in the process of being created there was a general consensus that we did not want to create simply another Yellowknife.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that is where we are heading right now. I have a question to the Minister of Education. Every dollar in capital spending that we are going to incur this year, 50 percent of the funds are allocated for Iqaluit.

For the population, 25 percent I mean for a population of 20 percent of Nunavummiut. And I believe that is not fair for Nunavummiut. With all due respect to the Minister, he said during the Leadership Review originally that he would be fair to Nunavummiut.

Out of the Department of Education spending for 2006-2007, \$9.7 million is set aside for Iqaluit projects. This is almost 50 percent of the departments' planned spending for the coming year.

Why has the Minister not been treating Nunavummiut in other communities outside of Iqaluit as priorities?

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'll approach the question in a frank and serious manner by suggesting and saying to the Member in answer to the question that the school replacements or renovations or indeed new school capital replacements that we had a discussion on Thursday and we will continue that debate today with our capital budget.

The schools are replaced or renovated based on criteria. I believe we are the only department in government that actually have a criteria based on the age of the facility, based on the utilization of the facility and so on.

We just completed a brand new school in Baker Lake that cost millions of dollars. We just concluded a new school in Arviat, which cost millions of dollars.

Those schools were at very high rating. Mr. Speaker, we are planning a new school in Gjoa Haven where the utilization is 132 percent. We are working on the Peter Pitseolak School in Cape Dorset at 115 percent. We are working on the school in Sanikiluaq, which is at 115 percent. All those schools are on their way and they are not in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, the capital budget in Iqaluit was high in the last couple of years. A school burned down and we had to replace that school at a cost of over \$10 million. The Inukshuk High School Mr. Speaker is one of the oldest schools, which we discussed on Thursday, in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the Aqsarniit school again was over utilized and indeed was supposed to be set up for a 6, 7, 8 classroom and Mr. Speaker, it is too small. You can't get a number of students in there based on population increases.

Mr. Speaker, many of the projects that are in the budget are on-going projects. Before I became the Minister of Education, the former Minister of Education was the Member from Iqaluit. So Mr. Speaker, I hope that clarifies why the money is being spent and is not being spent based on some form of partnership.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Mr. Speaker, I believe the Minister attempts to clarify exactly for here in Iqaluit and it does not mention how many new schools have been built in Iqaluit during the last 5 years. If I recall, I believe there are three schools that have been built since 1999 or thereabout. It is fair if he compares with apples and apples and not mix it up with some other figure.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also remind the minister of all the capital expenditures that we spent last year, in excess of \$100 million, 41 percent of these projects were allocated for the City of Iqaluit. So, we're not just talking about this discrepancy with the distribution of funds during the last few years.

It is very obvious the minister has now pretty well abdicated his responsibilities to treat other communities outside of the City of Iqaluit as demonstrated by the capital projects.

I would like to ask the minister, will he rethink in the next coming year, the equitable distribution of capital dollars to ensure that Nunavummiut receive fair distribution of capital expenditures?

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For clarification and for clarity, the member has just suggested that...how many new schools were built in Iqaluit in the last 10 years. In the last five years, thank you for your clarification.

Mr. Speaker, there was a new Francophone school built in Iqaluit, paid for by the federal government. Mr. Speaker, there was a new Joamie School built because the other burned

down. Mr. Speaker, there was an Aqsarniit Ilinniarvik, built by the federal government under the incremental infrastructure money.

And, Mr. Speaker, on top of that, I just explained that in the last year, we just finished a brand new school in Baker Lake, several million dollars. I was with the member from Arviat where we opened a beautiful facility in Arviat, and, Mr. Speaker, as I said, we've got ongoing projects for example, in Gjoa Haven.

So, for the member to suggest that somehow the minister has manipulated the money out of a particular regard for Iqaluit, I don't think that is a fair statement and I look forward to being able to maybe give some more clarification during the Committee of the Whole briefing.

Again, Mr. Speaker, a lot of the projects that are in the budget were ongoing budgets from last year. They are not new projects that I just started as minister in the last year when I became the Minister of Education. Maybe the member could find these projects that I started as the minister, and said, "here they are", because I became the minister and I'm representing Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, what I have tried to do, and I think the members realize in all sincerity and honesty is that I've tried to represent as a minister, when I was a minister for whatever department, or portfolio that I had, Nunavut, equally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand the minister's attempt to justify why he's such a good minister for Nunavummiut, when in fact, 50 percent of the department's total planned spending for the coming year is allocated for one town, one city, another Yellowknife, and he is not convincing Nunavummiut why 50 percent...

A Member: Point of order.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo, what is your point of order?

Point of Order

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member is implying favouritism on the allocation of projects, how the Department of Education, for which the minister is responsible, is from Iqaluit, started those projects.

You cannot, under our rules, make implications for unsubstantiated things. So, it's on that basis Mr. Speaker, that I take offence to the member's comments. Maybe he didn't get the answer, he didn't get it. Maybe we should draw the member a picture and he'll get it.

These projects started, as the minister indicated before, and he had nothing to do with it. If he's implying that impartiality of where a minister is from contributed to these projects, that is not correct Mr. Speaker.

So, I think he is implying false pretences to what is being said, and those kinds of comments should not be allowed and are not allowed under the rules of this House.

Maybe Mr. Speaker, the member should take the answers home and read the Hansard. He got a very good explanation on Friday. So, I don't see what his line of questioning is and I made my point of order. So, I ask if you could rule on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): We are under Oral Questions. Can we have order in the House? We will take a short break and I will rule on the point of order. We will take a break for a few minutes.

>>House recessed at 14.42 and resumed at 15.04

Speaker's Ruling

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Members. I wish to advise members that I have had the opportunity to consider the point of order raised by the Member for Iqaluit Centre in relation to the line of oral questioning posed by the Member for Rankin Inlet North to the Minister of Education.

It is my view that there is no point of order. While there may be a dispute between members on the appropriateness of government policy, the language used by the member posing the question did not breach our rules.

Nonetheless, I would always encourage all members to exercise care in their language and refrain from comments that could be misinterpreted.

The Member for Rankin Inlet North has the floor. Going back to the orders of the day, under oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question for the minister continues. It is a fact that even if the minister confused the numbers with respect the 2006-07, \$9.7 million is for Iqaluit projects; this represents 50 percent of the department's total planned spending for this coming year.

I would like the minister to indicate to Nunavummiut, and to this House, why this is such a fair distribution of dollars, in spite of the other needs are, 80 percent of the population being outside of Iqaluit.

I would like the minister to assure that this practise will not continue, as we do have other communities that have urgent project requirements. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, thank you very much for your ruling. Second of all, to the member's question. I'm not taking his questioning personally. I'll try to explain the facts. The facts are as follows. In that budget we are talking about, which we'll have an opportunity to talk about in the committee of the whole later today, the member fails to mention some of the other projects that are going to occur in that budget.

I'll just give you an example. We have a brand new school, with several millions of dollars, plans moving forward in Cape Dorset; Cape Dorset is not in Iqaluit. We also have a project going forward in Gjoa Haven of several millions of dollars. Mr. Speaker, Gjoa Haven is not in Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, we also have a major renovation proceeding now in Coral Harbour. Mr. Speaker, Coral Harbour is not in Iqaluit.

To defend the capital budget, let me put it this way Mr. Speaker, the members in the House last year voted and approved the capital budget of the Department of Education, which included the projects that we see here; which includes the ongoing projects. The member cannot demonstrate where the Minister of Education has put a specific Iqaluit project in the budget.

The member asked me earlier about in the last five years how many brand new schools were built in Iqaluit. Actually, I stand to be corrected, I said that there were three, and I was wrong, indeed, since the year 2000, there has only been one school built in Iqaluit, actually completed, and that was the new Joamie School that was replaced because of the fire. The other two schools were built, but they were federal infrastructure money; the Aqsarniit School, and indeed, the Francophone School.

The reason Mr. Speaker, for the extra money, for the Iqaluit projects, again, he is amalgamating the different projects, there are monies there for Nunavut Arctic College because our students need accommodations. We're out on the private marketplace right now, renting over 30 units, some of them aren't the very best. So we need to be able to move forward to build our own student accommodations, which is something that has been in the capital plans for a long time and the renovations to Inukshuk High School, which seems to be an issue.

As I said earlier Mr. Speaker, we do have a list and members can be provided a copy. I know a lot of members have received copies of it because of a request made by the Standing Committee. We are the only department in the government, I believe, that has that type of criteria list, and the reason why we have it is because of what happened in Cambridge Bay a few years ago when a lot of money went into that school there, and the House, at that time, which is not a very long time ago, because we have only been the government since 1999, in the last five years, changed the criteria and the Department of Education came forward and said replacement of facilities should be based on three major criteria; which included occupancy, and usage, age, and the quality of the building. That is the process that we are using.

So in that case Mr. Speaker, I hope that helps not only answer it logistically, but also administratively and financially why the projects are presented as they are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the minister attempting to justify why 50 percent of the capital dollars is fair for Nunavummiut outside the City of Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, I indicated to the minister that there is a perception out there and the minister must take it serious that we are building on another Yellowknife-based headquarters and it was the intent of the public Nunavummiut when they voted for capital when the new ministers were appointed that we favour one community at the expense of the others.

So, I want to ask the minister again: will the minister consider adopting a system that would appear to be more equitable and fair for the Nunavummiut rather than attempting to justify spending for one city?

The minister did not explain that there was roughly \$5 million GN money spent last year on the Aqsarniit School to extend that school. That was a purchase from last year. So, again, I urge the minister to explain, for Nunavummiut, that he will make it more equitable and fair for the people of Nunavut.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Government goes, usually, on five-year plans when we are doing the capital planning process. In the Department of Education, we actually did a 20-year forecast; the only department, I believe, that has substantiated for capital projects to come forward. Mr. Speaker, those include community learning centres, new schools, and additions to upgrade our infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, the member said to me: the minister has not justified the expenditure. I have justified them to the basis of credibility that you could, in this context, Mr. Speaker, by saying that the challenge of the veracity of the statements is incorrect.

The schools are based on need, they are based on the status of the school itself, and they are based on the occupancy of the school, what the utilization is. That list is in place.

However Mr. Speaker, during the Committee of the Whole debate on the capital budget of Education, if the members have motions or recommendations to bring forward on the budget Mr. Speaker, to help us plan that process, Mr. Speaker, then that's something that we will do.

But Mr. Speaker, there has been a fair and equitable distribution of the budget, and indeed, the issues that the member talks about of this budget, was the monies that were spent last year, for example, on Aqsarniit were approved in the budget last year by all of the Members in the House. The Minister of Education, being a member from Iqaluit, did not come up somehow miraculously, and create a special project for Iqaluit, that did not occur. The member refers back to some of the other issues.

Mr. Speaker, as a minister for the Government of Nunavut, Mr. Speaker, I have tried and I think I have done the best job that I know how possible to prove, Mr. Speaker, that there hasn't been a bias toward putting out projects, and as I explained, Gjoa Haven, Coral Harbour, Arviat, Baker Lake, Cape Dorset, all communities are either getting new schools or have gotten new schools over the past couple of years, I think demonstrates that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 086 – 2(3): Workshop on Shamanism – Out of Order

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to Minister Tapardjuk. He was going to find out about the teaching of shamanism.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk. You can't raise that question because he already said that he was going to take the question as notice and get back to you. Oral Questions. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

Oral Question 087 – 2(3): Reducing Income Support Payments to Former Residential School Students

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education, who is responsible for the Government of Nunavut's Income Support Program.

Last week, it was announced that a comprehensive settlement agreement on residential schools has finally been achieved. There will be Inuit in Nunavut who will be entitled to compensation for the harm that they have suffered.

Mr. Speaker, many individuals who suffered at residential school have faced great difficulties in their lives ever since. Many have come to rely on programs like income support (interpretation) and they will not get this from bingo winnings.

(interpretation ends) My question for the Minister is this: will Inuit who are receiving income support from the GN have their income support reduced if they receive a residential school settlement payment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the last week or so, we have heard that there has been movement through the federal government to finally, and with some clarity, finally face up to the issue of the residential school program and indeed put together a financial compensation package for the residential school survivors.

Mr. Speaker, in the context of that and in the context of some of the other statements that were made, for example, under some of the abuse a couple of years ago in some of the communities, we looked at it on a case by case basis under the income support program.

That's something Mr. Speaker, we would be doing again once the money or the cheques start to flow. It is our understanding by just listening to the media reports that still might be some time in coming. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recently, the federal government announced an Energy Cost Benefit program to help Canadians deal with high energy costs. Payments under the program will go to families who receive the National Child Benefit supplement. Will Nunavummiut receiving these benefits have their income support reduced? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are some issues around income support and the monies that are generated through other sources of income, other than, for example, the member mentioned bingo.

Mr. Speaker, this is not in the same context and that's something that we have to look at as a government, within that program. It also reflects some of the other jurisdictions who would have a similar issue, with the residential school pay out.

Again, with the possible federal election, in the next few weeks and months, issues may change on timing and so on. So, that's something, Mr. Speaker, that we as a government we're looking into, not only on the logistics side, but also on the financial side. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister recently agreed to suggestions made by regular MLAs and others that co-op dividends no longer be clawed-back by the GN. Is he looking at exempting any other sources of income in this way? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is correct, we just recently moved, in the last budget cycle to exempt co-op dividends. That was something that co-op members across Nunavut had asked us for, for a long time, to exempt income dividends from co-op payments as reportable income for income support.

We are also going to do the same thing, in answer to the member's question for the federal program that is coming out in regards to any type of fuel tax credit that may be available, or cheques that may be available to our Elders and seniors and people in low income situations.

So, that's another exemption that we're looking at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 088 – 2(3): Identifying Nunavut Beneficiaries in the Priority Hiring Policy

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Human Resources.

Mr. Speaker, in the Minister's Statement this morning or earlier or somewhere in a different time zone, earlier this afternoon, he indicated in the revised priority hiring policy that one of the things he eliminated was the responsibility for applicants to identify their eligibility for priority consideration.

Given that and taking that out of there Mr. Speaker, my question is this, how does the department plan to identify someone who qualifies under that policy or not.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister for Human Resources, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Those people who applied had to indicate whether they were beneficiaries but we encountered some problems, especially when they had to identify it a lot of times, they forgot the little box to indicate whether they are beneficiaries or not.

We obtained the list from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated of the beneficiaries and it'll be our responsibility to check whether they are beneficiaries or not. What it was previously, the applicant had to indicate if they were beneficiaries.

But we encountered some minor problems and now it'll be our department that will check to make sure they are beneficiaries or not. I hope I answered his question.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I understand the Minister correctly the department, whenever they receive an applicant they are going to be cross referencing with the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated beneficiary list.

Mr. Speaker, how is the department going to determine that list is accurate and I know sometimes all beneficiaries are not on that list, so how are they going to determine that list is accurate for using it for that purpose. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): What this is it is continually updated with new names of all the beneficiaries and we have that list. But if somebody applies for positions, Human Resources will cross check with the list but before it was up to the individual who was applying for a job whether they were beneficiaries or not.

And if they mistakenly miss that to check that off then that created problems. So we will go through all the applicants and check with the list which as we have it from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, so I wonder how the department is going to determine if that list is accurate.

But, also Mr. Speaker, under the priority hiring policy it is my understanding that there were some changes made to also accommodate local northerners that were non-beneficiaries. So, will that be put into that policy?

Are they still going to be required to say that they are local northerners, even though they are not a beneficiary, and if the minister and his department are going to be checking just for beneficiaries, how are they going to determine the other priority levels for hiring? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The way it is, we look at the beneficiaries to give them priority.

After that, then we go with the Nunavummiut, which includes anybody who lives in Nunavut, who is a long-term resident. We could consider them as Nunavummiut if they have resided in Nunavut for one year and have obtained a health care card. We would consider them as Nunavummiut and the rest would be others who apply.

So, for the way it is now, the beneficiaries are given the priority, and second the Nunavummiut, and third others. That's how it is at this time, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I understand how the three levels work, but what the minister is indicating is that they are going to use another list that isn't coming from the government, that there may be gaps in for an individual to determine just the number one priority of the government.

There's absolutely nothing in there that sets up how they are going to differentiate between priority two and priority three, between Nunavummiut and other. How are they going to determine that? He mentioned that they have a health care card, but it's not a requirement to put down your healthcare number on an application and I'm pretty sure it's a breach of privacy for the Department of Human Resources to go to the Department of Health to find out whether that individual has a Nunavut health care card.

So, I would like to ask the minister: how do they plan on differentiating between the three? I mean there's only one and even that one, we can't guarantee its' accuracy, but between Nunavummiut and other, how are you going to determine that? Is it fair to have, basically it's a two-tiered system that if you are from Nunavut, you have to put that on there, but if you are a beneficiary, you don't have to? How are they going to determine what the other priority levels are because it seems to be missing there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): With that, it's a new system that we are putting together in our department, and of course, with this policy, there is room for improvement.

We will put a priority on the beneficiaries in order to increase the number working in the Nunavut Government. We definitely have to increase the number under Article 23 in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement; there has to be a priority. And then for the second level, they are Nunavummiut whether they are Qallunaaq, Inuk, or a non-beneficiary because we know who the long-term residents are; they are going to be easy to identify. And for the others, for example, anybody from the south who has applied, they will be put on as a last priority. I want to make sure that I'm getting the message across here, but this is the only way that I can answer. There are going to be three levels. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 089 – 2(3): Arctic College Research Institute

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education on the Arctic College Research Institute. We hear that we have one here in Iqaluit and one in Igloolik. How much is the Arctic College spending in terms of operation of both buildings in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that all the money that we had for operations and maintenance for those buildings was transferred out of the Department of Education and indeed, to Community and Government Services.

So, on the operations and maintenance costs, I don't have those number values with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When would he have the figures for us and why do we have to have two institutes in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can provide the numbers to the member as early as tomorrow morning, or indeed I might have them this afternoon in the Committee of the Whole, which I can bring to the member.

On the issue of the two buildings themselves, Mr. Speaker, they serve dual purposes. They provide not only logistic, but also administrative support to the college.

On the NRI side of things, the Nunavut Research Institute here, for example, is the major base of operations for advanced scientific work that occurs in Nunavut. It helps facilitate permitting and so on, on behalf and for southern scientists and research groups that come forward to do research in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Question period is now over. Mr. Netser, your final supplementary.

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Do we need both institutes in Nunavut? (interpretation) Because of course, they say that they don't have enough money. What we'd like to know from the minister is exactly how much they use for operations and maintenance.

We have very limited financial resources. Is it necessary to have two institutions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the present time we believe there is some opportunity with some economies of scale when we look at the two institutions, with the two facilities that the member is talking about.

One of the biggest concerns that we had, for example, were the operations and maintenance dollars that were being expended directly by the college, out of the college budget.

We were able to transfer those dollar values and costs to the Department of Community and Government Services. At the same time, the member is correct; those costs will still have to be covered by the Government of Nunavut.

But, at the same time, we believe that there are some economies of scale with having two. That's a discussion Mr. Speaker that needs to be engaged in with the Board of Governors for the college when we are doing our review, and that is something that will be occurring with the next board meeting of the Board of Governors of the college. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Question period is now over. Item 7, Written Questions. Item 8, Returns to Written Questions. Item 9, Replies to Opening Address. Item 10, Petitions. Item 11, Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12, Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills.

Item 13, Tabling of Documents. Prior to that if you are going to be tabling a document make sure the pages come and get them. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 036 – 2(3): Priority Hiring Policy

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a document regarding the priority hiring policy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Tabled Document 037 – 2(3): Annual Report of the Director of Child & Family Services, 2004-2005

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the Annual Report of the Director of Child and Family Services for the fiscal year 2004-2005. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Ms. Brown.

Tabled Document 038 – 2(3): FPT Ministerial Meetings

Tabled Document 039 – 2(3): Procurement & Contracting Report, 2004-2005

Tabled Document 040 – 2(3): Nunavut Gasoline Quality Report, 2004-2005

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table three documents.

Mr. Speaker, the first one is in regards to a meeting we had down south of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers on Nunavut. The second, Mr. Speaker, is the Report on the Nunavut Petroleum Products for the year 2004-2005. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to table another document, the contract report for 2004-2005. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 041 – 2(3): Nunavut Business Credit Corporation Board Policies**Tabled Document 042 – 2(3): Government of Nunavut Memorandum of Understanding with Nunavut Tourism****Tabled Document 043 – 2(3): Safe Harbours – Healthy Communities & Airports for Nunavummiut & Their Economy**

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following documents; first, the Nunavut Business Development Board Policies, also, Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut's Memorandum of Understanding with Nunavut Tourism and lastly, I would like to table the Safe Harbours and Airports for Nunavummiut and their Economy.

In addition, I distributed the Transportation Strategy 2001 in the last government to each Member of the Legislative Assembly for their information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents, Mr. Akesuk.

Tabled Document 044 – 2(3): FPT Ministerial Meetings

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a document on Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministerial meetings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents, Premier Okalik.

Tabled Document 045 – 2(3): Deputy Minister Travel Fiscal Year 2004-2005 & Ministerial Travel Expense Summary Report for Fiscal Year 2004-2005

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a document regarding the Deputy Ministers' Ministers' travel to meetings in 2004-2005. Thank you.

Tabled Document 046 – 2(3): Pension Administration Report for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005

Tabled Document 047 – 2(3): Audited Financial Statements of the Retiring Allowances Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Honourable Members pursuant to section 21(d) of the *Legislative Assembly's Retiring Allowances Act*, and section 20(b) of the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table today; the Pension Administration Report, as prepared by the actuaries of the plans, Hewitt Associates, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Tabled Document 048 – 2(3): Audited Financial Statements of the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005

Honourable members, pursuant to section 20 of the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table today the audited financial statements of the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Fund for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Tabled Document 049 – 2(3): Report on the Payment of Member Indemnities, Allowances & Expenses for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005

Tabling of documents. Pursuant to section 36 of the *Legislative Assembly's and Executive Council Act*, I wish to table the report on the payment of member indemnities, allowances, and expenses for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Tabling of documents. Back to the orders of the day. Item 14. Notices of motions. Mr. Kilabuk.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 002 – 2(3): Extended Adjournment – Notice

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two notices of motions here. I give notice that on Wednesday, November 30, 2005, I will move the following. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that notwithstanding rule 4, that when the House concludes its present sitting in Iqaluit, it shall adjourn until Tuesday, February 21, 2006. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Motion 003 – 2(3): Ending Domestic Violence in Nunavut – Notice

I give notice that on Wednesday, November 30, I will move the following motion. Now therefore, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit Centre, that the Legislative Assembly affirm its commitment to supporting measures to reduce and eliminate domestic violence in Nunavut.

Further, I move that this House, including all elected officials and office holders at the municipal and regional level, join the Members of the Legislative Assembly in this commitment. Further, I move that the Members of the Legislative Assembly demonstrate personal leadership by participating in public education efforts to promote the unacceptability of domestic violence in any form and to provide positive role models. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Notices of motions. Mr. Tootoo.

Motion 004 – 2(3): Member for Nattilik be Removed from the Executive Council of Nunavut – Notice

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, November 30, 2005, I will move the following motion.

I move that the Member for Nattilik be removed as a Member of the Executive Council of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your notice of motion, do you have a seconder for your notice of motion? Mr. Tootoo. Notice of motion is out of order. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills**Bill 02 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #2 2005-2006 – First Reading**

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 2 - Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #2 2005-2006 be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion please raise your hands. Opposed. Abstained. Bill 2 has had its first reading. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act #2 2005-2006 – First Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 3 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act #2 2005-2006 be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstained. Bill 3 has had its first reading. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act #4 2004-2005 – First Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik, that Bill 4 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act #4 2004-2005 be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstained. The motion is carried and Bill 4 has had its first reading. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Kilabuk.

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act – First Reading

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that Bill 10 - An Act to amend the Nunavut Elections Act be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstained. The motion is carried and Bill 10 has had its first reading. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills**Bill 02 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 2, 2005-06 – Second Reading**

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act 2, 2005-06, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations for the Government of Nunavut to defer the capital expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2006. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. Comments to the motion. There are no comments to the motion. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 2 has had second reading and can be referred to Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 2, 2005-06 – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Baffin South, that Bill 3, Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 2, 2005-06 be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations for the Government of Nunavut to defray the operations and maintenance expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2006. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Comments to the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 3 has had second reading and can be referred to Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 4, 2004-05 – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik that Bill 4 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 4, 2004-05, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations for the Government of Nunavut to defray the operations and maintenance expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal ending March 31, 2005. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. Comments to the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 4 has had second reading and can be referred to Committee of the Whole. Second reading of bills.

Item 19, Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters, Bill 1, Bill 2, Bill 3, Bill 4. Bill 1, Appropriation Capital Act 2006-07....(no interpretation)...

We'll take a short break until 4:15. Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>House recessed at 15:53 and resumed at 16.25

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

Chairman (Mr. Netser) (interpretation): Thank you for coming back. The meeting will come back to order. There are Bills 1, 2, 3, 4, that we have to deal with. What is the wish of the Committee? Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Arreak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we wish to continue with the review of the capital for Education followed by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Minister Picco would you and your officials go to the witness table.

(interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. If you could introduce your officials, Mr. Picco.

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2006-07 – Education – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman with me at the Witness Table this afternoon on my immediate left is the Capital Planner for the Department of Education, Mr. Lorne Levy and my immediate right is Ms. Pam Hine, Deputy Minister of Education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Welcome Ms. Hine and Mr. Levy. We are page G-8. I think Mr. Alagalak has the floor.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman I decline.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During last week's discussion on that item, it was somewhat a perception in Rankin Inlet with the number of college programs not only for the town of Rankin but for the communities of the region as a whole, and there was I think a perception that was presented here that the facility there accommodates all types of students including single and married couples.

Is that correct that the current facility houses single students as well as family students from outside of the Kivalliq communities.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that is incorrect. The accommodations provided in Rankin Inlet are for single students. At the same time we have leased some units in the community for married accommodations and

because of some of the issues that were raised last week in the House by the Member we instructed the College to go forward immediately to the newspapers to do another ad to find accommodations in the community for those married people. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Certainly, Mr. Chairman that is welcome news to the students not only for family units but for other students from outside the region that come in and therefore include students that have more than one term program that they are attending in Rankin.

My appreciation to the Minister. Can you communicate to the town officials or education officials that you would send a copy of that information to me because I am not sure how many units will be called for with your announcement. I can say to you that it is very important news to the students.

I also would like to ask my last question with respect to the \$460,000 allocation, it appeared last week that this is for planning of site developments and other plans for the future accommodation. Am I correct in that they are not actually going to be for constructing units next year? Thank you.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I was explaining last week, during the deliberations, the \$460,000 is in place for design as well as some of the site development work that needs to move forward. And one of the issues that had come up in the past was the lot selection issue and some of the work that needed to be done with the lot in Rankin Inlet. So, that's the basis of the money here in the budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Are you done? I have no more names on my list. Under Tangible Assets. Kivalliq Region. Total Kivalliq Region. \$2,110,000. (interpretation) Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region. Mr. Peterson.

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

I don't have a specific question about the elementary school, but I do have some questions about other potential capital planning projects in the Kitikmeot, and in particular, for the one in Cambridge Bay. That would be the future of the new Nunavut Arctic College campus facility.

I'm sure the minister and his officials are aware that some of the facilities in Cambridge Bay are at least 40 years old and maybe older, and they are not very conducive to classroom facilities. I know you have done the best you can with the facilities, but they are not up to current standards, and the facilities are spread all over town.

The thing about the campus is that you know it's based in Cambridge Bay. It's a regional facility, and it's for all of Kitikmeot. Students come from elsewhere across Nunavut and we just recently opened the new housing. It's very nice, by the way, the 28 families of the students that are staying at the student housing, I think, are some of the happiest people in Cambridge Bay.

So, if Rankin Inlet gets some facilities, I'm sure that folks down there will be happy. We have these new accommodations for students, which makes life easier on the home scene, but the classroom facilities are not up to standards. I'm wondering if the minister could update me on what they are planning in terms of funding over the next two or three years to provide new facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In January or February, Mr. Levy and his team will be in Cambridge Bay reviewing the facilities there and meeting with Fiona Buchan-Corey, who is the Director of the Campus for the Kitikmeot in Cambridge Bay, to look at the infrastructure needs of the community.

And the member is correct; we have a nice accommodation now, the very best of accommodations for our students in the community. That facility, the college facilities themselves leave something to be desired and there is some movement within the community as well as the board of governors of the college, and myself as minister, that we would like to be able to amalgamate and integrate our facilities under one roof as it were in the community of Cambridge Bay.

It's also tied into the Nunavut Arctic College board of governors. They will be reviewing their capital plan, and that capital plan reviewed by the board of governors then comes to me as the minister and is then incorporated into the Department of Education plan.

So the good news for Cambridge Bay is that we do have a facility now, the student accommodation facility, and the next step is to start improving and trying to integrate and amalgamate, when possible, the college buildings, classroom space, and so on under one roof in the community. I think that's the desire that we have heard. That meeting will take place very soon in the New Year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and I thank the minister for that answer. That's good to hear. I might also encourage you to involve the municipal officials because I

know when the accommodation facilities were being planned, when I was with the hamlet, we had some involvement there.

I think one of the reasons we were able to get that going is, at the time, it was equity leases on the land. You had to have land selections. So the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay would certainly want to be involved in terms of selecting a location and, over the next five to ten years, the planning.

Just a small aside, you mentioned earlier that the new tenants in their new accommodations are very happy. There is just one thing that they're not happy about, there is the coin operated laundry. They have to... I think it's \$3 a load.

When they were explaining that to me in Cambridge Bay and some of my colleagues from the standing committee, they were wondering why, what's this all about? So, it may be something... yeah, like they say, they can't afford to buy food, yet they have to pay for laundry. So, I don't know what the policy is on that, but it may be something you might want to look into.

My second question related to the Kitikmeot again is, and this is more of a regional thing. This is the mining school at Lupin that people are looking to develop. I've discussed this a few times over the last year and a half. It's moving along fairly quickly. From what I hear, time is of the essence from the proponents.

They've completed an initial study with two or three scenarios. The one scenario that looks best in terms of advancing that product, is the one where they might have to come up with \$3 to \$4 million to buy some of the assets.

My question to the minister, I recall from the Commissioner's Address, that there was \$10 million for a trade school. I'm wondering if the minister could tell me today if some of that funding would be available to help the private sector, in partnership with the Government of Nunavut to acquire the assets of the Lupin Mine for a Nunavut Mining Training School. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member has done, I believe numerous service on this file. He's raised it numerous times and I think it's safe to say there is some action occurring.

We've made some announcements in the House about training, mines training in the Kitikmeot and other locations in Nunavut. The opportunity here is, with the Kitikmeot Development Corporation and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, if they assume an operational standard at the Lupin Mine, and for example, have a training instructor on site and equipment or a simulator and so on, to be able to deliver, let's say, heavy equipment operator training, then the opportunity is there for the department to purchase seats to provide that training to our constituents, to our residents.

That would support the operation of the facility as a private training institute. That is something that we're willing to look at with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. Further to that, Mr. Levy, and his team of capital planners are intending to go into Lupin to have a look at the site itself, and that's something that I've mentioned to the member, that I would be interested in going in myself, with him and some of his people in there, to review the site.

So, we're trying to plan that. It might be better to do that after Christmas, in the New Year, and those are the kinds of dates that we're looking at right now. What I can say and what I can commit to is that, if a registered training site is open where certification can be done on the site, then there is an opportunity where the government could purchase seats from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association or KDC, who are delivering that type of training.

I think that is a move in a good direction and that is something that we would support. On the second part of his question, very quickly, on the trades' school issue, we do have monies within the Northern Strategy, \$10 million, to move forward on a trades' school.

Hopefully we'll have the information on the FOL site, some of the logistic as well as the administrative and the financial concerns with the FOL site, in the next few weeks, I'm hoping to have that by the middle of this month, December and then be able to make a decision with the cabinet some time in the new year, on how we proceed with that site.

That's the best I can do right now on an update. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. I'm not quite clear on the answer. Are you saying that the \$10 million is going to go entirely into one trades school? Is the money going to be available for different types of trades' schools? I am not sure what the money is going to be used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now, as I explained earlier, it goes back into July, and some of the discussions that we had with the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Graham, we believe that there is some opportunity with the FOL site. The Minister's office said that they would be interested in being able to provide that, to facilitate that with the FOL site in Rankin Inlet, and that would help us with our stated goal, coming out of our Arviat caucus meeting from last September, to move forward on a PPT school. However, we don't want to put all of our eggs in one basket.

If it comes to be that when the logistics for these finish and the costs are too high, and there are too many candidates involved in the FOL site, we have the ability to have the \$10 million to look at opportunities throughout Nunavut where we would be able to have some dedicated facility, or facilities put in place.

I would suggest to you that the consensus is that the major trades site should be in Rankin Inlet. We have to build up some capacity there. It is centrally located and there is some opportunity for mining development. At the same time, as I earlier stated, there is some opportunity also in the Kitikmeot, through the Lupin Mine of purchasing seats, and so on, we already talked about that, and an opportunity to use some of that money to upgrading existing facilities there and at the other major campus.

Again, we would be in a better position to make those acknowledgements, and make those decisions once we get the complete report on the FOL, which I would hope to have by the 20 of December, at the latest. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My big concern; the concern of the folks in the Kitikmeot is that they have these mining facilities; that Kinross Gold had to file their mining reclamation plan; the wheels are in motion there, so we are certain of the window of opportunity to acquire those assets. I'm not 100 percent certain that the private sector guys, working as hard as they can and doing the best that they can with their limited resources, will be able to put a plan in place in time to acquire the assets of the Lupin Mine, and then we would be in the situation where Kinross Gold would have to decommission everything; remove all the facilities from their mine site, and that opportunity is lost to the Kitikmeot and to Nunavut forever.

It is a very nice facility. It has everything that you would want. It is strategically located right in the Slave geologic province. You got three or four mines; Tahera, Miramar, a couple of big diamond mines down in the Northwest Territories, that includes Snap Lake. So you got all those mines that are there now and then the ones that will probably open once the road and port is constructed.

So we are strategically located in that. We just don't want lose that facility. So the Kitikmeot Corporation and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association would be looking around probably for support from the Government of Nunavut, and elsewhere. I am not sure that purchasing seats would be sufficient to address our needs. I'm not 100 percent on that until we see the business plan, but these things don't come a big price tag. So we're going to need some support from the Government of Nunavut to acquire those assets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I didn't hear a question there but if you wish to respond to that, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We've had an opportunity to review the two other reports on the Lupin Mine site. The member is correct. There are different assets that are there that are of value in regards to some of the vocational training that the department has talked about. Those include but are not limited to the building infrastructure as well as the runway infrastructure.

The unique opportunity here Mr. Chairman, is that the Lupin site is an isolated site. If you send people up there for 3-4 weeks for training it would be similar to if you had to go to an actual mining site for work. So you are acclimatizing people. That is a good selling point as far as we are concerned when we look at the mine site itself.

On the asset investment, that is something else all together. We've haven't had an opportunity to go to the site and we talked about doing that. I don't have money in my budget to actually purchase equipment, graders and so on and so forth.

What I am suggesting is, if the Kitikmeot Development Association you know for the training plan to use the site as a training vocational training base, then the Department of Education as a partner in training would be more than welcome to step up to the plate, purchase seats and so on in that process and be a partner in that side of it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister. If the Minister could commit to keeping me informed of the progress he is in making on that file and let me know the dates when you are coming to Cambridge Bay. And keeping me informed of the plans of the Lupin so that I will be available to accompany you to Lupin. Those are comments not questions Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one area that I would like to ask the Minister.

I know that some of the O&M funding will probably have some announcement with the federal contributions with a third party funding and a number of labour market training side or industry side of a development fund.

Just for the record. I know that we are dealing with the capital items here. But the two tend to go hand in hand. Do we expect some announcement from the federal side whether we are not if we are going to get extra federal dollars for infusion of these kinds of training requirements or infrastructure that we need for these kinds of facilities, the programs that many of the Members of the Legislative Assembly are asking for. Or are we going to do it alone for the next few years. Thank you.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the member is correct. There are two or three pots of funds available that are used by the Department of Education when you look at training opportunities. One is the Aboriginal Employment Skills

Program (AESP). Under that program and some of the Members have heard me when I talked about this before.

When we submitted our original plan it was quite detailed and indeed was considered one of the top four received in the country by a jurisdiction at that time. We've had further discussions on that and those are on-going with our federal partner. We had to resubmit it because there were some issues with the uptake on that program from across the country.

We've also have the Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) there is some money available. And we are in the process now of signing off a new multi-year program which the Member is referring to which is a little over \$3 million which is called the LMP, Labour Market Program. That program will be coming forward to as far as training.

Those are the three different programs that are available to Nunavummiut which we are working on. They are in process or about to be signed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley any further questions. I have no more names on my list. We are at the Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region, \$3,903,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total tangible assets, \$19,000,737. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Back to G-4. Education Department summary. Detail of expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures \$19,737,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you in agreed that Department of Education is concluded. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like to thank the Minister and his staff for being here. Do you have any closing comments? Please proceed, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Ed Picco: Just for the record, thank you, very much, Mr. Chairman for doing a good job. I know that it has been kind of hectic over the last few days in the Chair, and Mr. Arreak, too, I think you did a great job in keeping the flow going. A special thank you to you for the gift that you gave me on Thursday, and we had a good weekend and it was very good.

Chairman: Please go.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you. (interpretation) Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Does the minister have any opening remarks for the Committee of the Whole?

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2006- 07 – Economic Development & Transportation – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here to present my department's capital plan for fiscal year 2006-2007 to the Committee of the Whole.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is proposing \$7.95 million capital plan for the fiscal year 2006-2007. (interpretation ends) The department's capital plan concentrates on transportation-related expenditures. Therefore, \$7.86 million is related to transportation expenditures so that the department can continue to address the growing pressures on our aging transportation system, as well as the construction of a new airport in the community of Arctic Bay.

The majority of the department's total capital commitment is related to community specific projects throughout the territory. Many of the airports are in need of heavy equipment such as loaders, plough trucks, graders, and snow blowers to maintain the airport facilities. As such, a total of \$1.19 million is proposed to the capital plan for the fiscal year 2006-2007 for the purchase of airport equipment.

As a department we are responsible for maintaining high standards of airports and related infrastructure. Planning for airport upgrades is done based on the condition of the airstrip and the remaining lifespan.

The capital plan for fiscal year 2006-2007 proposes \$400,000 to continue work on the rehab of the runway apron in Grise Fiord. This is a multiyear capital project that will see \$925,000 in planned expenditures over a three-year period.

It is proposed that the airstrip in Kimmirut will receive \$125,000 for the first year of a three-year runway rehabilitation project totalling \$1.07 million. The airport runway in Taloyoak will also receive \$450,000 worth of work in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. The three-year total cost is estimated to be \$2 million.

The department also proposes additional capital funding in 2006-2007 fiscal year for the following projects. The department is proposing a three-year project totalling \$16.4 million to construct an airport in Arctic Bay as a result of the closure of the Nanisivik Mine and town Site. A total of \$4 million is allocated to this project in the fiscal year 2006-2007 and the department has identified a total of \$1 million towards the Iqaluit Airport Taxi and airport rehab project in the fiscal year 2006-2007, and the department was successful in accessing \$2.7 million to this project from the federal government.

There is a requirement for the Government of Nunavut to contribute \$1.9 million for this project over three years.

The department is proposing to increase the Community Access Road program from \$150,000 per year to \$500,000 per year starting in the fiscal year 2006-2007, which is an increase of \$350,000.

Mr. Chairman, access roads are public roads or trails that connect a community, and its residents, to nearby locations, including recreational sites, camps, and archaeological sites.

They are critical in giving the people of Nunavut access to local resources, access to water or ice, and to support fishing, hunting and tourism opportunities. The investment reflects my department's commitment to upgrading access road infrastructure within the territory and will result in increased economic potential for our communities.

A further \$100,000.00 has also been included in the capital plan for fiscal year 2006-07 for the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project. The Government of Nunavut's contribution will go to fund a feasibility study and environmental assessment directed towards the development of a deep water port on Bathurst Inlet and the construction of a 295 kilometre all-weather road between the port and the Izok mineral deposit, which will also serve a number of existing mineral properties both in Nunavut, and the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Chairman, the 39.7 kilometre Arctic Bay-Nanisivik Highway is the only ground transportation link between the communities of Arctic Bay and Nanisivik, and also the Nanisivik Airport. The highway is still needed until the Nanisivik mine site reclamation is complete, and the new airport is constructed in Arctic Bay.

The condition of the highway has been deteriorating over the past few years and user's concerns regarding safety and vehicle damage have been brought to the department's attention.

A recent condition survey has identified many areas with wash-outs, serious erosions, drainage deficiencies, and severe loss of surface materials. The department is proposing an allocation of \$100,000.00 in the capital plan for the fiscal year 2006-07 to fund the ongoing work of remedial repairs to the sections of highway experiencing the most severe deterioration.

Mr. Chairman, at the outset of my presentation, I stated that the majority of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's capital plan is transportation related, but the remaining is targeted to three projects.

A continued investment of \$10,000.00 for the Nunavut Art Bank. This investment will focus on the acquisition of artwork by Nunavut artists and will be displayed in the Government of Nunavut offices.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, visitors' centres play an important role, not only as places for tourists to learn first-hand about a community, but also as centres that actively support community activities and events. A total of \$50,000.00 has been allocated in the capital plan for the fiscal year 2006-07 for Nunavut visitor centres.

Finally, \$25,000.00 has been allocated for the purchase of booths and equipment for the upgrade and enhancement of visitors' centres. Mr. Chairman, believe this plan makes good use of existing resources by clearly focusing on supporting initiatives under the department's mandate.

Certainly there is much more that needs to be done to ensure economic development and transportation continues to be a priority. As minister, I will continue to work with all our partners, including the federal government to seek ways to access more funding in order to meet our growing economic and transportation infrastructure needs which are vital to our economic wealth and social prosperity.

With that, I'll be glad to answer any questions from my fellow members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Do you have witnesses you would like to bring to the table, Mr. Kilabuk.

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

Chairman: Does the Committee agree to bring in the witnesses. Sergeant-At-Arms if you would escort the witnesses please. Please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me today in my immediate left is my Deputy Minister, Alex Campbell and to my immediate right Mr. Methusalah Kunuk, my Assistant Deputy Minister for Economic Development and Transportation. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee have any comments. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to welcome the Minister, his Deputy and his Assistant Deputy Minister for making an appearance before the Committee.

I would like to congratulate you for being the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chairman 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 Economic Development and Tourism, I mean Transportation.

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

The recently released 2005 Nunavut Economic Outlook raises concerns with respect to the need for the GN to recognize that it cannot immediately fulfill all of its economic development goals and that it must realistically prioritize its plans and strategies.

Committee Members have commented on the significant number of strategies that the GN has funded in the past. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation has funded and/or published many strategies.

To illustrate, some of those strategies include:

The Time is Right – A Vision and a Strategy for Tourism Development in Nunavut;
The Nunavut Economic Development Strategy;
Nunavut Transportation Strategy (2001);
Nunavut Air Services: System Implementation Options;
Iqaluit International Airport: Master Plan;
Nunavut Arts and Crafts Strategy;
Carving Stone Strategy;
Community Economic Development Framework;
Nunavut Mining Strategy;
Nunavut-Manitoba Road Project: Route Selection Study;
Safe Harbours – Healthy Communities and Airports for Nunavummiut and their Economy; and
Iqaluit Deep Water Port: Feasibility Study.

Members appreciate the Minister's recent letter updating the Committee on the status of these initiatives and look forward to further information being tabled as they move forward.

Mr. Chairman, members recognize that the GN's resources are limited and that every aspect of every strategy cannot be immediately implemented. It is unclear and confusing as to exactly what this department's priorities are with respect to both its economic development and transportation strategies.

Members urge the Minister to work with his Cabinet colleagues to complete implementation plans and identify funding for specific projects in the interest of transparency.

Mr. Chairman, members are frustrated that there is no long-term funding for such large scale infrastructure projects as the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project and the Kivalliq-

Manitoba Road project. It is not clear what the long-term plan is for the actual construction of these projects.

The Standing Committee supports tourism initiatives, including the improvement of visitor centres. However, members remain concerned that our territory's tourism potential remains underdeveloped, and note that while the Department of Economic Development and Transportation has responsibility for tourism and visitor centres, the Department of Environment has responsibility for parks.

It is unclear how well these two departments work together in coordinating these responsibilities.

Members continue to be concerned by the lack of marine infrastructure across our territory. Harvesters rely on their boats to travel throughout the summer and in many communities there is nowhere safe to moor boats so that they do not suffer damage in high winds. Members support the minister in his efforts to secure federal funding for these projects and look forward to ongoing updates.

The Standing Committee recommends that the department table information in the House concerning the final costs of its major capital projects, including information on the Inuit labour 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.

That concludes my comments on the 2006-07 capital estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Individual members may wish to raise questions or make comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Before we proceed, I would like to remind members of the following. According to Rule 77(1) you have ten minutes and according to Rule 77(2) subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion, but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken. I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions in the page by page review of the departmental estimates.

Do members have any general comments?

There are no general comments. Any questions? Turn to page K-6 on your capital estimates. Economic Development and Transportation. K-6. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of capital. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and his officials for coming today. Could the minister just give me a kind of an indication of how many trade shows or tourist shows that the department attends on an annual basis where you would use a booth? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I regret to inform my colleague that that information is not really available in front of us. However, it is something we can easily enough get from our department to answer his question as to the number of shows that are attended. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Minister. We are on page K-6. Economic Development and Transportation. Economic Development. Detail of Capital. Grants and contributions. Headquarters region. Total headquarters region. \$25,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total grants and contribution, \$25,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page K-7. Tangible assets. Headquarters region. Total headquarters region. \$60,000. Do you agree? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I see that headquarters region talks about the various Nunavut Visitors Centres. I wonder if I can get an idea of where those funds are going to be going and exactly what they are going to be addressing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've got this page in front of me which doesn't seem to tell me the exact numbers. The actual numbers of the Visitors' Centres is not something that I have in front of me. But during our sitting here I will get the information for my colleague here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That information on where the Visitors' Centres are going to be addressed and what kind of work is going to be done; I imagine it's just minor capital projects with the amount of money that they put forward. So I look forward to getting that information that he is willing to commit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this will include repairs, replacements or purchase of new equipment or basic administrative equipment for the Visitors' Centres or audiovisual computerized display project equipment or other presentation equipment as needed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. We are on page K-7. Any more questions, Mr. Tootoo. Total tangible assets. Total headquarter region, \$60,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Qikiqtaaluk region. Total Qikiqtaaluk region. \$40,000. Do you agree? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I know the gentleman that used to sit beside me always used to say it is no secret that a few years ago there were a lot of concerns about a lot of vehicles in the capital budget. Maybe to commemorate a memory here, I'd like to ask for this list of Economic Development and Transportation vehicles what that is going to be used for and by who. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just got reminded. Mr. Chairman, the vehicle in question was in the capital plan last year and following to that, the intended use is for the regional office in Pangnirtung where the office is located on the other side of the river from the community and the facilities within the community. So it will be for the department's regional office in Pangnirtung. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that's a long walk; when we had the session in Pangnirtung, we had to cross the river a few times going back and forth to the school. Is it a new vehicle, for the record, I guess if they didn't have an existing vehicle there before those offices were built that they need one. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For that price, I'll make sure there is a new one and there is no vehicle available to the staff in that decentralized office. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. I have no more names on my list. (interpretation ends) Qikiqtaaluk Region. Total Qikiqtaaluk Region. \$40,000. (interpretation) Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Tangible Assets. \$100,000. (interpretation) Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Moving to page K-8. Transportation. (interpretation) It's part of page K-9. (interpretation ends) Transportation. Detail of Capital. Grants and Contributions. Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region, \$100,000. (interpretation) Agreed? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for the Bathurst Inlet Road and Port. I wonder if the minister can elaborate on what that \$100,000 is going to be used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's for the ongoing support for the studies that were needed for the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road study. As you probably recall, I had a bit of a problem in remembering what BIPAR was. It was the acronyms that were used, but it's for the ongoing support needed for the studies for that project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it can be difficult with acronyms. I remember trying to think of the acronym for the Strategic Highway Infrastructure Training program.

My next question, I guess, is this we are seeing here in front of us is the commitment, but I know a few years back, there was a commitment made to develop and work on this project by the government and this is what we are seeing at the end of that, and on top of that, are we looking at further...because a lot of things are being done, it's just the feasibility stage. Is that all we are going to see put into that or are we going to see other funds in future years put towards this project other than...if it has been decided that it's feasible to go ahead with it and look at capital dollars? As far as this goes, is that all that covers? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for asking that question because in our plans for the following year after 2006-2007, we have identified and estimated that we will need to put aside, in our plans, another amount of \$75,000 to keep this file moving, but beyond that, there is nothing further identified for the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to need your help with this one. During the committee meeting you pointed out and it's not clear exactly under what item the small craft investment strategy would come out, but your department has concluded that small craft investment strategy for Nunavut.

You read that quietly during the standing committee, but it's important you stated in that strategy that the infrastructure projects would take place in Clyde River, Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Chesterfield Inlet, Repulse Bay, and Kugaaruk. Has the minister received any official response to the strategy funding from the federal government? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are seven communities that requested it. The last time we had discussions with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and our officials within the Nunavut Government.

At this time we are expecting documentation of the last announcements. We still have to hear from the Minister's office whether this has been approved or not. Perhaps they are still under review. At this time we still haven't received any responses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister for your response. Perhaps it is due to the federal election being called. According to your knowledge in your discussions with them, will you continue to discuss this further no matter which party is the government?

Chairman: Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we've had ongoing discussions and our officials are keeping up-to-date with that, and also the minister and the Deputy Minister and I have recently requested a meeting with them because we feel that this is a very important priority to Nunavummiut, as well as all over. I have asked these two officials if I could meet with them in the beginning of December, so that I could have a face to face meeting with them.

As my colleague stated, I would be very sorry if this government does not go ahead because the federal government will continue to work on this.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I have no more names on my list. We are on grants and contributions. Total grants and contributions. Kitikmeot region. Total. Kitikmeot region, \$100,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total grants and contributions. \$100,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page K-10. Transportation. Tangible assets. Headquarters region. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): I had a question on the lower part. I'm sorry.

Chairman: We are at tangible assets. Headquarters region. Total Headquarters region. \$500,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Further down. Qikiqtaaluk region. K-11 is part of the page. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not written here. It's not even mentioned whether the airstrips are going to be worked on. I am representing the community of Chesterfield Inlet. Last summer when I was in the community the airstrip was eroding. They said that the surface was eroding....

Chairman: Mr. Netser, we are on Qikiqtaaluk region. Once the Qikiqtaaluk region is agreed to, we'll move onto the Kivalliq region. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): I know that we'll move onto the Keewatin region. When we move onto the Keewatin region we are not going to talk about this for the Keewatin region.

Chairman (interpretation): I apologize, Mr. Netser. Go ahead.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you. The airstrips. There is no runway being done in the Keewatin region as I represent Chesterfield Inlet. The gravel is in huge pieces now and this is a safety concern. The heavy equipment vehicles have to take out the big rocks so therefore we need to plan for the community.

Why are they not mentioned in here. Perhaps your department is not aware of the situation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Mr. Kunuk respond to your question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Kunuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Chesterfield Inlet we have to look at the plans again when we'll go ahead for that community. At this time I have no response for him.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps you'll probably want to go check up on that community. I can go to that community to make an observance.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. That was not a question. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, my question, this is not so much on what's there but what isn't there. Mr. Chairman, last year there was \$100,000 in the Capital budget that was used to assist the City of Iqaluit in doing a feasibility study for a deep sea port and small craft harbour.

I am wondering if the Minister or his officials, I know that the report or the study has been done if the department has received and endorsed that concept. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk (interpretation): Yes, for the Iqaluit feasibility study we assisted the City with \$100,000 for that project and at this time the reports have been submitted to us.

We have copies of the report. We still haven't responded to the report as yet as a department to the City.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am wondering what kind of time frame we will be looking at to get a response on the report to the City from the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are in a position to meet with the City to follow up the findings. So we will stand ready to discuss this further with the City at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that there is basically two parts. One was a slipway for a small craft and a deep sea port. And I raised issues regarding the slipway last year after we had an unfortunate incident occur here in Iqaluit where it took emergency service workers up to their waist or chest in cold water to try and assist someone that needed assistance.

And for those reasons I was bringing forward the safety concerns of having some type of a slipway that would be accessible regardless of where the tide was. I know we have, like a lot of communities have, considerable tides here and that does create a safety factor as

to what happened last year. I am just wondering if the department has plans to try and address that before we have to worry about it again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make sure that my limited English is on the same subject here. The information that I have is that that has been attended to and is in place over at the old Causeway area, where that boat launch has been put in place, in response to the question from my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is good to hear. You always hope those things aren't necessary but it's always good to have in the unfortunate event that that is necessary.

On the idea of the deep sea port, I know that the Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, mentioned from the economic development infrastructure program that was announced by the federal government of today, would that type of project fall under the criterion of that program to be able to try and leverage funding towards a project like that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to seek clarification as to which program my colleague is referring to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe it's the Strategic Infrastructure Investment program, all the millions that they are giving away for strategic infrastructure to help develop economic benefits in the north. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to be careful of what I say here, but the department is fully aware of that potential. Also keeping in mind other communities where the program may fall. At the present time there have been no announcements from this government on the work that's needed with the assistance of the federal government. I stand to be corrected. My understanding is that those are under consideration at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it's premature to say but the minister indicated earlier that they're in the process of reviewing the feasibility study and the

report, and hopefully, the department will endorse it. Given that, will the department work with the city to help lobby his federal counterparts in Ottawa to try and secure some federal dollars for a program like this. Given the fact that as a territory we have scarce resources and we need to try and capitalize as much as we can on outside dollars for projects of such magnitude. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I totally agree with my colleague because we are committed to giving the support for infrastructure needs we know are badly needed in Nunavut and we are also prepared to seek further support from our cabinet colleagues in this regard.

So, to answer my colleague, yes, we are in a position to support those that are approved through this government in seeking the additional dollars we need to build them through other federal programs. So, we are in support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to listen very carefully. The minister indicated that they would support projects that were approved by this government for funding and I just want to clarify that regardless of whether we have any funding available or not, will the department work with and assist the city in trying to secure funding for a project like this? I guess what I'm saying is regardless of whether it's funding approved by this government or not. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Agreed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry, but I know lots of times that one little word can come back to haunt you. So, I would like to make it very clear on what's indicated.

My next question and I know, again, it's something I have raised in the past and that deals with the airport here and some of the safety concerns that were identified in the master plan that was done here a number of years ago. I see that there is some funding in there for Airport Taxiway and apron one. I'm just wondering if that's just a small contribution and that there are some federal dollars that coincide with that. If I can get how much it is, just for the record. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleague is right that there are some federal dollars in the program. In the three years, there's \$10.7 million being given by the federal government for the ACAP program. So, yes, there are some federal dollars associated with this funding over the three-year period. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also on here and I just want to get it on the record, under Iqaluit, it shows a plough truck, is that plough truck for the City of Iqaluit or is that for one of the government departments? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can say with certainty that this one is for the airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we are on the marine deep sea studies subject, I often wonder why the government does not carry out the opening of the marine transportation system for free market in order to ensure that there would be a reduction of freight and whether the public would know whether the freight rates would be determined not on the basis of the government contract, but the free trade for a free system, and if possible, why are we continuing with these zone monopolies as we have it now?

Is there any intention for your department to study all those and maybe support opening the free market system. In the Kivalliq I believe you could pretty well have the free market system instead of having government contract binding rates 2 or 3 years at a time. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. We are on page on K-11. Capital Estimates for transportation. Qikiqtaaluk region. Mr. Minister do you want to respond to that.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess just to state the fact that I think it has been said in the House already by one of colleagues appearing in COW. By my colleague along with my department I am not in a position to make a decision on this situation, unless it goes to my Cabinet colleagues or the Financial Management Board.

But I will indicate however Mr. Chairman, that I will be...let me try that again. I will make myself and my department available to take part in the discussions pertaining to this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I think it is an issue that has to be considered not only to scrap what we have now but to look at options for the future. Because once upon a time we had

government enrich them and invest in them and now they have opened up for a new market system. Maybe transportation will have to take into that route in order to ensure the cost of living goes down because they are going in frightening ways in many respects.

Mr. Chairman, I have a comment on page K-10. In the Standing Committee review of the department's airport development plan, we appreciate some of the federal contributions as indicated through the Standing Committee in September where the Government of Canada contributed \$10.7 million for Iqaluit re-development plan for Iqaluit. \$1.1 million by Government of Nunavut.

But the actual study, the master plan says it is going to cost \$40 million. Do you have an actual figure of how much it is going to cost? It is important for safety reasons as well as the long term relationship with the airline industry that we have the full costs understood whether they'd be federal for a number of years. I would like maybe the Minister and his officials to know what the total cost maybe for Iqaluit. Qujannamiik

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$40 million that was presented earlier is pretty firm so it probably is the best estimate the department has been able to share and we think it is a pretty firm figure at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Having that on the record now, when will the other dollars be committed? Have you got a long term agreement with the federal government to arrive at a \$40 million figure or is that in the air right now. Qujannamiik

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess the best response to my colleague on that matter is the fact those discussions are an on-going process and it is difficult for me to say if there are any amounts of dollars that we can identify for future years. But at this time it is an on-going discussion process that we've got going with the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Also, when we considered the estimates during the standing committee, we also heard from the department that with respect to Arctic Bay, the cost of maintaining one and redeveloping it, versus developing a new airstrip, that Arctic Bay costs roughly the same, but \$4 million for the first year and so on. The total figure is roughly \$16 million; I believe was the figure that we heard from your officials and yourself.

Has the community determined exactly where it's going to invest those dollars that you have identified, considering that they will likely cost the same in terms of developing it, but maintenance costs for a jet capable airstrip that Nanisivik... would be a lot more than having a smaller airstrip at the site closer to the town?

Has the minister and his officials come to an agreement with the town on exactly which one is going to be invested, with Nunavut dollars and federal money? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the understanding at this time is that a new airstrip will be constructed in the vicinity of Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. We're on K-11. Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Transportation, tangible assets. Total Qikiqtaaluk Region, \$6,021,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. K-11, Kivalliq Region. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That A and E plough truck, is that something again that is for the airport or is that for use on municipal roads? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those are for airport use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want clarification under Kivalliq, Rankin Inlet, A and E plough truck, and we just agreed A and E Packer, or plough trucks, how are they different?

(inaudible) A and E packer for Qikiqtaaluk Region, one for Kivalliq plough truck.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a good question. I guess I'm going to say that I'm not in the best position to explain the difference between a packer... well I know what a plough truck is but...

>>Laughter

I will get my deputy minister to give us the information on that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the packer is the one you tow in behind. It's got wheels to pack the gravel on the airstrip. But the plough truck actually has a plough in front.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I know what an A and E packer and an A and E plough truck is, but, (interpretation) in the translation, they both say the same thing. They both say plough trucks.

This will have to be amended, or changed. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Now I am happy that I didn't try to respond, otherwise I would've responded something completely different. What my colleague just mentioned, yes, we will fix it. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are on K-11. Kivalliq region. Total. Kivalliq region. \$575,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): K-12. Tangible assets. Kitikmeot region. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe they should start putting the Kitikmeot first so I don't have to wait patiently until the end. I'm not sure how we come at the end of these things.

My question for the minister, a few years ago there was a Nunavut transportation study. The authors of that report mentioned in there that we have all these overhead flights, international flights, that cross Nunavut, and that NAV Canada collects all these fees. I think it's \$1,000 a flight. They recommended in that study that perhaps the Government of Nunavut should be after NAV Canada for a share of that funding to help us upgrade and develop our airports across Nunavut.

I wonder if the minister could update us if the Department of Economic Development and Transportation actually participates in those kinds of discussions, or negotiations with NAV Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is an issue that we can discuss with NAV Canada. I have left it to Mr. Kunuk to provide some more on this to my colleague and the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Kunuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In this case we had to work through Transport Canada for overhead flights because they are trying to work with NAV Canada on how we can get money from the overhead flights. That is the process that we have to go through. The answer is yes, we are trying to work with Transport Canada on this one.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and Mr. Kunuk for that answer. I think it's important because I think the numbers, if I can recall from that study, are in the neighbourhood of \$40 million annually that they are collecting from those overhead flights. Even a small percentage of that, a couple of million, three million dollars can make a huge difference annually to Nunavut airports as we have seen throughout the capital estimates and in a lot of our other discussions. I think just about every airport in Nunavut need some form of upgrading, or improvements.

With that in mind my hamlet council has been chasing the Government of Nunavut for many years, even when I was with them, to build an airport runway extension. I think back in the year 2000, there was actually a report, I think it was by Community and Government Services at the time. They were planning that they were going to do a 900-foot runway extension in Cambridge Bay. It fell off the radar, so to speak.

I am wondering if the minister, or his officials, can update me today as to whether or not a runway extension is something that they are actively considering for the community of Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the specifics of the extension of the runway for Cambridge Bay, that matter has really not advanced very far, as my colleague just indicated just a minute ago.

We are reviewing not only Cambridge Bay and its needs, but also the communities overall.

There are only a few but I can state to this House that that is part of the department's ongoing work in identifying needs for our communities and also Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that comment. In the same transportation study for 2001, I think the authors, at that time, also indicated that Cambridge Bay is one of the four or five strategic airports in Nunavut that should be seriously looked at for runway extensions and upgrades, including the lighting of the runway. That was five or six years ago. The reality is that my community is becoming a very strategic hub in Nunavut, with all of the mining activity opening up.

With flights further north, the runway, I think, is only 5,000 feet long. It's a very short runway to be landing jets, and anyone that has ever landed in Cambridge Bay on one of the First Air or Canadian North jets; you are almost ripped out of your seats as they throw the engines in reverse. The people that experience that for the first time think we are crashing. The veteran guys have to calm them down, so, don't worry, they are just trying to stop it from going off the end of the runway. So, it's not a situation we would like to see continue for too much longer.

The length of runway limits the types of aircraft that can go in there. I think we are limited to jets or 737's. We can't take 727's in there and that's something we have to address. I think 727's would be more economical by letting them carry more freight, then that would help reduce the cost of living in the Kitikmeot, because it's also a supply hub for the other communities.

I would like to get some sort of commitment from the minister today that he or his officials will be seriously sitting down with the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay to discuss their runway extension requirements for the foreseeable future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will indicate to my colleague that we have been committed to looking at the issue surrounding Cambridge Bay on the airport's infrastructure needs.

Now, the length of the runway is only one part of the issue, as my colleague knows very well, and also with the lighting and other possible works that have been looked at. I will indicate to my colleague today that as part of our commitment to try and help the community and region with the airport and facilities in Cambridge Bay, we will talk on the issues of this and make contact with the council to come to a good understanding of where our department is and also the expectations of the council so that both sides are clear as to what the other one is doing for the airport and its needs in Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that commitment and perhaps, it might be necessary to call it the Cambridge Bay airport master plan or master strategy so we can have some focus on what we are doing over there and not be a bit of a

hodge podge of do this one year, this some other year because in addition to the airport runway extension, there is also the continuing ongoing issue of airport parking. That's been something that has been dragging on since the year 2000 as well.

The former Minister had actually given assurances that it would be undertaken last summer. It didn't occur and it is getting very dangerous out there.

In addition to the parking out there, you have vehicles that have to cross the tarmac to get to the dew line hanger across the runway, going past the fuel tanks and the jets, helicopters. It doesn't look like a safe situation there. You got people going to pick up their freight at First Air and Canadian North hangers have to go through the parking lot. You get passengers arrive at the airport dragging their suitcases across the parking lot through an uncontrolled parking area.

To me this is a situation waiting for an accident to happen. So I'd like to reaffirm from this minister and the department to upgrading the airport parking at Cambridge Bay and get more practical solutions to vehicle traffic crossing the tarmac and different hangers and to freight hangers. I think it doesn't cost all that much I mean it's just a matter of controlling it.

Signage, setting of directions, taking telephones out of the middle of the parking lot and those sorts of things. Can the Minister give me an indication if he is willing do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Did you get all that Mr. Minister?

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Yes, I did Mr. Chairman. As a matter of fact its maybe the only time ever I'll be able to wave my wand and respond to my colleagues and say that we sent our people in back in October and the funding has been identified for the necessary work required. So there is my wand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, which you may not see very often.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister for waving his magic wand. In his other former ministry he accused me of reading his mind on a couple of issues, now I can reciprocate and say he has been reading my mind. I don't know if that is a scary thing or a good thing, but it is good news to the community.

Just a couple more quick questions, Mr. Chair. In the Kitikmeot, we are only seeing one airstrip rehab and an apron rehab. Can you give me an indication in the Kitikmeot about the conditions of the other airstrips or runways and when they might be rehabbed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not sure if we have that information available to answer any colleague's question correctly about other communities. And if there is they would have to be in the future years Mr. Chairman. I will commit in providing that information to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister. That wasn't a priority of mine. I would be willing to wait for that information if I can get it within a couple of weeks or a month or two. And related to that question if the Minister can give me an idea of how his department goes about reviewing and assessing runways for upgrading, rehabbing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am trying to recall the discussion we had recently during our meetings regarding inspections. So I will say to my colleague that inspections are done and also the reports are further reviewed by the Department of Transportation. So the inspections do take place for airports throughout. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the minister could give us some information and update on that, when you give the other information that would be certainly something I would want to accept. I have no further questions, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. (interpretation)He has no further questions.

We're on page K-12. (interpretation ends) Tangible assets. Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region, \$450,000.00. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Tangible assets, \$7,726,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page K-4. Economic Development and Transportation. Departmental summary. Detail of expenditures. Total capital expenditures, \$7,951,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that Economic Development and Transportation is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister and staff. Do you have any closing comments? Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Very quickly Mr. Chairman, that will be it. Thank you so much. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to recognize the clock and I move to report progress.

Chairman: We 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. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Going to the 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: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1 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 in favour. All those opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. 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. A reminder for meetings tomorrow morning; 9 am - Ajauqtiit, in the Nanuk Room and regular caucus at 10:30 in the Tuktu Room.

Orders of the day for November 29:

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
 - Bill 10
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 1
 - Bill 2
 - Bill 3
 - Bill 4
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): We will resume on November 29, 2005 at 1.30 in the afternoon.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:10*

