



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

3rd Session

2nd Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 11

Tuesday November 29, 2005

Pages 562 – 625

Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Jobie Nutarak (Tununiq)
Chair, Management and Services Board

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq
(Nattilik)
Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister Responsible for Status of Women's Council

Tagak Curley
(Rankin Inlet North)
Chair, Standing Committee on Infrastructure, housing and Economic Development

Hon. Paul Okalik
(Iqaluit West)
Premier; Minister of Justice; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

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

Joe Allen Evyagotailak
(Kugluktuk)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole; Chair, Regular Members' Caucus

Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)

Hon. Ed Picco
(Iqaluit East)
Minister of Education; Minister of Energy; Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism, Homelessness and Immigration

David Alagalak
(Arviat)
Chair, Standing Committee on Health and Education

Hon. Peter Kilabuk
(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Government House Leader; Management and Services Board

Hon. David Simailak
(Baker Lake)
Minister of Finance; Chair of the Financial Management Board

James Arreak
(Uqqummiut)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Steve Mapsalak
(Akulliq)
Chair, Standing committee Ajauqtiit

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk
(Amittuq)
Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Human Resources

Levi Barnabas
(Quttiktuq)
Chair, Full Caucus

Hunter Tootoo
(Iqaluit Centre)
Chair, Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability; Chair, Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges

Patterk Netser
(Nanulik)
Deputy Speaker

Hon. Levinia Brown
(Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Community Government and Government Services

Officers

Clerk
John Quirke

Deputy Clerk
Nancy Tupik

Clerk Assistant
Kooyoo Nooshoota

Law Clerk
Susan Cooper

Sergeant-At-Arms
Simanek Kilabuk

Hansard Production
Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	562
Ministers' Statements	562
Members' Statements	567
Returns to Oral Questions	569
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	570
Oral Questions.....	571
Tabling of Documents.....	590
Notices of Motions	592
Second Reading of Bills	592
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	593
Report of the Committee of the Whole	624
Orders of the Day	624

A.

Daily References

Tuesday November 29, 2005..... 562

B.

Ministers' Statements

038 – 2(3): First Ministers' Meeting in Kelowna (Okalik) 562
039 – 2(3): Fur Pricing Program (Akesuk)..... 564
040 – 2(3): Towards a Baby Friendly Nunavut (Aglukkaq)..... 564
041 – 2(3): Department of Justice Website (Okalik)..... 565
042 – 2(3): Languages Services Annual Report (Tapardjuk)..... 565
043 – 2(3): Qulliq Energy Corporation Financial Direction Turnaround (Picco)..... 566

C.

Members' Statements

070 – 2(3): Condolences to Kattuk Family (Okalik)..... 567
071 – 2(3): Tahiuqtiit Society Grand Opening (Evyagotailak) 567
072 – 2(3): Food Mail Program (Curley) 568
073 – 2(3): Thank Kuttiktuk Mayors (Barnabas) 569

D.

Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 073 – 2(3): Status of Economic Development Strategy
 Recommendations (Kilabuk) 569

E.

Oral Questions

090 – 2(3): Fishing Quotas in Davis Strait (Tootoo)..... 571

091 – 2(3): Update on Changes to Polar Bear Quotas (Barnabas)	574
092 – 2(3): Passports for Arctic Winter Games Participants (Evyagotailak).....	576
093 – 2(3): Devolution Agreement (Peterson)	576
094 – 2(3): Additional Support for Hunters (Curley).....	579
095 – 2(3): Contractors and Inuit Employment (Tootoo).....	580
096 – 2(3): Inuit Language Protection (Barnabas)	582
097 – 2(3): Patient Accommodations (Peterson).....	585
098 – 2(3): Clarification on Article 23 and Priority Hiring Policy (Tootoo)	587

F.

Tabling of Documents

050 – 2(3): Auditor General’s Report for Qulliq Energy Corporation as of March 31, 2005 (Picco)	590
051 – 2(3): Response to Letter of Expectation – Qulliq Energy Corporation, June 30, 2005 (Picco).....	590
052 – 2(3): Nunavut Education Act (K-12) 2005 Public Consultations (Picco).....	590
053 – 2(3): Nunavut Early Childhood Development Update Report 2003-04 (Picco)	590
054 – 2(3): Schedule for the Student Loan Fund - March 31, 2004 (Picco)	590
055 – 2(3): FPT Ministerial Meetings (Picco).....	590
056 – 2(3): 2004-05 Public Service Annual Report (Tapardjuk)	591
057 – 2(3): Annual Report on the Delivery of Services to the Public in Nunavut’s Languages, 2004-05 (Tapardjuk)	591
058 – 2(3): Activities Report Crown Agency Council of the Government of Nunavut Sept 1, 2003, through October 31, 2005 (Simailak)	591
059 – 2(3): Victims Assistance Fund 2004-2005 (Okalik).....	591
060 – 2(3): Minimum Wage Annual Report 2005 (Okalik).....	591

061 – 2(3): Fire Safety Colouring Book (Brown) 591

G.

Motions

005 – 2(3): Rescinding of Motion 011 - 2(2) – Notice (Curley) 592

006 – 2(3): Mid-Term Leadership Review of the Executive Council of Nunavut – Notice
(Curley) 592

H.

Bills

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Election Act – Second Reading 592

Bill 01 – Appropriations (Capital) Act 2006-2007 – Culture, Language, Elders and Youth –
Consideration in Committee 594

Bill 01 – Appropriations (Capital) Act 2006-2007 – Environment – Consideration in Committee
..... 612

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday November 29, 2005**

Members Present:

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. David Alagalak, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Honourable Levinia Brown, Mr. Tagak Curley, Mr. Joe Allan Evyagotailak, 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. Mr. Netser.

>>*Prayer*

Good afternoon. Mr. Premier, Ministers, and Regular Members and Sergeant-At-Arms, Clerks, Interpreters. Orders of the day, Item 2. Ministers' statements. Premier.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 038 – 2(3): First Ministers' Meeting in Kelowna**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon my colleagues. On November 24 and 25, 2005, just last week, I had the honour of representing Nunavut at the First Ministers meeting on Aboriginal issues in Kelowna, British Columbia.

I attended with many Inuit leaders including our MP Nancy Karetak-Lindell, Jose Kusugak, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Paul Kaludjak, President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the three Presidents of the Nunavut's Regional Associations, Thomasie Alikatuktuk, Tongola Sandy and Donald Havioyak.

The meeting concluded an historic process of multi-lateral discussions that the Prime Minister launched in April 2004 with the Canada's Aboriginal Peoples Round Table.

(interpretation ends) This process has placed the Inuit of Canada in their rightful place amongst Canada's aboriginal people. The focus on the need for Inuit specific policies and programs and the federal obligations to Inuit has done much to overcome misconceptions in federal policy that aboriginal meant Indians on reserves.

Last week's meeting launched a multi-lateral, ten-year, dedicated effort to closing the gap in the quality of life that exists between aboriginal peoples and other Canadians. The first priorities in that effort are education, housing and health.

For Nunavut, Canada has committed to support innovative educational initiatives and we have proposed that those initiatives should include an Inuit specific approach to education that develops Inuit specific curriculum, promotes, preserves and protects Inuit languages, and trains Inuit teachers and administrators.

>> *Applause*

We identified housing as our foremost priority for Nunavut. We suggested to Canada that the most effective investment the federal government could make to improve our quality of life is in housing.

Canada has committed to providing immediate housing relief in Inuit communities and to work with the Nunavut Housing Corporation to address the housing shortages and overcrowding.

>> *Applause*

The Prime Minister made a commitment to fund the construction of 1,200 housing units in the far north during his opening statement on Thursday. We are awaiting the details of that program to confirm the number of units that will be built here in Nunavut.

>> *Applause*

We have committed to working with our partners in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement to use the multi-year investment in Inuit housing as a means to create economic development initiatives, create Inuit employment, and train more Inuit in the construction trade.

First Ministers and National Aboriginal Leaders also reviewed the draft Aboriginal Health Working Document that has been described as a work in progress. Canada committed to investing new money in the Inuit health system through Health Canada and in tripartite agreements between Canada, the provinces and the territories, and regional aboriginal organizations.

(interpretation ends) Our officials will need to meet in the next couple of weeks with their counterparts in the provinces and territories and the federal government to review the implementation details of all of these commitments and to determine the investment that Canada proposes to make in Nunavut.

The implementation strategy within our new relationship model will be tripartite, Canada; Nunavut, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, doing planning and agreements on the Inuit-specific investments to be made in Nunavut. This is a ten-year plan with a five-year financial commitment and it may be weeks or months before the full details are unveiled through our discussions. We look forward to working together with our partners on the implementation of this proposal in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I will be seeking the support of all Premiers to follow up with federal party leaders during the upcoming election to ensure that their support for the commitments made by the Government of Canada is brought forth.

As first ministers and key leaders, we are committed to meet again, in two or three years, to give reports on our progress. As Premier, I'm committed to working with all of my federal colleagues and Inuit colleagues to ensure that the commitments achieved at this historic meeting in Kelowna are truly improving the lives of Nunavummiut. Qujannamiik.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 039 – 2(3): Fur Pricing Program

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues. Trapping and the selling of fur from trapped animals have always been a very important element of Inuit life. It ensured our survival and later became an important part of the economy.

Today, trapping remains a significant part of the land-based economy and puts much needed cash into the pockets of Nunavut harvesters. To assist this important industry, my department administers the Fur Pricing Program. This program provides financial and other assistance to trappers, particularly when the markets are down. One component of this program provides a fall payment to trappers who sold wolf and fox furs during the previous year. This payment is made in the fall so that trappers have some cash to get ready for the new trapping season.

I am pleased to advise you that this month, my department is sending cheques to over 250 trappers. The value of these cheques is nearly \$70,000. I know for those people who sold our wolf and fox furs, this assistance allows our hunters to continue to earn a living from the land. Thank you.

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

Minister's Statement 040 – 2(3): Towards a Baby Friendly Nunavut

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Community health representatives, clerk interpreters, maternity care workers, maternity care worker students, nursing students, prenatal nutritionist workers, doctors, and dieticians have come together in Iqaluit this week from November 23 to 30 for training on how to support breastfeeding women and to provide education about healthy infant feeding to all mothers in Nunavut.

As part of the department's commitment to healthy mothers and healthy babies, the Baffin Regional Hospital is working towards the designation of our baby friendly

hospital. This work complements the ongoing effort of the department to promote breastfeeding, prenatal care, and regular checkups. The baby friendly initiative is led by the World Health Organization to improve the quality of care for mothers and babies. There are more than 20,000 hospitals worldwide that have achieved 'baby friendly' hospital certifications.

I urge the members of the House and the public to support the efforts of the Baffin Regional Hospital and of all Nunavut health centre providers to provide strong support for mothers by working towards the baby friendly designation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 041 – 2(3): Department of Justice Website

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to announce the launch of the new Department of Justice website. The website includes general information about each division of the Department of Justice and allows Nunavummiut to access the statutes and regulations of Nunavut and the Nunavut Gazette on the Internet.

All general information on the new website is in Inuinnaqtun, Inuktitut, French, and English. All the material is included on the website to the extent that each specific document is available in the particular language. For instance, all legislation made in Nunavut since April 1, 1999, is in Inuktitut as well as English and French.

Mr. Speaker, the website's address on the internet is <http://www.justice.gov.nu.ca>.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Justice is pleased to be able to provide this information to Nunavummiut without charge in a form that is accessible across Nunavut and the world. The department will continually add new material to the website in an effort towards providing more public access to the laws of Nunavut. Thank you.

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

Minister's Statement 042 – 2(3): Languages Services Annual Report

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government of Nunavut is committed to ensuring that speakers of Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English, and French have equal access to government services in their languages.

In 2003 the government approved the Language Services Guidelines to provide departments with direction on delivering their services to the public. This includes a requirement to table an annual report on the government's progress in implementing the guidelines.

I'm very pleased to present to the House today the first annual report. It highlights the government's progress in delivering services in Nunavut's languages for the fiscal year that ended on March 31, 2005. The report provides details on which services each department is offering in Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English, and French.

It also highlights some of the challenges we are encountering in meeting our objectives. The Language Services Annual Report will help inform the public on government efforts to deliver services in their languages and provide the government with the useful tool for planning for the future.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 043 – 2(3): Qulliq Energy Corporation Financial Direction Turnaround

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to inform the members that the Qulliq Energy Corporation has taken several proactive steps to strengthen fiscal control and public accountability and I will be tabling the Qulliq Energy Corporation's financial statements later today.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce that Qulliq Energy Corporation has turned its financial direction around while demonstrating fiscal control, efficiency, and enhanced business standards.

Mr. Speaker, this is a great accomplishment. In 2004-05, the corporation: reduced salaries and wages by 14 percent; services by 14 percent, and travel costs by 19 percent. These reductions were based on reviewing all expenditures as they occurred and resulted in a \$7.5 million savings over the April 2004 projections, and a \$4 million savings over the November 2004 projections.

In effect, Qulliq Energy Corporation is \$4.5 million better than it was in last year's actuals. Mr. Speaker, the 2004-05 Qulliq Energy Corporation has recorded the lowest losses in its corporate history and these numbers are before the price increases of April 1, 2005. Any new revenue is from new generation or the recapturing of expenses, not from increased prices from fuel support or from Government of Nunavut contributions.

However, Mr. Speaker, even with the \$5 to \$7 million in savings generated by good corporate management and the new income of last year the corporation still does not have a projection that can bring it to a healthy financial position.

Even with the new electricity rates the Qulliq Energy Corporation is still short changed and will generate deficits unless this is addressed. Good management alone will not solve all the financial issues.

At some point electricity prices in Nunavut will have to follow southern markets and rise. Mr. Speaker, new mandates have been given to the Qulliq Energy Corporation. The Government of Nunavut has asked the corporation to develop and launch conservation programs and hydro electric potential.

Both of these initiatives are now underway. It is not practical to address Qulliq Energy Corporation's mandate without taking a serious look at price adjustments. The corporation has been looking at hydroelectric generation potential around Iqaluit.

As the financial situation solidifies we anticipate that this work continues and the Qulliq Energy Corporation moves towards capacity to undertake additional alternative generation projects.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we are confident these changes demonstrate Qulliq Energy Corporation's commitment to strengthening their financial structure and the corporation's ability to maintain a reliable power generation system that manages Nunavut's energy needs today and in the future. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. Orders of the Day. Item 3, Members' Statements. Mr. Okalik.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 070 – 2(3): Condolences to Kattuk Family

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say I am sorry that an individual, our relative, is not here. This person has recently passed away. They were like my family. The sister was like my mother. Our thoughts and prayers will be with her and her family. I would like to thank all the people that have come to visit and to bring food to the family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 071 – 2(3): Tahiuqtiit Society Grand Opening

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Koana Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work that is being done by the Tahiuqtiit Society in Kugluktuk.

This non-profit group is preparing to provide life long learning opportunities for all Kugluktummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, all Members know how important learning is to developing independence and building pride and self-esteem. The Tahiuqtiit Society has recently been approved for funding from the federal government and is in the final stages of signing their contribution agreement.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the hard work of all members of the Society.
Mr. Speaker, the members of the committee are:

Millie Kuliktana - President, Joanne Taptuna - Vice President, Greyson Adamache - Secretary/Treasurer, David Kaosoni, Lucy Nivingalok, Margaret Joyce, Richard Harrington, Ryan Nivingalok, and Jeanie Parks.

Mr. Speaker, the Society is preparing for the grand opening on December 10, 2005. I would like to invite all Members to attend the grand opening. The Society is working to become a model of life long learning that other communities can follow.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask all Members to join me in congratulating the Tahiuqtiit Society for their achievements. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 072 – 2(3): Food Mail Program

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the issue of food mail in the Kivalliq region. Earlier this week, my colleague from the High Arctic also raised this issue and the Member for Nanulik has advocated for a better food mail system in the Kivalliq.

Mr. Speaker, the food mail program should enable all Nunavummiut to access healthy, affordable, and quality perishable food items from the south.

Members are aware that Nunavummiut living in the Kivalliq Region have been unable to fully utilize the food mail program due to the fact that Churchill is the entry point for Kivalliq communities. Food is transferred multiple times and the rates of spoilage are high. Individuals are rarely able to order their food directly and choice is limited.

Mr. Speaker, Members of this House have long advocated for Winnipeg to be the point of entry for the food mail program for the Kivalliq Region.

Last week on Monday, the Premier tabled a letter that he sent to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. It is important that the problems with the food mail program be corrected to ensure that Nunavummiut living in the Kivalliq have equal access to healthy, affordable food.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the program should be more widely advertised and simplified to ensure that all Nunavummiut know about and can access the program.

I would like to urge the federal government to improve this program by making Winnipeg the food entry point for the Kivalliq, in order to improve the food supply and to reduce the cost of living. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 073 – 2(3): Thank Kuttiktuk Mayors

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to thank my constituents and to give thanks to the mayors that were in place with the hamlet council: Mayor Niorie Iqalukjuak - Arctic Bay, who has already stated that he will not seek re-election and I would like to thank him; Susan Salluviniq - Resolute Bay; and Lisa Ningiuk - Grise Fiord.

I have worked with those mayors and they have written me many letters of concern as the MLA for the High Arctic. I have met with them, and we have worked very well together. I would like to thank them for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Kilabuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 073 – 2(3): Status of Economic Development Strategy Recommendations

(See Appendix "i" at the back after Item 22 Orders of the Day" for responses to questions)

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to give a return to the oral question posed by the Member from Cambridge Bay, Question 073 – 2(3).

Mr. Speaker, because the responses are very long, I have passed out the return to the Clerks at the table. I will pass it on to the Clerk's table at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5.

Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Mr. Peterson.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to welcome to the House today, Mr. Charlie Evalik from our riding of Cambridge Bay. Mr. Evalik and I have been friends for many years and I have worked for him in many capacities.

He is a consultant now, but prior to that I think he spent 10 years in the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. He did a lot of great work for the Inuit of Kitikmeot, and he is a very key and integral person involved in negotiating a lot of Inuit Impact Benefit Agreements and DEW Line clean up contracts. Welcome to the House, Charlie.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I don't pronounce the names properly it's because I don't speak French, but I would also like to recognize the people that work for Isuma.

First of all, I would like to recognize Zacharias Kunuk, Paul Irgaut, and Katrina Sunkup, the producer. Also, there are some camera people out there, and also the people that do recording as well, notably Francois Beachum and Marcel Fraser. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize people from my riding.

These are the people that filmed Atanarjuat, the Fast Runner. We also have another film that is going to be coming pretty soon. I would like to recognize Paul Irgaut, and Katrina to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Just a reminder that the members are only allowed to recognize individuals once. Recognition of visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a constituent of mine. Mr. Speaker, the constituent is sitting behind me in the gallery here, Jotanie Davidee, with his funny looking hat.

Mr. Speaker, I know over the weekend he was just as frustrated as some Honourable Members from the other side at the results of a particular hockey game this weekend. Maybe that's the reason why our Premier is wearing blue and white today.

>>*Laughter*

So, I would like to recognize him and thank him for coming and also, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to recognize an individual that just stepped out, and that's Mr. Bobby Gunn, who is a former long time public servant for the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know you just sent out a reminder to recognize a person only once in the Gallery, but it's not often that we have a person from the Kitikmeot in this House. I want to take the opportunity to also recognize Charlie Evalik who is a friend of mine, and also my cousin. He is no stranger to this House and the members of this House, and I welcome him to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Going back to Orders of the Day, Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 090 – 2(3): Fishing Quotas in Davis Strait

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for fish. I assume that is the Minister of Environment and fish quotas.

Mr. Speaker, recently it was reported in the media that the Government of Nunavut has reached a deal with the Makivik Corporation.

My question to the Minister is, in what area of Davis Straight? I am wondering if you could be more specific as to the location of these fish that the deal is referring to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister for Environment. Which of you will be responding? Mr. Premier?

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Member please rephrase his question? I thought he was going to ask about fish and fish quotas. Please rephrase your question.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo can you please rephrase your question. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd be happy to, as long it doesn't count as a supp. Mr. Speaker, recently in the media there was an article that referred to a deal over fish quotas with the Makivik Corporation and Government of Nunavut.

It referred just to the Davis Strait area, which is quite a large area. I am wondering if the Minister of Environment responsible for fisheries could give us a better idea of exactly where the geographic location of that deal is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. That area of Davis Straight is a large area so I can't pinpoint the location. It is the general waters in Nunavut and just a percentage. The only condition we approved it on was the Inuit in Nunavut will always get the largest portion of any location so that is why we endorsed the agreement.

We also felt that the Inuit of Nunavik have been waiting far too long to get an agreement and we don't want to stand in the way of their agreement. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that it is a large area. My understanding is OA, or 1A, OA, oh no I am not sure what area or what zone it is.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that area runs from roughly Pangnirtung up to Grise Fiord. I am wondering, since these waters are adjacent to Greenland and Nunavut, why we are making a deal with Quebec to give our fish away. We have companies in Nunavut that are struggling to develop fisheries along with our government. We are giving away our fish when it has been reported in the past by Members of this House and the Ministers of this government that we don't already have our fair share.

So why are we dealing some away when we say we don't have enough, considering it is not even waters adjacent to Northern Quebec. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't have control over fisheries, so we can't give away our portion, but what we did was approve an agreement in principal that they are currently getting those allocations in our waters, and they're not the issue for us.

They're very small. But our issue is with southern Canadian fishers that are getting up to 80 percent of our commercial fisheries here in Nunavut waters. So, that's where our main opposition is. But, the only way that we could agree to this is that if we are guaranteed a larger portion of any allocation to other fisheries.

So, that's the language that we accepted to ensure that the federal government continues to recognize that Inuit in Nunavut deserve and should get the largest portion of any fisheries in our waters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess my question then is for the minister. I know in May of 2003, the Premier had indicated that there was a warning coming from the Government of Nunavut of a possible lawsuit over shrimp quotas.

In that, the minister indicated that the decision was a setback for a potential fishing industry. Is this in the same zone, or the same fishing area, or the same deal that the minister has now agreed to? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, the shrimp situation was to try and protect our interests in the shrimp fisheries against southern fishers.

This situation is to try and make sure that we get an agreement with the offshore claim of the Nunavik Inuit. The percentage that is guaranteed in their agreement does not affect the overall outcome of any agreement that we're trying to seek from the federal government.

So, I will continue to press this matter with the federal government so that we get our rightful share in our waters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure that the Premier will have no problem getting support from all the members of this House on that.

I think that we are ready to take control of our own resources. Hopefully we'll have better luck with the new government in Ottawa after February 23, I believe it is, or January. But I guess, given that the minister never answered my question, my question was not so much on the deal, or what the law suit was over, the shrimp quotas, but the area that's talked about in the current issue with the shrimp, or the current deal with the fish, and the

area that was talked about, in dispute over the shrimp quotas. Is that the same zone or, whether it's OA, or oh no, O1.

Is it the same geographical aquatic area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Oh yeah!

>>*Laughter*

The areas are generally described as: OA, which is the water south of Kimmirut and OB is from Kimmirut, north up to Resolute Bay areas. So those are zones that are called OA and OB. As I said, the agreement does not affect the overall quota of fisheries because the amount we're seeking is around 80 to 90 percent and even with their agreement, it would not affect our goals of acquiring that in the long run.

So, that's why we agreed to it and the agreement supports our claim that we are entitled to a larger share of the commercial fisheries in those zones. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 091 – 2(3): Update on Changes to Polar Bear Quotas

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment.

Earlier this year, the GN issued a news release on January 7 concerning polar bear MOUs. The news release, at that time, indicated that the total allowable harvest and allocations for different populations would be changing.

Can the minister update the House on if there have been any changes to the quotas since that time, and if there have been changes, what are the changes, and have the communities been consulted? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. I would suggest to the member to ask just one question instead of a few.

We have been consulting with the communities, including the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and we asked the communities what they would prefer to see. We will leave it at the discretion of the communities.

I believe the total count was 512 and there are no changes to date; there has been no decrease or increase in the total allowable harvest and allocations. It will be up to the communities to make those decisions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): If you are going to be asking a question, please ask one. Your first supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will ask one question. (interpretation ends) The GN issued news releases in April and October of this year concerning Greenland's management of polar bear populations. Can the minister tell the House whether the GN is satisfied with Greenland's polar bear management program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Qujannamiik. Yes, we are satisfied with what they are trying to do with the management program. Again, the lead for the negotiations between Greenland and Canada, Canada's the lead for us, although we have a seat at the negotiating table.

So, we are happy with what they are trying to do and we are going to work very closely with them to make sure that we also have proper polar bear management in our territory. Thank you.

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

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been news reports, in the last year, indicating that the United States Government is considering banning the importation of polar bear trophies into the U.S. We have heard that the U.S. government wrote a letter to the GN on this issue. If the U.S. banned imports, this would seriously affect our important sport hunting industry, which brings much-needed dollars into the communities. Can the minister update the House on what discussions the GN has had with the U.S. Government on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the purpose of the MOU going community to community is to make sure that we educate our people first before we actually get into our negotiations with the U.S.

Again, I think the communities...that's why we have community-to-community consultations on the MOU's. How they want to manage their polar bears, it's really up to the communities. Once we have the MOU's signed and decided, I believe we will have a better idea of how we are going to approach the U.S. wildlife people. Thank you.

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

Oral Question 092 – 2(3): Passports for Arctic Winter Games Participants

Mr. Evyagotailak: Koana Uqaqti. My question is to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth who is responsible for sports.

Mr. Speaker, many of our youth are looking forward to participating in the Arctic Winter Games in Alaska next March. I have noticed that in the newspaper letters to coaches and information to hopeful athletes that passports will be required to enter the United States.

My colleague from Quttiktuq has raised the issue of passports a number of times in this House. He has highlighted the dilemma Nunavummiut have been facing in obtaining passports since September 11.

Mr. Speaker, my question for the minister is this. What steps has his department taken to address the issue of passport requirements for athletes and coaches in planning to attend the Arctic Winter Games in Alaska. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Arctic Sports, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): If you are going to be traveling outside of Canada and if you are going to be going to other communities outside of Canada...I don't have the information with me but I would like to take this question as notice. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister will take the question as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Oral Question 093 – 2(3): Devolution Agreement

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago the Commissioner's address raised the important issue of devolution. The address stated on page 4, and I will read, "We will ensure that terms for that transfer do not adversely affect Nunavut's formula financing arrangement. In other words, there has to be a real net fiscal benefit for Nunavut, otherwise devolution will not make sense."

My question for the minister, Mr. Speaker, can the minister update us today on his department's efforts to set up a Devolution Secretariat in his department and designate a chief negotiator. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. What we have done is gone through a competition and we are just in the process of reviewing applicants. So that's what we are trying to do as a government, we are putting our team together but on the other side unfortunately the election has been called, so I don't know if they'll be as prepared as we are when it comes down to negotiating in the near future. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. Mr. Speaker, the Premier is in close contact with the Premiers of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

The Yukon already has a devolution agreement and the Northwest Territories is working on one. Can the Minister share with us what lessons we can use from the Yukon and the Northwest Territories experience in negotiating with Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. There are some aspects that we can learn from. The two governments are very helpful in advising us at the level of support that is required once negotiations commits. So on that basis we put together a team and a budget that we will require, hopefully just for the next two years. So, that's what we were able to work out.

As well, we are facing different challenges in terms of the offshore islands for example. The other jurisdictions don't have those challenges before them. So, that's something that we'll work hard on, to ensure that there is a deal that is unique to Nunavut.

But, at the same time, we are seeking the same benefits of the provinces, where we get to collect all royalties in our lands and waters throughout Nunavut. So, that's something that we want to make sure is worked out. To date the Yukon has an agreement, but there are some limitations on royalties, and they advised us that if we get an agreement just like the provinces, then they'll be seeking the same.

So, that's our goal: is to be on our own and manage our own affairs and not have to go to Ottawa every year asking for more money, and running our own affairs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for that answer. I agree with him on his last statement; we don't want to be going to Ottawa every year.

But, Mr. Speaker, the Yukon negotiations took 10 years or longer as I recall. Realistically our devolution negotiations could take longer than two to three years as well, possibly as long as 10 years.

In the mean time, perhaps the minister can explain to us what the potential magnitude of the net fiscal benefit would be to Nunavummiut, as mentioned in the Commissioner's address. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The benefit that we have in going later is that precedents have been set, so parties know what to expect, and avoid pitfalls that may delay discussions.

So, that's the advantage of going a little later and it gives us benchmarks that have already been set. So it makes it easier to negotiate agreements. But, as I said, we're facing different challenges in certain areas.

Currently there is no mining taking place in Nunavut, so, so far, we don't have any loss in terms of potential revenue, but I would like a good speedy agreement so that we don't lose out in any potential royalties that should be flowing through Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I agree with that. We will have a mine opening next year in the Kitikmeot and hopefully we'll have another mine open by the end of 2008.

We have a couple of mines coming and it's important to have a devolution agreement in place by then. Mr. Speaker, in the Yukon, devolution resulted in a number of federal employees being transferred to the Yukon Territorial Government.

Can the minister tell me: are we looking at something similar happening in Nunavut? If so, how many positions will likely transfer to the Kitikmeot? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know the exact numbers as to how many. We're not at that stage yet, as to how many positions would be transferred to Nunavut. Hopefully none, so we can take on those jobs ourselves, with Nunavummiut.

So, that's a discussion that we'll have to have in our negotiations later on, but, it's quite well known that we have enough challenges trying to meet capacity here in Iqaluit. So, I'm sure the jobs will be spread out when the time comes so that the benefits are spread out where the most activity is taking place.

I'll keep an open mind, but I'm looking forward to having good negotiations on this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 094 – 2(3): Additional Support for Hunters

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister Responsible for Environment. I would like to thank him for the fuel pricing program because this is very beneficial and I would like to thank him for that.

But, my question is, last winter the fur prices seemed like they were the lowest prices since I don't know when. Because there are a lot of hunters who want to go fox trapping and they need to purchase capital assets.

At times they have to travel for many days and they don't want to just sleep in the snow any more. They would prefer to sleep in a building. Has the government considered additional subsidies on furs? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Environment. Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps how do I put this? The harvesters' support program, we are now working on this issue along with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and we are working close with them and we are in the final stages.

The hunters support program addresses hunter's needs and we are trying to look at improving the hunters support program for Nunavut harvesters. To date there is no form of assistance within our department to assist the harvesters.

But we have decided to make changes so that it could reflect the full time hunters of Nunavut. Perhaps in the new fiscal year we will have more detailed information at that time. So we are in the process of working on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because there is interest rising out there in regards to the hunters support program, the hunters support program was very beneficial to the hunters especially it had many benefits for the hunters. Some non-harvesters were getting benefits from that. I would urge the government when there are businesses going bankrupt the government would have to assist them.

Perhaps the fur trappers cannot afford a big building or big expensive unit. Perhaps if you can consider that Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated does not cover those things and

perhaps you can consider the idea of covering the harvesters. Perhaps you can respond to that question. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will work on this diligently. The HTO's and HTA's and I will want to work closely with them to make sure that have shacks built out on the hinterland so that the hunters can use them for shelters. So I would like to review this very carefully. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Yes, in the Baffin region I understand there are more outpost camps in Baffin than Kitikmeot. And there were outpost camps that were given some assistance to establish an outpost camps because the individuals want to live traditionally in an outpost camp.

Minister, I would like to ask you if you can consider it, it doesn't necessarily have to be just shacks now. These buildings could also be used for training purposes, they could be used for inmates, and we need to get a bigger hunting ground. It could be used for hunting and fishing. I am trying to urge the Minister that it not adequate when you get band aid solutions.

I am wondering if you can consider this. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. We will consider this carefully and diligently. We would like to find out ways to provide more assistance and benefits to Nunavut to our Nunavummiut constituents.

I will want to work closely with the Members of the Legislature on how we can reflect the needs of our constituents. We don't want to just set things up endlessly, but since we are a new government and we have a heavy task ahead of us, we want to review ways to give support to Nunavummiut. We will consider it carefully because this is going to have an impact on all Nunavummiut. Thank you.

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

Oral Question 095 – 2(3): Contractors and Inuit Employment

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, and specifically for the NNI Policy and contract monitoring.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I received some very disturbing information about a southern contractor that's in town here doing a couple of major projects.

I would like to ask the minister if she was aware of any of this information, and that information, Mr. Speaker, is something I know that this government is strongly behind and that is the Inuit employment levels and government contracts. Those are stipulated in the contract, I know we heard the minister, last week, indicate that a penalty for this can be substantial.

In this case, Mr. Speaker, I was informed that this company was paying Inuit to stay at home, knowing full well that they were not going to be on the job. So, they would have them on their books so that they could show, on paper, that they are meeting their Inuit employment levels. So, I'm just wondering if the minister is aware of any concerns like this if they have been brought to the department's attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) No, I'm not aware of such things and I will have my staff check into that area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think any policy, nothing is perfect, and that this is possibly, I would like to find out if there's a confirmation that this is happening; a loophole within the policy. Obviously, it's more cost-effective for these companies to do that than be penalized for not meeting their Inuit employment levels.

So, I guess, the minister indicated that this is something that she will have her officials look into, and if there is nothing in the policy that allows them to do that, would they look at options or ways to be able to monitor or identify situations like that under the NNI Policy and contract monitoring? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is the very purpose of why we have a policy under NNI; to encourage the use of Inuit and northern labour in supplying the GN construction process. But if that is happening, then I would say there's a penalty to be given here because that should not be happening and it's unacceptable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree with the minister that it is unacceptable. I don't know if there is any clause in the contract for contractors who are trying to

manipulate and deceive the government, to the contractee if you want to put it that way, in that. So, I think that that's something that should be addressed and it should be taken very, very seriously.

If this is going to continue to happen, we will never have a home-grown workforce. It will always just pay people to stay home, not learn anything, and continue to bring their cheap, southern labour that are just here to do the job and get out as quickly as possible.

So, will the minister commit to looking at that and maybe bring forward different options for penalties, or maybe there is something already in the contract that will allow for the government to act on such moves. So, is she willing to do that if it's not there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm certainly sad to hear this news this afternoon and of course, we will look into that as soon as we can.

The NNI Policy states that any Nunavut entity receiving more than 51 percent of their total contract or operating funds from the Government of Nunavut must apply the NNI Policy to all contracts.

So, I would say that it's covered under that, and if there is to be a penalty imposed, then I would make sure that that's imposed also. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad you're keeping track. I seem to have lost count.

Mr. Speaker, given this information and the minister has indicated that she is going to get her department officials to look into it, will the minister report back as to her findings to this House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If that is the wish of the member and the House, I will do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 096 – 2(3): Inuit Language Protection

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under Minister's statements, the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth made a statement in regards to the Made in Nunavut priority hiring.

Will this be igloos, kamiks, kayaks, or the dogs? How are these protected so that they won't be used by anybody to promote their things? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): First, we are going to use the languages services guidelines that will be used for Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English, and French and the other one being the protection of the Inuktitut language.

So, for, how can I put this? Within our department, there are always people asking; "I wonder what we could call this in Inuktitut, or how we say it." So, we're trying to accommodate those questions but, I don't know the real language, the real Inuktitut language, how it can be preserved, conserved.

We don't want anybody out there to use it but, those are the things that we would have to consider and as I stated last spring in 2006, the guidelines, we are going to get feedback and consult with the communities as to what they think about the guidelines because we will have to include them and the other things that we need to protect.

If we hear that from the public, then we can surely include that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe there are about 23-26 communities in Nunavut and our dialects are different. So, for example, if I say I'm sorry somebody from Northern Quebec would understand it differently. I wonder how those differences in dialects will be included in the guidelines. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): We have the studies and we have met with several adults on how we can put these, for example, the services that the government provides, for example, within the office.

If an Inuk person comes into an office, the receptionist, the frontline worker, would have to be fluent in those languages. The health services, education services, the RCMP, justice services, those different services that they provide have been identified that they will have to work in that language, but I don't know exactly how we will put these in the guidelines.

After community consultations, we will have a better idea. These two guidelines are being worked on presently and we will be going to the communities in 2006 to get more

information as to what the contents should be of those guidelines. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if his officials or staff and those people who are translators or interpreters, they have to be used by the hospitals and lawyers, and sometimes within this House, we have to switch to English if we don't know it in Inuktitut.

I just hear, for example, technical words; I don't know what the word is in Inuktitut. They will be standardized so that everybody understands. So, at the time when Jose Kusugak was working on the computer terminology to fit to the keyboard for the computer, we had to eliminate one way of syllabics in order to do that. So, will those kinds of things be used? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those are already in the computers. There's a website, I believe it was made by people in Pond Inlet, 'Living Dictionary', where it's a dictionary and it has always been updated as to how it should be in Inuktitut, how those Inuktitut words should be translated.

So, we are currently working on these. We are thinking from April to October of next year we will be consulting with the communities in regards to what the contents of the guidelines should be and to promote Inuktitut in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for his response. We are forgetting a lot of our original Inuktitut words and how will that be protected through this department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): We are trying to use different ways and if we are going to promote Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun and our laws, every single policy, especially when we are serving the public, those will have to be translated.

We know it will be difficult but once the language services guidelines surface...presently, in our Acts because we are using the Languages Act which we got from the Northwest Territories and if we have the exact dates that we will be producing our guidelines.

So, we are thinking in the fall of 2006 that we might be able to bring these. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 097 – 2(3): Patient Accommodations

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, in July 2005, thirty of my constituents, including mothers, fathers, children and infants traveled to Iqaluit by charter for dental treatment. It was a long trip and when they arrived they didn't have accommodations. They sat at the airport and many were crying, and the kids were tired and distraught.

Can the minister explain to the House what went wrong with her department's plans to accommodate the dental surgery patients from Cambridge Bay here in Iqaluit last July 2005? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the patients from...there were two trips. The first trip was from Cambridge Bay and the second trip was from Kugluktuk.

The situation that happened in July from Cambridge Bay, the casual travel clerk forgot to make travel arrangements for the patients traveling to Iqaluit for dental treatment. The casual travel clerk was a summer student and Saturday afternoon the member contacted me and we dealt with the department and staff to organize the hotel arrangements for all the patients that arrived into Iqaluit.

The individuals had to wait at the airport for about three or four hours, but the arrangements were made for the patients' accommodations. The casual clerk did not communicate that information to the hotels in Iqaluit, which resulted in individuals having to wait at the airport for their hotels. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that answer. In fact the patients that ended up staying at the hotel had a better deal because the patients staying at the boarding home when there were some put in there, they had a very difficult experience.

The biggest complaint I got when folks got home was about the local boarding home; they told me the boarding home condoned many extra-curricular activities including gambling and disruptive visitors late at night. They were very worried about their stay there.

My question for the Minister, could the Minister tell me if the Department of Health and Social Services has standardized criteria governing the operations of boarding homes where ever Nunavummiut patients and escorts stay to guarantee peace and enjoyment during their stay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, those standard policies across boarding homes from Edmonton to Yellowknife to Manitoba are in the works.

The procedures are being developed and the information packages will also be presented to each patient traveling as to what to expect from each centre in terms of services, food and what not are all being developed to communicate to boarding homes, or the users of the boarding homes on what services to expect.

Those were never in place before and that initiative was started earlier this summer to try and standardize the level of services in each centre. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that answer. That is good information to know because my constituents have told me in unequivocal terms that they don't want to come to the Baffin again to Iqaluit if they have to stay in that boarding home. So I hope that standardized criteria will improve that situation.

With that in mind Mr. Speaker, can the Minister assure my constituents and me that future patients and escorts from Cambridge Bay will receive care and treatment from boarding homes that will decrease the natural stress of dental travel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at the rate we are going within the department to try and address the issue around dental services for Nunavummiut and having sent patients from the Kitikmeot to the Baffin, we were able to reduce the waiting list for those patients by one year. The average waiting list is now is two months to a month to receive dental care and there is a backlog.

>> *Applause*

In terms of the services from the boarding homes there are many boarding homes that have different procedures for operating and we are trying to standardize that so Nunavummiut patients can expect the same level of service from Alberta right down to Ottawa to Nunavut. That is in the works recognizing there are some differences and we

are trying to streamline that and address some of the concerns the Member has raised also. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that information. You mention the backlog for dental patients. Can the Minister tell me how large the backlog is for dental patients in Cambridge Bay and if there are any plans to send them to Baffin for surgery? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The exact number for Cambridge Bay I don't have that available. The backlog for Nunavut was over 15 hundred patients in the last year. That has been reduced significantly and the waiting list now from a year has been reduced to 2 months. And yes in the future we will most likely be sending patients to Iqaluit for that service.

The Kitikmeot residents in the past have been going to Yellowknife for that service. The Yellowknife services are so backlogged that a Kitikmeot patient can expect to wait for over a year, and to try and address that we tried to utilize the services in Nunavut, and in Iqaluit in particular so patients will be sent to where the services are available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 098 – 2(3): Clarification on Article 23 and Priority Hiring Policy

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to first off, thank the minister for providing me with a written response for information that I asked on cancelled positions, that was provided to me last week.

Mr. Speaker, in that response, the minister had indicated one of the reasons for cancelling positions was Article 23 considerations. Could I just ask the minister for a little more clarification on exactly what is meant by that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, for the answer that I gave to the member, what they do for people to get a job is, like for a job that doesn't need a certain certificate, the first people that are hired are Inuit beneficiaries, and if you can't decide, if

it's not decided, the job would be cancelled and we would try to get someone that is most qualified for that position.

Or, the department that is requesting a position can get somebody that is already working there, but the departments request a position to be filled and then sometimes they cancel it because of a policy that we have and I gave the deputy minister of my department the authority to do that.

We have to abide by Article 23 as well. So, what we do is we consider the priority hiring for the Inuit beneficiaries, although they don't have a diploma to do that job. As long as they have the assets to do something like that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know an issue I brought up in the past around this position that had been cancelled was one regarding a position for the liquor warehouse in Rankin Inlet, where they went through the applicants, interviewed six, five or six, the minister had indicated on the record, and the beneficiaries applied, and none of the people they had interviewed passed the interview.

However, in the minister's response they said that they felt that that was a position that a beneficiary should hold. So, they cancelled that competition and put it out as an intern or a training position.

Mr. Speaker, I know there was a similar position that was advertised here in Iqaluit for the liquor warehouse here, and that position, however, was cancelled and there was a non-beneficiary appointed into that position.

So, my question to the minister is: how do they monitor this, where it seems to be okay in one case to change it for Article 23 considerations, but not in another? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that's true. There was a position for the liquor warehouse advertised but that was cancelled because it was going to be a job to be done for a year.

But, the department responsible for liquor felt that it should be cancelled and another one called for a person that has had dealings with warehousing. So, that's the information that we had. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know, in this particular case, there are already, I believe, two beneficiaries working at the liquor warehouse here and it's also my understanding that there were beneficiaries that had applied for the position.

So, I guess my question is: how could the department allow something like that to happen if they use the Article 23 excuse in one area, but then ignore it in another?

The message is almost going out there by the department, is that the priority hiring policy; it seems to be a policy of convenience of this government; that they don't take it seriously and it seems to be used when it's convenient for them to use it and not used when it's not convenient.

So, maybe I would like to ask the minister if he could explain exactly how something like that has happened. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps if I could clarify something; starting April 5, there have been eight positions cancelled that were advertise since Nunavut became a reality.

Yes, I hear your concern, but different departments in the Iqaluit Liquor Warehouse, there was a job posted that would be a one-year term position and they have to have the qualification of having to have worked in a warehouse previously.

The question the member is posing; I don't have the information on the Rankin Inlet Liquor Warehouse, but if the member wants to get more clarification, I understand what he's asking; I know that we have to have the same rule for everybody; I realize what he's saying.

What we have done now, a little while ago on October 13, 2005, my Deputy Minister for the Department of Human Resources wrote to the deputy ministers of each department in the government saying that if they want to have those kinds of qualifications for those individuals that they would like to hear from the deputy minister of my department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think, in the minister's response, he had indicated that because this is only a one-year term position is why they didn't apply Article 23. Is that what he's saying; that Article 23 considerations are for things that are only taken into consideration for indeterminate jobs or other jobs that opt for term positions? I just want to get some clarification there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, that's not the case. In regards to the comments that I made earlier, each department has their own directives and hierarchy. If there are going to be any changes...we were having some problems with the system that we were using.

So, our department, on October 13, 2005, sent recommendations to the deputy ministers and there was another letter written to the deputy ministers that if we're going to be placing a job, that the Deputy Minister of Human Resources has the right to turn down that request, or if necessary to make changes so that we don't go through those same problems.

With those problems we had last year, we are doing something and making some changes in order to not go through those again. 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. Mr. Picco.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 050 – 2(3): Auditor General's Report for Qulliq Energy Corporation as of March 31, 2005

Tabled Document 051 – 2(3): Response to Letter of Expectation – Qulliq Energy Corporation, June 30, 2005

Tabled Document 052 – 2(3): Nunavut Education Act (K-12) 2005 Public Consultations

Tabled Document 053 – 2(3): Nunavut Early Childhood Development Update Report 2003-04

Tabled Document 054 – 2(3): Schedule for the Student Loan Fund - March 31, 2004

Tabled Document 055 – 2(3): FPT Ministerial Meetings

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table the following documents: The Auditor General's Report for Qulliq Energy Corporation, as of March 31, 2005; the response to the Letter of Expectation to Qulliq Energy Corporation on June 30, 2005; the *Nunavut Education Act, (K-12) 2005 Public Consultation*; The Nunavut Early Childhood Development Update Report, 03-04; Schedule for the Student Loan Fund, March 31, 2004, and the FPT Ministerial Meeting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Please pages, if you would bring up the papers please. Tabling of documents. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Tabled Document 056 – 2(3): 2004-05 Public Service Annual Report

Tabled Document 057 – 2(3): Annual Report on the Delivery of Services to the Public in Nunavut's Languages, 2004-05

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the two following documents: 2004-05 Public Service Annual Report, and the Annual Report of the Delivery of Services to the Public in Nunavut's Languages, 2004-05.

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

Tabled Document 058 – 2(3): Activities Report Crown Agency Council of the Government of Nunavut Sept 1, 2003, through October 31, 2005

Hon. David Simailak: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. I would like to table the Activities Report of the Crown Agency Corporations of the Government of Nunavut September 1, 2003 through October 31, 2005. Ma'na Uqaqti.

>>Applause

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

Tabled Document 059 – 2(3): Victims Assistance Fund 2004-2005

Tabled Document 060 – 2(3): Minimum Wage Annual Report 2005

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. I wish to table the following documents, Victims Assistance Fund 2004-2005 and Minimum Wage Annual Report 2004-2005.

Qujannamiik, Uqaqti

>>Applause

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

Tabled Document 061 – 2(3): Fire Safety Colouring Book

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document, Fire Safety Colouring Book. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Curley.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 005 – 2(3): Rescinding of Motion 011 - 2(2) – Notice

Mr. Curley: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, December 1, 2005, I will move the following motion:

Now, therefore I move, seconded by the Member for Cambridge Bay, that Motion 011 – 2(2), titled *Mid-term Review of the Executive Council of Nunavut*, be rescinded.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Notice of Motions. Mr. Curley.

Motion 006 – 2(3): Mid-Term Leadership Review of the Executive Council of Nunavut – Notice

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday December 1, 2005, I will move the following motion.

Now therefore I move, seconded by the Member for Cambridge Bay, that the Mid-term Leadership Review of the Executive Council of Nunavut be conducted prior to March 31, 2006.... (*inaudible*)...

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions. Item 15, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16, Motions. Motions. Item 17, First Reading of Bills. First Reading of Bills. Item 18, Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Kilabuk.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Election Act – Second Reading

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, 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 second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill amends the *Nunavut Elections Act* to make improvements identified from the experience gained during the 2004 General Election. Most of these changes were recommended in the 2005 Report of the Chief Electoral Officer, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

Other changes include raising the limit on contributions to \$25,000 and requiring financial agents to be residents of Nunavut. A minor error is also corrected in the *Plebiscite Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): To the motion. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 67(2) and have Bill 10 moved directly to the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 67(2) so that Bill 10 can be moved directly into Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are no nays.

The motion is carried. Bill 10 has had its second reading and is referred to the 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, and Bill 10. With Mr. Evyagotailak in the Chair.

We will take a 10-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:28 and Committee resumed at 16:05*

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

Chairman (Mr. Evyagotailak): I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In the Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bill 1; Bill 2; Bill 3; Bill 4; and Bill 10.

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

Mr. Arreak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to commence the review of the Capital Estimates for the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, followed by the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Are we in agreement that we first deal with the capital estimates for the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. I would now like ask Minister Tapardjuk of the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth to make his opening remarks. Minister Tapardjuk.

Bill 01 – Appropriations (Capital) Act 2006-2007 – Culture, Language, Elders and Youth – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee of the Whole, good afternoon. As the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, I thank you for the opportunity to present my department's plans for the 2006-07 capital estimates.

The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth makes an important contribution to the lives of Nunavummiut by providing Nunavut communities the opportunity to preserve and enhance language, culture, heritage and to promote healthy active living.

Mr. Chairman, the 2006-07 plans are very positive with two major increases in funding and some new funding in key areas. The department's capital budget of \$3.183 million is allocated to four capital projects: office renovations in Baker Lake and Igloolik in the amount of \$60,000; capital contributions to non-profit, community based individuals, and organizations for heritage, Elders' and youth centres, in the amount of \$968,000; and capital contributions to non-profit community based individuals and organizations, for recreation facility projects in the amount of \$655,000. Nunavut Heritage Centre is in the amount of \$1.5 million.

Capital funding for office renovations in Baker Lake and Igloolik will enable my department to renovate and purchase office equipment for the operations of Sport Nunavut and community programs.

As part of my department's commitment to community capacity building, we have increased capital contributions funding by \$136,000 for renovations and minor capital of Nunavut's many heritage, Elders', and youth centres. In addition, we have increased capital contribution funding by \$265,000 for recreational facilities capital projects to foster healthy active living opportunities for Nunavummiut.

New funding of \$1.5 million for the Nunavut Heritage Centre reflects a major commitment to the preservation of Nunavut's heritage. Mr. Chairman, a significant portion of my department's capital budget is allocated as capital contributions to community-based individuals and organizations. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the key capital contributions funded in the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

With regards to heritage centres' capital contributions in 2005-2006, CLEY provided capital contributions funding to Kugaaruk to restore the Kugaaruk Stone Church as a historic site, as well as the Hamlet of Arctic Bay to renovate a heritage centre building.

I am pleased to report that under elders' centres capital contributions in 2005-2006, funding has been provided for renovations and minor capital work for an elders centre in Cape Dorset and the Mikilaaq Centre in Arviat.

In terms of youth centre capital contributions, CLEY has provided funding for renovations and minor capital work for the youth facility in Taloyoak and the centre in Cape Dorset.

To ensure that the 2005-2006 capital contributions funding will be expended by the end of the 2005-2006 fiscal year, a second call for capital proposals for community heritage, elders, and youth centres was advertised.

Under recreation facilities projects capital contributions funding has been provided to communities Nunavut-wide. To date, 13 facilities recreation projects have been funded across Nunavut for a total of \$290,000.

Mr. Chairman, the \$1.5 million allocated towards the establishment of the Nunavut Heritage Centre is a step forward on this exciting initiative. As you are aware, in 2004-2005 my department established a Trilateral Working Group to develop a strategic plan for the Nunavut Heritage Centre. The Trilateral Working Group has commissioned Lord Cultural Resources Planning and Management Inc. to prepare a capital financing plan for the heritage centre.

In closing, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide an update on CLEY's 2006-2007 capital estimates. I would be happy to answer any questions from the committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. (interpretation ends) Do you have witnesses you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree to bring the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses in.

For the record, minister, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my left is David Akeagok, he is the Deputy Minister for the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, and to my right, another David, David Kolot, he's the Finance Director.

Chairman: Does the Chair of the standing committee have any comments? Mr. Mapsalak, please proceed.

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* has reviewed the proposed capital estimates of the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, and I am pleased to provide you with the Committee's comments.

The Committee notes that the department's proposed 2006-2007 capital budget of \$3,183,000 is approximately 135% higher than its 2005-2006 budget, primarily as a result of the department's plan to allocate \$1.5 million in the coming year towards a new Nunavut Heritage Centre.

At its September 2004 Retreat in Arviat, Full Caucus announced that one of the key priorities for the 2nd Legislative Assembly is "ensuring the security of Nunavut's cultural legacy by implementing plans for a territorial Heritage Centre and the repatriation of Nunavut's cultural treasures from other jurisdictions."

The information provided to Members on the Heritage Centre project indicates that the total cost of a new Heritage Centre is budgeted at \$60.0 million.

A total of \$50.0 million is anticipated to be recovered through third party funding. In 2004, the GN established a trilateral working group with NTI and the Inuit Heritage Trust to develop a strategic plan for capital fundraising for the Centre.

Although the department has allocated \$1.5 million for the 2006-2007 fiscal year towards this project, it is not entirely clear how the funds will actually be spent.

A capital fundraising plan is apparently being developed. The community selection for the facility has not been formally announced, although Members understand that it will likely be located in the capital, in order to be able to access potential federal funding for the project.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Finance's recent presentation to all MLAs stressed the need for the GN's capital planning process to include more comprehensive planning for future O&M costs for new facilities. The Committee would urge the Department of CLEY to bring forward realistic O&M and staffing projections for the new Heritage Centre.

The department also needs to define its capital spending plans with respect to its responsibilities for the Territorial Archives, given the potential for the facilities to be combined. It is also important to clarify the extent to which the Departments of CLEY and Education are communicating and cooperating in the development of the proposed Nunavut Cultural School and the Nunavut Heritage Centre.

The Committee looks forward to the Minister providing regular updates to the Legislative Assembly and the public on the progress of this important initiative.

The Committee would stress the importance of the Minister tabling CLEY's Annual Report on Grants and Contributions at the earliest opportunity. The Committee notes with approval that the 2004-2005 report has been tabled this month.

Given that the department is seeking approval from the Legislative Assembly for a significantly enhanced capital budget, it is important that all Members of the Legislative Assembly have the opportunity to consider in detail the department's past expenditures in this area. The department's annual reporting should also include information on the extent to which it is able to measure the effectiveness of its expenditures, in addition to information on the number of submissions that did not receive funding approval.

It is important to clarify the extent to which the Department of CLEY cooperates with the Department of Community and Government Services and the Nunavut Association of Municipalities in the administration of CLEY's program to provide capital contributions for recreation facilities.

The Committee notes that the department has committed to reviewing its policies on recreational facilities to better meet the needs of communities. The Committee looks forward to a revised policy being formally tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

The department has responsibility for the Nunavut Historical Advisory Board, which is established by law in the *Historical Resources Act*. One of the responsibilities of this body is to provide advice to the government on the establishment of museums. A number of individuals were appointed to this board in 2001. However, the appointments lapsed in 2003 and remain vacant to this day.

In light of the department's plans to move forward with the establishment of the Nunavut Heritage Centre, it would appear desirable to fill these positions at the earliest opportunity. Members noted in a recent letter from the Minister that a review has been initiated on the statute, and that the department does not plan to make new appointments until the review has been completed.

The 2004 GN departmental reorganization resulted in the transfer of responsibility for Nunavut's public libraries from the Department of Education to the Department of CLEY.

Members would wish to see CLEY identify capital spending needs for public libraries across the territory's communities. In light of Nunavut's disappointing results in the recent international Adult Literacy and Skills Survey, investments in our public library system would support other GN efforts to deliver literacy programs to our residents.

Mr. Chairman, the GN's June 2005 Inuit Employment Plan statistics reveal that the department continues to face challenges in filling its positions in Igloolik. Almost half of the department's positions in the community remain unfilled. This situation has also been noted with respect to the Department of Environment.

The Standing Committee was informed by the Minister of CLEY during his recent appearance before the Committee that funding for some of the department's Igloolik positions is being used to pay for the shared services agreement with the GNWT to house cultural items in Yellowknife. The Standing Committee would question why these positions remain on the department's organization chart, given that there is apparently no urgent need to fill them.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee recommends that the department table information in this 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 opening comments. Individual Members may have their own concerns and comments as we proceed.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Before we proceed I would like to remind Members of the following. According to Rule 77 (1) you have 10 minutes to speak and according to Rule 77 (2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a Member may speak more than once to the matter under discussion about but not until every Member has spoken.

I suggest to Members that where ever possible you ask detailed questions during page by page review of the departmental estimates. Do Members have any general comments. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister welcome and your officials David. I don't know the other person.

I just want to comment that you feel strongly about the Inuit language and culture. And the Territorial libraries they are very important and very beneficial. But I have concerns that these projects it seems I don't know where are they going to be built and why don't you specify as to where we are going to build them.

And we keep saying we want to be transparent. It doesn't seem to be that way. It seems like if we are going to be building something we have to have a site in plan and check other communities.

I wonder if the Minister knows where they want to see these projects. It seems right now that the government folk school \$1.5 million, and the trade school, which we heard through the Commissioner's speech that they will be discussing as to where the location will be.

But if Regular Members were being asked just to approve you don't know where it has to be. It seems just to the discretion of the Cabinet and that seems to be the case and we are always reminded to spend our money wisely.

And they want to find the final costs and they were told last fall I have a concern now. Why aren't you willing to tell us where they are going to be? Is it going to be in Iqaluit, the Heritage centre or other communities? You don't care about the other regions. Is it easier just to put them in the headquarters and for Members to approve? Because once it is up to the Cabinet they can decide and I think we are just giving them a blank cheque.

During the campaign we were saying that we will inform the public and we will work cooperatively. What is going on with the Ministers?

Once we get to the appropriate page I will be asking because we shouldn't be working this way. There are other communities and other regions in which people are looking for employment. There are more jobs here in the headquarters than in any other.

I don't think I am the only one who has concerns about this and we should be given the chance to have that explained to us. Those were just my opening comments. Thank you.

Chairman: General comments. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to welcome Tapardjuk, David and another David. Welcome. And I'd like to welcome but Arctic Bay isn't included in the Heritage site in regards to the operations.

There doesn't seem to be estimate for operations because our elders don't have a place to meet. What they do is go to somebody's residence and have a meeting because the building that is designed to be part of the elders committee it is also part of the youth centre. So it is combined and it is very, very old.

I believe it was built around 1945 the present building that they use and they tried to use it as a youth centre and for other organizations to use. For smaller communities we are given and handed everything whether it is an old building just as long we have a building.

Maybe they should be given buildings that are a bit attractive. We see the Heritage Centre is going to be opened and if it doesn't have proper management it'll be just wasting funding and I believe it will be just wasting money.

So if it is going to be built they spend about \$50,000 and they have to abide by government policies and it has to be like an old sod house. But it requires two entrances and two exits anyway because it has to follow the code and requires lighting and fuel.

And I just wanted to point that out. Our youths also needs a youth centre. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. General comments. General comments. I have no more Members on my list for general comments. We will now go to page by page in the review of departmental estimates.

Starting on page F-6. Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth Directorate. Detail of Capital. Grants and contributions. Headquarters region. Total headquarters region. \$1,623,000. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the minister's officials to the House, to the Chambers, to the hot seat, you can call it whatever you want, but just welcome.

My question on these two programs, especially the community, heritage, elders, and youth centres funding and the recreation facilities: over the last year or so, what has been the uptake, basically, on that? Is it something that's a very popular program and the applications are being denied because of not enough funding? It seems to be an adequate amount of funding level. I'm just curious to find out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Mr. Akeeagok.

Mr. Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) For the community, heritage, elders, and youth centres for this year, although the minister mentioned in his opening comments, there was a second call for proposals.

There was still funding available for this fiscal year for that program and for the recreation facilities projects. The requests are far greater than what their need is for this program. So far, we've got a very small amount left for this fiscal year and expecting to finish them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: I don't have any further questions.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You caught me by surprise, Mr. Tootoo. I thank the minister and his officials for coming here today.

I just want a clarification on a couple of things here. The funding for youth centres, is that funding available to every community in Nunavut; every community has a youth centre or a proposal to build a youth centre?

The reason I asked, Mr. Minister, is that there's a program down in Ottawa called the 'Urban Multi Purpose Aboriginal Youth Centre' fund, I'm not sure of its exact acronym. I know in Cambridge Bay, we used it one year to help get our youth centre going. The cut-off limit was a population of 1,000. We accessed that fund to help get a youth centre going, but does that necessarily prevent any community that's over a thousand from accessing youth centre funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, to answer the member's question. The money is there available to be accessed by anyone who has a place for a youth centre that's an old building. That's just for the older buildings to be accessed for youth centres and they have to have an application to access funding for that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the answer. It clarifies something for me. And my second question; I just wonder if the community heritage...I'm referring back to your opening comments, a stone church in Kugaaruk as an historic site, what is the definition of a historic site under your criteria? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, the one in Kugaaruk, that's a historical site and we get some funding from the federal government to be accessed by heritage sites, such as the one in Kugaaruk. There is some money available for historical sites.

The heritage facilities are also part of the definition of heritage sites. Those are the ones that are protected, that are in the communities, for which the money can be accessed.

Chairman: Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. The reason I ask Mr. Minister, is because in Cambridge Bay we also have a stone church and it's referred to locally as the Old Stone Church.

It's probably that old. I think it was constructed in 1954 or '55 but it's in a real serious need of repair. It's a tourist site, a heritage site, people like to... it's part of the community, the history of the community, the old town.

It's actually the only part of the old town that is still over and across the bay where the old town site is. I know from my own experience, when tourists come to town, they like to go over there and take pictures and ask questions about it, but it's in really bad shape.

The cross has fallen down. I know from the Government of the Northwest Territories days, there were funds available. I think they were accessed a couple of times to try and upgrade the church.

I think it would be something that our hamlet would like to talk to your department about in terms of accessing some funding in the coming years to upgrade the church before it deteriorates too much further because it's already in bad condition.

It's probably posing a danger to people who go near the church. I'm not 100 percent sure that it's a historic site as defined by your department, but it's certainly something in our community that is defined as a historic site. I said we refer to it as the Old Stone Church.

I'm wondering Mr. Chairman, if the minister could comment on whether his department would be willing to work with the hamlet council in Cambridge Bay to look at how to protect the stone church as it is now and then look to upgrading it or repairing it in the coming years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): The funding that we have available for the heritage sites and heritage facilities, the money is there available for those types of things to upgrade them and to renovate them. That's what the money is there for.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. The minister was saying that the hamlet then could just put in an application to your department with plans and then you would review it and consider it and hopefully it gets approved. Just go through that process?

I understand that the minister is planning to come to Cambridge Bay, I think maybe next week or the week after. Perhaps we could discuss it more over there with the hamlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was just a comment.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the same page, in the minister's opening remarks, he said that his department has capital funding of \$3.183 million allocated to four capital projects; that those four projects at the beginning... can he state which four projects he's talking about? Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I made a mistake, please let me know but, office renovations in Baker Lake and Igloolik, and it will cost in

the amount of \$60,000; capital contributions to heritage, Elder's and youth centres in the amount of \$968,000, and capital contributions to non-profit community based individuals and organizations for recreation facilities projects. Say recreational facilities projects, such as swimming pools or the construction or the... and that amount is \$655,000.

There is \$1.5 million that is set aside for a Nunavut heritage centre. In total, that is \$3.183 million allotted to the four capital projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand, but last week and last year you had some contribution money for those projects, for projects that people requested in the communities, for renovations and other contributions.

Your department hands out money for people that apply to your department for funding. There are quite a few communities that benefit from these monies. Is there any funding available for people who request funding from your department? Will we be able to get some listed facilities that have requested funding from you and that have been approved?

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Tapardjuk.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Akeeagok.

Mr. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You're looking at page F-6 of the capital estimates. That amount of money is available for communities that request funding from that amount of money but we have not.... there was a list that the minister provided as to who got funding from these amounts on page F-6.

Every year, the minister hands out a list of the names of the facilities that received contributions and so on.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier, there are quite a number of projects that are slated for operations and maintenance and not necessarily capital.

I don't seem to see any breakdown, but I would like to ask the minister if you would be able to give us a breakdown of the costs; what is allotted for capital; what is allotted for operations and maintenance, and the dollar amount on each project, whether they've been used for equipment or for facilities.

I'm sure that these monies will be used this fiscal year, but I would like to ask the minister to give us a copy of everything broken down. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I agree with you completely.

I think that it's very important to give you a breakdown. For 2004-05, we tabled a document in the House and of course, for this fiscal year, we will also be giving you some information with details once this is approved. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it is very hard for your department when you just sign it and it just says it's for this particular community.

When you're following the acts, I'm sure that there are guidelines on what monies could be donated to certain organizations and what can't. For example, you can't make contributions or grants to religious groups.

There are specific guidelines that you have to adhere to. How do you know who to make donations and grants to?

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, there are grants and contributions that are given to various organizations like cultural activities, language activities and capital and so on.

Everything single line item has guidelines that have to be followed. If you don't have a copy, we could give you a copy of the guidelines that we use to make grants and contributions to the communities.

There are three especially that we're talking about in capital. There is community heritage, Elder's and youth centres and others at the community level projects, that have been identified and they can apply for grants and contributions and they also have guidelines that they have to follow.

Chairman: Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One thing I'm concerned about is Nunavut is quite large and I've seen a lot of requests for capital and for minor capitals.

As I stated earlier, you can't give grants or contributions for religious organizations or their activities. Sometimes it must be quite hard to know whether the request is made for a renovation for something that's owned by a religious organization. What happens in that case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): First of all, there are different activities and they all have review committees; they do the review. Usually what they ask for is to put a call out there and ask people that they should make an application prior to March 31.

Once we get all of those applications, we have specific committees who review the applications following their criteria. If it meets the criteria, then a contribution agreement would be signed by both parties.

We have this expectation, as a government, we have an expectation to see how these monies would be used and dependent on the amount of the grant or contribution, I think it's capped at \$15,000, we would set up criteria that would be covered under the contribution agreement. They would have to give us a summarized report of the activities that they carried out with the money. We have criteria that are followed by the financier and also the criteria that have been met by the client. Thank you.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That didn't answer my question at all. I think it was more of a yes or no answer that I was requesting.

There are a lot of different religious organizations out there. Accidentally, if we should make a grant or contribution for religious purposes, would those monies have to be returned to the government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): There's a contribution agreement that is signed by both parties that has to be given back to the government; if they didn't meet that criteria, that is why they signed that contribution agreement prior to receiving that money. If we hear afterwards that they didn't meet that criteria, then we would expect to get that money back. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. We are on F-6. Questions to F-6. Capital. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): I will leave at that for now, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Questions to F-6. Capital. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under F-6, we have \$655,000 for recreational facilities like swimming pools. It's not geared towards new recreational facilities, is it? Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): For example, it's the existing facilities. We are now looking at the existing facilities like buying or renovating community recreational facilities.

If they would like to make renovations on those existing facilities they would be able to get the money but if they want to erect a brand new swimming pool for example they would approach Community and Government Services.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you very much for that explanation. What about the arenas. Usually in the communities we don't use the arenas in the spring or summer if it doesn't have artificial ice.

And usually those facilities are not utilized. Could we access some of this \$655,000 if we would want to build a swimming pool for example in that existing facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I will refer that question to my Deputy Minister.

Chairman: Mr. Akeeagok.

Mr. Akeeagok (interpretation): Under our rules one community can access up to \$250,000 for 3 years. We have that rule that we abide by. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So do I understand that if we build a swimming pool inside an existing arena or the outside of the building that the community is eligible to apply for \$250 thousand right?

Chairman: Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, if it going to improve the facility or if it is going to expand the facility, \$250,000 can be accessed for 3 years to improve or enlarge an existing facility. These monies could build that swimming pool if it would be an improvement.

Chairman: Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is very pleasing to hear because the population in our communities are increasing and arenas are not utilized in the spring or summer. Are you going to make that announcement to the communities so they'll know so that they'll access those funds? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Very much. We could use different modes of communication to inform the communities. We usually get the message out when there are monies available that can be accessed and we can also send out the communiqués to the Hamlets and the interested parties at the community level.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you. This \$250,000 can be accessed and used within 3 years so it would come out of that \$655,000.

Chairman: Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes it would.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): That is it for now.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister according to the way I see it these amounts of money aren't enough for the whole communities although I am in support of grants and contributions to assist in the existing facilities for youth, recreation and elders facilities.

With that small amount of money they are not enough for communities. I'm in full support of you to increase this amount. When you provide support in this small amount to the communities for Elders and youth, I know for sure in Rankin Inlet, when the youth centre receives funding, grants and contributions, the youth are very happy and the positive impact is felt by the community and some communities, too I'm sure, when they don't have the existing facilities, I'm sure you provide funding to them outside of these capital estimates.

Is it possible? I'm in support of you Mr. Minister. Perhaps my question to you is: do you have a long term action plan for these facilities, because, some communities might receive \$250,000 and I'm sure they could get third party funding.

Provided that they had been allocated some funding, I'm sure they would be allowed to get additional grants and contributions. I was wondering if you have a long term, five year plans for youth centres, whether it be swimming pools, whether it be recreational facilities. Have you considered that? Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes. Grants and contributions can be very beneficial but we're always short of funding.

My colleague, the ministers in provincial jurisdictions, we've been discussing this. Back in 1967, Expo 1967, all the Canadian provinces received recreational facilities. Since then, these facilities have not been replaced and they're very old.

At this time, we're now discussing this matter with my colleagues, my federal colleagues on how we can start replacing these existing old facilities. One of my officials today or tomorrow perhaps... it was supposed to be today, they were supposed to have a teleconference call today, to negotiate an agreement so that we can include, since the facilities, whether it be recreation, they're getting too old, so we're trying to negotiate with them to make sure we replace these kinds of facilities.

And, we are looking at ways of how we can increase the grants and contributions, especially for recreational facilities.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I would like to ask another question. I don't understand the situation in Nunavut.

Some communities are lacking I'm sure. They've identified the communities, and I'm sure you have an inventory of what the communities have. But the question I do have is: do you have a five year capital plan so you can get additional funding from the Government of Nunavut because large chunks of funding of this is used for office facilities.

Have you considered a long term action plan? If you can have a long term capital plan, because it's going to... if you don't have a five year capital plan, we'll just start considering them year by year. If you don't have a long term plan, could you consider having a long term plan?

Chairman: Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes. We are now initiating a study in Nunavut to find out the recreational facilities and others, to find out how old they are, and what capacity they can hold, and which community is going to be the priority.

Once we compile all this information, then we can start planning ahead and make estimates. We've considered a long term action plan, and now we're doing a study as to where Nunavummiut are in regards to recreational facilities. Once we understand all of that information, we will be able to better plan, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it would be ideal if it's settled that way. If it's not settled that way, the minister can make more choices as to whom these grants or contribution can go to, that way there will be less favouritism.

It would be ideal if you can come up with a plan as soon as possible for youth and elders centres. I'm sure they will be more pleased and it will be easier to help the communities that are lacking in facilities.

I will conclude with that now, Mr. Chairman, and I thank the minister for his responses.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Directorate. Detail of Capital. Grants and Contribution. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region. \$1,623,000. Total Grants and Contribution. I'm sorry. Total Headquarters Region. \$1,623,000. Are we agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Grants and Contribution. \$1,623,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Next page. F-6. F-7. Sorry. F-7. Questions. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Could the minister elaborate further, as the Chairman of the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit, in regard to third party funding committee from the government, NTI, I wonder who the third one is.

What are their responsibilities? If you can elaborate further on the third party funding. Are they responsible for Nunavut-wide? You agreed to it under community heritage program centre. So, I was wondering if you can elaborate on the Nunavut Heritage Centre of \$1 million 500 something. Is this under that line item?

Chairman: Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, the NTI, our department, and Heritage Trust are the three levels. We have to identify funding. As the Chair of the Ajauqtiit, Steve Mapsalak, stated that we have to identify close to \$55 million because the study has been completed already, but we have numbered it.

If the heritage centre goes ahead, how should it be administered? Is it going to be owned privately by the Nunavut Government? Is it going to be a Crown Corporation? Or, there was the third one, or is it going to be on its own? Which idea would be the most appropriate?

Secondly, when they have to identify how much it will cost. Where would the location be and the lowest cost or if we received the funding how we can best extend it because also how are we going to pay for Operations and Maintenance of the building.

So these are the issues that we have to deal with. So it is mainly for the one Article 33 in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement that states that there will be a Heritage Centre. For that reason these are the considerations that we have so that this can go ahead Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is very clear what you just stated. Have you given them any time line as to when they have to complete what they are doing. Do you expect a timeline on this and when do you expect to receive a report on this.

Chairman (interpretation): Koana, Mr. Curley. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): In coming up with a decision I do expect perhaps in the New Year in January then we can start the process of reviewing so that it can be given to the Cabinet. Thank you.

Chairman: Koana, Mr. Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I am sure the Committee is going to be making a recommendation. After you receive the recommendations could we see the report after it has been tabled or do you have your Cabinet members to get it to give it to the Members here?

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes. I am thinking after the report is given to me then I would provide it, first of all, provide that report to the Cabinet members because we have to make a decision on how much it would cost and how it will be administered and who is going to own that building and where the location is going to be.

So, all these have to be discussed and I know it is going to be quite challenging to make decisions on those and I expect that this will go through.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I would ask the Minister if possible once you get that can the communities be asked what they think about it and if they have any comments. We knew it would cost quite a bit. Can the communities be informed at least? Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes we can keep them informed because under Article 23, Nunavut Heritage Trust and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and government will have to work together to come up with something. It is clear we will be able to try and do the best we can. And we will be depending on them when they are working on this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Directorate. Detail of Capital. Tangible Assets. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region, \$1, 560,000. Does this committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Tangible Assets. \$1,560,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to page F-4. Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Departmental Summary. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$3,183,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Are you agreed that the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is completed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to thank the minister and his staff. Minister, do you have any closing remarks?

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to thank my colleagues, but I feel that the funds will benefit all Nunavummiut. And, thanks again, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister and your staff.

I would now like to ask Minister Akesuk, of the Department of Environment to make his opening remarks. Minister Akesuk.

Bill 01 – Appropriations (Capital) Act 2006-2007 – Environment – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today in front of the Committee of the Whole to present the Department of Environment's capital plan for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

Over the last few years we have heard from the regular members that Nunavummiut respect wildlife and value the benefits of the parks. With this in mind, we have proposed 23 capital projects focusing on parks and wildlife management.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Environment's proposed capital budget for 2006-07 is \$2,230,000. Nunavut parks have an important role to play in the promotion of some of Nunavut's outstanding natural and cultural heritage, and in supporting recreation and tourism opportunities. Our parks are developed for the benefit of Nunavummiut and for visitors nationally and internationally.

In November of 2000, the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development reviewed a report which summarized the status of facilities in our territorial parks and identified several deficiencies that needed to be addressed in the interests of public safety; visitor satisfaction, and ensuring these special places are appropriately maintained.

With this in mind, our capital plan includes planning, upgrading and building new facilities in Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit, and in several decentralized and non-decentralized communities including Kugaaruk and Clyde River.

The largest projects within our 2006-07 capital plan will maintain present wildlife offices and build new wildlife area offices. Regular members have indicated that the wildlife area office in each Nunavut community is required. This is reflected in our five year capital plan.

Mr. Chairman, with the funds available to us, the Department of Environment's capital plan is well balanced and focused in areas that clearly support the needs and priorities of Nunavummiut, the communities, and the government.

I am confident that my department will continue to ensure the protection, promotion and sustainable use of our natural resources in Nunavut with the highest standard of performance and accountability. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Do you have any witnesses you would like to bring to the table? Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Does the Committee agree to bring the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses there?

For the record, Minister Akesuk, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): To my right is my Deputy Minister, Simon Awa; and to my left is the Director for Parks. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Pardon me, who's that?

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): His name is David Monteith.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Does the Chair of the standing committee have any comments? Please proceed, Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee Ajauqtiit has reviewed the proposed capital estimates of the Department of Environment for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, and I am pleased to provide you with the committee's comments.

The committee notes that the department's proposed 2006-2007 capital budget of \$2,230,000 is approximately 20 percent higher than its 2005-2006 budget. The major area of increase relates to the department's plan to construct new wildlife offices in a number of Nunavut communities over the coming years. The committee looks forward to reviewing a detailed timetable for this initiative.

The standing committee supports the improvement of the territory's park facilities and the visitors' centres. However, members remain concerned that our territory's tourism potential remains underdeveloped, and note that while the Department of Environment has responsibility for parks, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation has responsibility for tourism and visitors' centres. It's unclear how well these two departments work together in coordinating these responsibilities.

For example, the recently-published 2005 Nunavut Economic Outlook indicated that "an integrated tourism strategy remains a work-in-progress." It is important that Environment, EDT, and Nunavut Tourism work together to measure the success of investments in the area of parks and tourism, including their impact on employment opportunities in our communities.

The standing committee encourages the government to support efforts on the part of communities to demonstrate initiative and develop their tourism potential. One example of this is the idea of a marine park or conservation area being developed near Sanikiluaq.

The standing committee notes the progress made, to date, in relation to park development and Inuit Impact Benefit Agreements. The committee looks forward to the successful designation in 2006 of the Coppermine River near Kugluktuk as a Canadian Heritage River. The committee also notes the commitment made in the department's 2005-2006 business plan to work towards the establishment of a territorial parks and heritage river co-management system, and looks forward to regular updates from the Minister.

The Standing Committee also recognizes the importance of monitoring the progress of such federal initiatives as the Iqalituq National Wildlife Area near Clyde River, and encourages the department to continue working with impacted communities.

Members have also taken note of information provided by the department during the Minister's appearance before the Committee with respect to concerns expressed by the Kivalliq Inuit Association in relation to the proposed Alivijik park development project near Coral Harbour.

Members recognize that the government faces challenges in balancing environmental protection goals with the need to support the expansion of the natural resources development sector of our economy.

The division of the former Department of Sustainable Development into two new departments with distinct mandates reflects this. It is important that the government as a whole clearly reports to the Legislative Assembly on the way in which it makes choices and balances concerns in this area.

Mr. Chairman, the GN's June 2005 Inuit Employment Plan statistics reveal that the department continues to face serious challenges in filling its wildlife management positions in Igloolik. Approximately 50% of the department's positions in the community remain unfilled. This situation has also been noted with respect to the Department of CLEY's positions in the community.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee recommends that the department table information in this 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 opening comments. Individual Members may have their own concerns and comments as we proceed.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. You have 10 minutes for general comments. Do the Members have general comments? General comments. I have no more Members in my list for general comments. We will now proceed page by page on the review of the departmental estimates starting with page I-6. I-6. Environment. Program development. Detail. Capital. Tangible assets. Headquarters region. Total headquarters region. \$140 thousand. Does the committee agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page I-7. Qikiqtaaluk region. Qikiqtaaluk region. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the \$100,000 for the Sylvia Grinnell Park, maybe I would just ask the minister: are we going to ever see that bridge; is that what this money is for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, this is not for the bridge. We are still working on the bridge issue so I don't know how long it's going to take us. It's a project that we as a government, as a Department of Environment can't handle ourselves because of finding other resources to fund this with other people, organizations, or governments involved in making the bridge. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the walking bridge was something that was approved, I believe, some years ago. I would just like to ask for confirmation of when that was approved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: One of the partners, in trying to build the pedestrian bridge on Sylvia Grinnell, the military pulled out of the project and we are still trying to figure out how we are going to proceed with the bridge later on. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In light of the military pull out?

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Due to the lack of engineers in the military due to the war going on in the Middle East, in Afghanistan, where alas, the military had all of their commitments. They would have helped us if that didn't happen. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are no other engineers out there that know how to build bridges? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: The cost is very high for our department to be able to hire some engineers, so we have to look to other sources and we are still trying to figure out how we are going to do it. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I mean it's just a pedestrian bridge, it's not like it's a heavy-traffic bridge. What's so difficult, in this case, that they need military expertise to be able to come up with a bridge and why can't the department do it on its own?

If you look at some of the other projects that the government's doing around the territory like the big major air facilities and things like that, you don't depend on military engineers to develop plans for those. I want a bit of an explanation from the minister on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In order to dedicate our capital budget for 2006-2007, we will be left with about \$600,000 for the rest of the communities that also want capital projects.

It would cost us about \$1.8 million and we don't have that kind of money to start up any capital projects again, but we are still working in talking to INAC on how we could access any money to build a bridge. So, we are still working on it. We haven't given up yet and I don't think we will ever give up until it's done, as a department. That's where we are at with the Sylvia Grinnell Pedestrian Bridge. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was the initial concept of doing that was the initial agreement between the Department of Defence and the Department of Environment or whatever other name it was under prior to that in the past.

What was the initial agreement DND pulled out of? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They were going to assist with the bridge so that was going to save us money. We also had an agreement with Canada Trail Council but there is no more military here that could do the job. So we are left to figure out how we are going to do it as a department. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When that project was approved how much was approved to go along with it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was no money involved. It wasn't going to cost the Government of Nunavut to build the bridge. It was going to be done all by DND military and no money was given to the Government of Nunavut for the project. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister indicated they are still in meetings with INAC, what about DND, do we have to wait for world peace before we get any help from them and if that is the case I have a feeling we are going to be waiting for an awful long time. Is there anything sooner on the horizon coming from that other than waiting for global peace? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have written a letter again to INAC and are hoping for a response if they are interested. So we are just waiting for them. Other than that I can't really talk about the DND here next week or next year to do the job. Again we will never give up trying to figure out how to build that bridge. That is it for now. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not going to wait for the military here next week but when they pulled out did they give any indication, did the department get an indication of they may be able to re-entertain the idea and provide some bridgemenhip. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll get Mr. Monteith to respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Monteith: We've had meetings with the military and they did a lot of good work for us. They did the design of the bridge. They came over here to look at the site. They did the geo-technical work. We were somewhat surprised when the Minister of Defence came over and when we asked him about the next phase of the bridge which was to purchase the materials and actually to undertake the construction.

His response was he had priorities and he wasn't able to commit to it because of events in Afghanistan. We sent him another letter requesting that if you can't build the bridge, is it possible to provide us with some assistance, for example there are many military planes that fly up to Iqaluit, could we possibly get some of the materials in one of the Hercules? And that could be your contribution. So we are waiting for a response on that.

At the same time the Minister is quite right he stated he put in an application to INAC for funding. As of yesterday, they seem quite receptive and happy with that. As of yet a decision hasn't been made.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it is another reason that it might be a good thing that there is a federal election going on cause it can bump the different candidates that if they want to get in they can push the bridge coming from one of the larger centres. You can use that.

The northern way of doing some vote buying by these federal parties that we see go on and considerable more magnitude in the south and it's an easy way out for them. You can put it to them that way.

So, it might be something to pursue, because Mr. Chairman, I just want to assure the minister and staff, that I know I often get questions about the bridge by constituents. There are many times, the caribou are standing just on the other side of the river and you can't go get them, you don't have a boat.

Also, the potential for tourism, it's an endless potential there. So, I'd really urge the minister to point some of these things out very explicitly to his federal counterpart, while he's still around, to lobby for this to happen and to let the minister know so that I can do what ever I can to help, if there is anything I can do to help, just have him or his officials feel free to let me know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said earlier, we're not going to give up.

We're going to do our very best to come up with ideas as to how we can proceed with this bridge. Again, like the offer from Mr. Tootoo, maybe hopefully Ed Picco and Mr. Okalik are also going to help out as the Members of the Legislative Assembly for Iqaluit.

So, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. I-7. Questions to I-7. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): I have a question under Hall Beach. Unaliqarviviniit DEW Line Heritage Development.

Last year they used \$80,000, and this year they want to use \$35,000. It seems like this funding should not go to that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a small community within the Nunavut region and we want to be able to do development on that DEW line heritage site.

You need a DEW line heritage site. If there were to be some tourists to Hall Beach, we want to do development on that heritage site. As a government, we have stated that the smaller communities should be assisted more and this would be used for the tourism development over in that place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't really understand.

He said that this was an outpost camp. Is he just talking about this certain area, or is he talking about the people of Hall Beach? It has to be those DEW Line buildings over there that belong to the DEW line site.

Those buildings are given to the Government of Nunavut now. Do we have to spend any money on that area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I meant by nunaligalak, is non-decentralized community, it's a non-decentralized community.

We look for ways to improve the economy up in the community of Hall Beach. We're still in discussions with the federal people who own the DEW line on how we can get the two buildings from over there, two items and do signage together with them and promote it as a tourism opportunity for people who visit Hall Beach. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The DEW line site is not that close to the community of Hall Beach. Are there any outpost camps situated around that area, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, there is nobody there.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): I'll just leave it at that Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Qikiqtaaluk Region. Total Qikiqtaaluk Region, \$875,000. Does this committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. I-8. Tangible Assets. Kivalliq Region. Total Kivalliq Region, \$265,000. Does this committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Question, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I would like to welcome the minister and his officials, the deputy minister, and Mr. Monteith; I believe he is the longest serving member of the government. It's been a long time since he first moved here and started working in the tourism sector.

My question, Mr. Minister, is in regards to Rankin Inlet, which has been allotted \$70,000 to improve the Ijaruluk Park and Meladine. Usually a lot of people go to Rankin Inlet. My question is in regards to the park, and I'm not exactly sure how far it is from the coast line, but, there is a possibility of building a road from Meladine, and we're thinking about building an all weather road.

There are some contributions being made by private businesses and we're looking at the possibility of building a bridge down by the coast. How long will it take to build a bridge in a territorial park? What criteria would be used?

Remember we were having a meeting last year. We saw some of the plans but would like to see a bridge built there and I believe they also made a proposal to the federal

government. The parks were there and I would assume that there would have to be an agreement between the government and the affected parties.

If something of that route is to be undertaken, and if we're going to propose to build a bridge at the mouth of the river, what would be your position?

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll get Mr. Monteith to respond to that question please.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Mr. Monteith.

Mr. Monteith: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was talk of building a road through the park and a bridge, and there was a little bit of confusion related to that.

Originally we thought that the, and got this information from Community and Government Services, that they wanted to put a road through the park and then build a bridge to cross the river and they wanted to extend the existing road.

But, after we heard that, there were other meetings that took place in the community with Elders and in fact, the roads that they were speaking to was not the road through the park, but the road to the river to the west of the community, which is outside the park.

So, there was a little bit of confusion initially, but I think it's all ironed out now. I believe CGS is looking at putting a proposal for building a road and possibly a bridge associated with that.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate Mr. Monteith's response. I know it's something that could spark up anytime because we have a very active community and certainly, the department is also important to the community and we realize that.

But the best route for having a small bridge across is really right in the middle of the park, and I fully understand that it's possible to go around a longer detour, like you said, probably follow it up and turn to the west. So, the lake is not all that far from the mouth of the river.

So, I needed that information mainly because I really want to see something communicated between the community, the park, and the government. So, you certainly are aware of the idea, and what I hear from you, it's possible to have the discussions between our parties to agree as to where the best route is. Is that what I'm hearing from you? Thank you.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Mr. Monteith to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Monteith.

Mr. Monteith: Thank you. Yes, certainly. We are interested in meeting with anyone on that particular road, and the other player, obviously, is the Kivalliq Inuit Association that has taken an interest in it because it's tied to the IIBA and I believe Article 10 specifically deals with the park and any roads and access through the park.

My understanding was that the preferred road now is going to be not within the park, but to the west of the community. But I certainly am available any time to meet.

Chairman: Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I'm done. Thank you.

Chairman: Tangible Assets. Kivalliq Region. Total Kivalliq Region. \$265,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Tangible Assets. Kitikmeot Region. Page I-9. Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and his officials. I guess since we are on the theme of bridges, I thought I would put my two cents worth in.

We have a park and to get to there, we have a bridge to cross, and that bridge is 40 or 50 years old. There have been some concerns in Cambridge Bay that it's getting a little dangerous, particularly where it connects to the river banks.

I am wondering if the minister and his officials have had any conversations or discussions in Cambridge Bay and if they are not going to replace that bridge, at least ensuring that it's safe to cross with tourists and other people that are going out there for recreational or sport groups. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the bridges within the park area, which were with the community, but if it's not within the park, I believe there's another department that would work with you.

We will have to look into where the bridge is; if it's within the territorial park. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unfortunately, it's not within the park, but to get to the park, you have to cross the bridge. So, if you can't cross the bridge, you can't get to the park unless you have a helicopter.

I know what you're referring to. But, I just wanted to ask that question because it is... perhaps the minister of the other department is listening and he'll look into that for us. Thank you, Mr. Chair. That's more of a comment.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Tangible Assets. Kitikmeot Region. Total Kitikmeot Region, \$950,000. Does this committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Tangible Assets, \$2,230,000. Does this committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to page I-4. Environment. Department Summary. Detail of Expenditure. Total Capital Expenditure, \$2,230,000. Does this committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Are you agreed that the Department of Environment is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. I'd like to thank the minister and his staff for coming to this Committee of the Whole.

Do you have any closing remarks, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): I would like to thank the officials who are in front of the committee with me and also the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

I would like to thank you for concluding this department.

Chairman: Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to report progress. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. We have a motion on the floor to report progress. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. All those opposed? I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Please be seated. Orders of the day, Item 20, Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Evyagotailak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Evyagotailak: 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 this 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. Tapardjuk. The motion is in order. Agreed. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried.

Item 21, Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22, Orders of the Day, Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the day for November 30;

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors In the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

16. Motions

- Motion 002 – 2(3)
- Motion 003 – 2(3)

17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 1
- Bill 2
- Bill 3
- Bill 4
- Bill 10

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): The House stands adjourned until November 30, 2005 at 1:30 in the afternoon.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:06*

APPENDIX "I" attached in hard copy

