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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday December 1, 2005**

Members Present:

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akasuk, Mr. David Alagalak, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. Levi Barnabas, 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): I would like to ask Mr. Curley to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Premier, ministers and members. Going to the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 049 – 2(3): Absence of Minister Brown

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to advise the members that the Honourable Levinia Brown will be absent from the House today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask to rise on a point of privilege. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo, to your point of privilege.

Point of Privilege

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today again under the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly* to raise a point of privilege pursuant to Rule 20(1). I can assure the House that this time my point of privilege today will be a lot briefer.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to first say that I have always appreciated the efforts of the hard-working journalists in the press gallery who cover our sittings, and who put long hours into their work. I believe the media play a vital role in keeping our constituents informed of our deliberations, and serve to help keep the government accountable for its actions, especially with respect to issues that need to be fully aired and discussed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to provide a clarification with respect to this morning's radio coverage of yesterday's deliberations. As the House will recall, I posed questions with respect to the government's hiring practices in relation to positions under the jurisdiction of the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor Commission. The radio coverage this morning inaccurately stated that an employee of the Commission wrote to me on this issue.

I want to make it perfectly clear that an individual who is not employed with the Commission brought this situation to my attention. The individual, who is a beneficiary of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, brought to my attention concerns regarding the operation of the government's priority hiring policy. This individual applied for the position that I referred to yesterday, and, as a result of his experience, wrote to me to express his frustration with how he was treated.

When I looked into his concerns, it did come to my attention that another qualified beneficiary who is employed with the Commission for over half a decade also applied for this position. However, this individual did not approach me. I sincerely hope that this individual will not be inconvenienced or harassed as a result of this matter being raised.

Mr. Speaker, it takes courage for ordinary residents to speak up when they see examples of unfairness and injustice in their own government, a government that is supposed to be accountable to them. These sorts of situations appear to occur with disturbing regularity. I will continue to do my best to be their voice here in this Legislative Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Minister's Statement 050 – 2(3): Nunavut's Promise to Children & Youth

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's Promise to Children and Youth is an inter-departmental committee which brings together Education, Health and Social Services, Justice and Culture, Language, Elders and Youth to work cooperatively towards a unique commitment to Nunavut's Children and Youth.

Mr. Speaker, *Iqanaijaqatiginiq*, Working Together for a Common Cause, is guiding us as we bring together this government's effort to promote the health, learning, safety and wellness of children and youth in Nunavut.

The Coordinator of this Committee will work with key people in the communities, including youth coordinators and groups as well as Members of the Legislative Assembly, Hamlet Councils, Educators, Healthcare workers, Social workers, Early Learning Childhood workers and parents to bring their priorities for children and youth to the government decision making table.

Mr. Speaker, by working together with through this committee, we can share expertise and make the best use of available resources to develop programs and services that respond to the needs expressed by the community. Thus, making it easier for the communities to share their priorities with us will help us incorporate Inuit societal values into our activities and support our children and youth to make positive choices in life.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues to help fulfill these priorities. Qujannamiik, Uqaqtiji.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 051 – 2(3): Kitikmeot Health Centre

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon everyone. On October 12 we held the grand opening of the Kitikmeot Health Centre in Cambridge Bay. Unfortunately, due to a blizzard I was not able to meet with my staff in order to offer my personal thanks to a job well done in getting organized for the grand opening. The staff at the health center also is to be commended for their role in ensuring that everything went smoothly. They made the grand opening last month a very special event for everyone that was there to participate.

I hope the members of this House will join me in thanking the staff of the Kitikmeot Health Centre, and the Kitikmeot Regional Office for their dedication and hard work in seeing this important project through. The Kitikmeot can now provide health care closer to home to the benefit of us all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 052 – 2(3): St. John Ambulance Recognition

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to announce that this past Tuesday I accepted a special territorial award of thanks from Commissioner Ann Hanson, in her honorary role as Commander of Northern Council of St. John Ambulance. I accepted this award on behalf of the Department of Human Resources in recognition of our initiatives in the delivery of first aid and CPR.

Since 2001 my department has been active in the delivery of first aid and CPR training throughout Nunavut. Employees of the Government of Nunavut, hamlets, beneficiary organizations, and the private sector have attended this training.

Our plan is to continue to support training that promotes a safe and healthy workplace for more than 300 work sites, and to continue to train instructors to deliver training of first aid and CPR throughout the territory.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of my staff and congratulate them on this achievement and thank them for their leadership in this important area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 082 – 2(3): Arviat in Need of a Breakwater

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to raise a concern that has been expressed to me by the community of Arviat on the need for a safe harbour. (interpretation ends) Members will recall being in Arviat for our full caucus retreat last year.

As you know the community was once known by the name of Eskimo Point. The original point is a part of our local landscape. A second Eskimo Point was built fifteen years ago at the point along the shore where we could have a wharf. Another wharf was to be built the following year alongside of the first wharf that was built to make two side-by-side bridges to make a boat shelter, but this never happened up to this date.

We never got our third Eskimo Point and we never got adequate shelters for our boats for all this time. Arviat has been left without an adequate breakwater along the shores of our community.

Evidence of damage caused by not having a breakwater is on display at our old airstrip with wrecked boats set along the strip. At the appropriate time I will be tabling photographs of the wreckage.

At the present time boats have to be pulled up every time the hunters arrive on shore. Many hunters do not have the expensive equipment needed to pull their boats up on arrival. This means that boats are constantly rubbing up against the shore and that their operating lives are considerably shortened as a result.

I would like the Minister responsible for ensuring that our community harbours are safe to take action on this issue, and resolve the lack of a decent breakwater in Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member's Statements. Mr. Mapsalak.

Member's Statement 083 – 2(3): Working Together in the House

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today will likely be our last sitting day of 2005.

I want to take a few moments to talk about the need to truly work together. Mr. Speaker, when I was first elected to this House in 2004, I was excited and nervous. I was excited because I believed that my constituents in Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk trusted me to do my best on their behalf.

I was nervous because I certainly didn't want to make any mistakes in this important House. Mr. Speaker, in the last two years, I have become less nervous. I recognise that everyone is human and nobody has all the answers to the many challenges we face.

Mr. Speaker, two years ago, we passed a motion calling for us to work together. We have many challenges that we need to address over the next two years in office. We will not be able to make a positive change unless we face them together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 084 – 2(3): Christmas Greetings

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to wish you and all Members of the House a very safe and joyous Christmas season back in your home community with family, friends and constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to extend special Christmas greetings to my constituents in Cambridge Bay. I look forward to returning home shortly to celebrate this time with them. This season is one that is rich with community events and celebrations, especially for the kids.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not wish all of our hard-working public employees the very best during the festive season.

While it may not sound like it at times, we sincerely value their services to the people whom we represent. A strong and caring public service in Nunavut makes life better for all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, on Christmas Day, while most of us are enjoying the comforts of home, nurses will be on call in our health centers. Police officers will be on patrol. Airports will

be staffed. Emergency services workers will be ready to respond to situations. I respect their dedication. They have truly earned a visit from Santa.

Mr. Speaker, the coming year will be an exciting one. We have many challenges ahead. As a Legislative Assembly, we will be back to work here in the capital in just a few short weeks. We may have differences at times, but in the end, I believe that all of us want to make a positive difference for our communities and constituents.

I want to wish all Nunavummiut the very best for a prosperous New Year in 2006. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause.

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

Member's Statement 085 – 2(3): Merry Christmas and Best Wishes

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, want to send my best wishes and Christmas greetings to a number of people.

First of all, I would like to wish my colleagues of the Assembly a very merry Christmas and safe travels back home, to my constituents in Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven, constituency staff, Helen Tiriraniak and Johnny Kootook, to my staff upstairs, Phil and Annie, as well, to my family and my friends who are always there for me.

I also want to express my sincere appreciation and to recognize those individuals while we're celebrating Christmas festivities that will be providing essential services to Nunavummiut.

And, in particular I want to say Merry Christmas and thank you to all the health care professionals that provide service in the health centers, in the group homes, in the women's shelter, in the shelters, a very merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Mr. Speaker, I want to wish everyone good health and safe travels, and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I also want to recognize the staff in the Legislature, John, Nancy, and Kooyoo and the staff behind the scenes, and George, who is sits upstairs in the little booth there a very merry Christmas and to thank him for all the hard work this past couple of weeks. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 086 – 2(3): Hospitality of Iqalumiut

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we come to Iqaluit I appreciate the hospitality of Iqalumiut, although we get homesick. When the public sees us they are very receptive and I'd like to thank them. I'd also like to thank my colleagues and you Mr. Speaker. It'll be sometime before I see my colleagues; therefore I am extremely happy today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 087 – 2(2): DVD Christmas Gift to the Members

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think some of his colleagues are just as happy as he is. Mr. Speaker, it has been mentioned this is probably our last sitting day of the year and before we come together again there will be a little celebration called Christmas going on.

Before everyone leaves, hopefully I'll be the first one to provide all the Members with a Christmas gift and it is a DVD and Mr. Speaker, it is not a music video from Mr. Picco with his version of O'Canada. It is not a performance of Mr. Picco with any of his songs.

Mr. Speaker, this DVD that I'll be giving to all the Members for Christmas is actually an animated film done by a group of grade 7 students at the middle school. Mr. Speaker, I know Isuma Productions needs to look at the next generation of movie filmmakers already at work. I hope all Members enjoy it. I'd like to thank the three individuals that made this video. First one is Ryan Geikie he did the character animation. And as Members will know his father is Peter is the Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of Education and background specialist was Duncan MacKay.

Again, his parents work for the Government of Nunavut and the photographer was Thomas Ford Rogers and Members will know that Thomas is the son of my constituency assistant, Amanda. So, I am very proud of them for doing this and I hope all Members enjoy their Christmas gift and have a good laugh out of it and admire the work that these young people have done.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 088 – 2(2): Labrador Celebrate 1st Day of Nunatsiavut

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I would like, first of all, to say thanks to the Premier and the Deputy Premier. The Deputy Premier has gone down to Labrador with some people and with some officials. The Labradoreans have been working extremely hard for the last five

thousand years. And today is a very historic day. They are celebrating the creation of their new government.

>>*Applause*

I would like to welcome them and say thank you, not only to the people of Labrador but also to the federal government. I know the people very well. I went over there in 1972 when I first went down there. The new territory is called Nunatsiavut and today is the celebration of their government's first day. Tony Anderson was the chief negotiator who said on the CBC website he used to work like a dog.

But he worked extremely hard to get this government going. He will be the Clerk of the new Assembly and I would like to urge the Clerk of this House to write to him and to also congratulate him.

The people of Labrador are extremely happy. There is Nunavut, Nunatsiaq, Northwest Territories, Nunavik, and we now have Nunatsiavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 089 – 2(3): Christmas Wishes

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to offer my best wishes for the holiday season to my constituents of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay. Like other members of the House I am looking forward to being in my home community with my family and constituents. We are looking forward to a safe and joyous Christmas season.

We will be back at work in the House early in 2006. I look forward to continuing to raise issues on behalf of my constituents. Some of these issues include the high cost of heating of our homes during the coldest months of the year, the high cost of food and transportation, and the need for our elders to receive fairer pensions and be respected for the contribution that they make for the community.

There are many issues but never enough time to raise them all. I encourage all my constituents to approach me in the coming weeks with the issues that they want to see raised in the House.

I wish you and all of my colleagues the very best of the holiday season. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 090 – 2(3): Christmas Greetings

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was laughing extremely hard just a few minutes ago, and you probably noticed that it's going to be our last day. I would like to say thank you to my family for having been very patient while I've been here. I would also like to say thank you to the staff and to the people of Iqaluit.

I'll use this as an example; there are the health issues and the different types of issues that we hear. Of course, we'll keep those in mind, but we'll have to relax and be with our family during the Christmas holidays.

I would like to wish all the members of the Legislative Assembly and all the Nunavut communities the very best in the New Year and to also to wish them Merry Christmas.

To conclude it, I have never seen to date, and this was the first time that I've ever seen it. I saw this thing that jumped approximately 15 to 20 feet, extremely fast, very short but extremely agile. This individual is able to make a point, Mr. Levi Barnabas. I want to also remind him that this evening we are going to be playing floor hockey again and I'm sure we'll see you there. I wish you safe and happy holidays. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 091 – 2(3): Sports and Volunteer – International Competition

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to speak briefly about sports and volunteers. This weekend over 20 teams are in Iqaluit competing for the territorial soccer tournament. Parents, teachers, volunteers, and chaperones help to make these events successful.

I also would like to recognize four outstanding students from Iqaluit, who attended the Ontario Junior Open Championship; Nicole Duffy, Zachary Green, Eugene Dederick, and Nathalie Martel, who is a constituent of Mr. Okalik's. Eugene Dederick won a bronze medal in his division and Nathalie Martel won silver in her division. Their hard working coach is Mario Des Forges. Without him, these kinds of opportunities wouldn't exist for our kids.

It is very important to point out that this was an international competition at the Ontario Judo Open Championship; over 600 judo participants competed from every province and territory in Canada, except the Northwest Territories, from the United States, from England and also from Romania.

It is one of the premier competitions in Canada and it was the first time that Nunavut has been represented, and we actually took some medals. Congratulations to those young people.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the participants and instructor Mario Des Forges, for their good work in representing Nunavut. At the same time Mr. Speaker, I too would like to wish the very best to all the members, the staff, and my constituents for the upcoming Christmas season, and I would ask that Members join with me to also remember our colleague Mr. Kattuk, in Sanikiluaq, and I think on behalf of all the members, we look forward to seeing Peter again in the New Year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 092 – 2(3): Best Christmas Wishes

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since this is going to be our last day today, I would also like to say thank you to all our staff for having an excellent meeting and accommodating us while we were here. I wish you all the very best and have a safe journey home and enjoy the time with your families.

I wish to extend that wish to all of Nunavut. Of course I'll be doing some visiting during the Christmas holidays to the people. I wish them all the very best during the Christmas holidays. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 093 – 2(3): Best Christmas Holidays

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I offer my best wishes for the holiday season to my constituents in Kugluktuk.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that all Members of this House are looking forward to spending time with their families and constituents in the upcoming weeks. In Kugluktuk, Christmas games and other activities will be held from December 19 to January 3. This is a time for our entire community to get together in the spirit of the season. Mr. Speaker, Christmas is a time for healthy activities.

I want to encourage the community to have a safe Christmas. This is especially a time for our children and they deserve good memories of the holiday season. Mr. Speaker, also, I'm looking forward to going home. I also look forward to working with my colleagues in the New Year.

We have many challenges ahead of us and I know that the upcoming budget session will be busy. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say Ho Ho Ho and not humbug.

>>*Laughter*

I wish all Members of this House, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 094 – 2(3): Merry Christmas Wishes

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to say Merry Christmas to all my colleagues in this House. We won't be seeing each other for quite a while.

I would also like to extend Merry Christmas wishes to the employees of the government and also for us. I would also like to extend my wishes to Broughton Island and especially the Elders.

I wish you all the very best during the Christmas holidays. With the youth and the middle age, please spend the time with your families and relatives and be together in harmony. During the Christmas holidays we will be with our families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 095 – 2(3): Merry Christmas Greetings to Nunavummiut

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I would like to rise to extend my wishes to the communities that I represent: Kimmirut and Cape Dorset, and also my relatives from all over Nunavut.

During the Christmas holidays, please have a safe holiday and spend some time with your family as it makes us closer when we spend time together. For all of the people of Nunavut, please have a safe holiday and a happy New Year in 2006.

I would like to thank my colleagues; there was cooperation in the past years and we look forward to working together again in the New Year.

I think it would be best if we don't forget that Christmas is celebrated on the birth of Christ. I think we are looking more into the commercial side of Christmas than the true meaning of Christmas. Merry Christmas, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 096 – 2(3): Working Together in the Legislative Assembly

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we all know that there's an international conference in Montreal on global warming and climate change.

We all know, and I would like to inform the people of Hall Beach, that something unusual is happening over there. There has been a flood in Hall Beach and two boats have been wrecked. I think that we will have to take seriously the issue of global warming and climate change.

I regret that there has been a mishap, but since we can't do anything about the changing weather now, we have to look at ways and means of how we can change the trend.

Since today is going to be our last day, I would like to thank the Members of the Legislative Assembly. We don't agree all the time, but we were elected to represent the people of Nunavut and we were given the task of handling the responsibilities.

I would like to say thank you to every individual Member of the Legislative Assembly, especially the staff and the interpreters; I would like to thank them very much. Even when I'm speaking in Inuktitut, the unilingual English are able to understand what I'm saying, and also, that they can get the information out to unilingual Inuit. It has drawn us closer through the use of language and has been a link between the two cultures.

I would like to also thank Sheila and Diane, who run around while I'm sitting here in this House. I wish them the very best and I will say thank you to the other staff in another way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 097 – 2(3): Wishes a Happy Christmas Session

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to say that it's going to be good to go home, as well, to see our family. I'm very happy this is the end of this session without anything happening.

I'm very happy to say that I will spend some time during Christmas in my hometown of Baker Lake and the churches will be overjoyed with songs. I would like to say Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to my relatives and to the people of Nunavut. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akesuk, I say Merry Christmas to you. Members' statements. Orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to oral questions. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This was asked by the Member for Kugluktuk, Joe Allen Evyagotailak, 092 – 2(3). In response to the question raised on Tuesday, November 29, 2005, about the steps the department is taking to ensure that participants to the 2006 Arctic Winter Games have obtained their passports.

Passports are the document of choice. Currently Canadian citizens are not required to have a passport to travel in the United States. In the case that a participant does not have a passport they will be able to enter United States with a piece of photo identification and a birth certificate. Youth under the age of 18 also require a certified consent letter from the participant's parents or guardians.

The 2006 Arctic Winter Games – Kenai Host Society recommended that athletes and coaches have valid passports to expedite the entry and departure from the United States; they are also currently working with their various agencies to streamline their processes.

The territorial sports organizations and the department are working together to ensure that all athletes and coaches are provided with the necessary identification requirements before the games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to oral questions. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Netser.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Many of my constituents that are in the background here, (interpretation) they are here for a soccer game. I will say their names. First of all, my eldest daughter, Sylvia Inuaraq and her daughter. I would like her to stand up, Olivia. That's our granddaughter, my favourite granddaughter.

Also the other grandchild Jody and Rhoda Amitnaaq, Mavis Nakoolak, and Marion Bruce works a lot as a coach. We very much appreciate her for the good job that she has been doing. She is from Coral Harbour and a coach for the soccer team, Brittany Pudlat. Kilabuk Gibbons, from the 18 and under soccer team from the Kivalliq region, although she is from Coral Harbour, my daughter, Malaya, and so I would like to say lay off to the boys. Shauny Nakoolak, Ashley Etuk, Kathleen Netser, my brother's daughter, Leanna Ell, Selma Angutialuk, and Kayla Kaludjak. Those are the soccer team from Coral Harbour who are going to win the championship. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize two of my constituents from Cambridge Bay. We don't often get to recognize constituents from the Kitikmeot because it's so far from Iqaluit, but I'm very pleased that they're here today. Sitting behind me is Wendy Avalak, a Community Health Representative from Cambridge Bay, and Nora Niptanatiak, she is also a Community Health Representative. They are in Iqaluit for the Canada Pre-natal Nutrition Program.

I'd just like to add a special note Wendy was on the Hamlet Council for a couple of years with me. She was one of the six ladies that kept me in line every week.

>>Applause

She works very hard. She is an aspiring future Mayor and possibly an MLA for the Cambridge Bay riding. Welcome to the House.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Evyagotailak.

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a person from Kugluktuk: Rosie Kaariak. She works for the Kugluktuk Health Centre. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not very often that there are people from my constituency. I would like to recognize this young person who has worked very, very hard and is a member of some groups. She is also the CHR in Kugaaruk, Theresa Kakianniuq. Everybody knows her father. So I would like to welcome my constituent, and to thank her for her hard work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize an individual that a lot of people know; who works very, very hard; from my community of Rankin Inlet, Sandy Kusugak. Everybody knows Sandy Kusugak. She has lived in

Rankin Inlet for some time as a teacher, and as Nunavut's Chief Electoral Officer. We are very happy to have her working for us. She comes from a place where there is never a storm, Rankin Inlet.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the House. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to welcome to the House those wonderful young people who have been serving us this week: the high school students from Inukshuk High School. I want to make a special note of the gentleman that just walked out, my son. I know some of the Members have been writing me letters and telling me that he should get a haircut. I've mentioned it to him. He tells me that he might be able to make that happen in the New Year, so we are looking forward to that.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome our Sergeant-at-Arms on behalf of myself, Mr. Tootoo, and Mr. Okalik. He is Paul's constituent; a well-known guy around town; active in the community; I think he's done an excellent job for us as the Sergeant-at-Arms again. So let's join with me in the House to congratulate and thank Mr. Kilabuk for an excellent job as the Sergeant-at-Arms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to acknowledge and recognize someone in the gallery. I don't know if I'll get him in trouble if I say it this way. He is the right hand of our Chief Electoral Officer, Mr. Patrick Orr, sitting back here in the gallery. Also Mr. Picco pointed out Mr. Kilabuk, I want to acknowledge and thank him for a beautiful carving that he made for me out of a walrus jaw that we had hunted together a few years ago.

I also would like to recognize and thank the interpreters in the booth and the ones in the back and I know that they are not all here. I'd like to thank them for all their hard work and without their voices I may not know what is going on here. It would be like some of the mayors in the Kitikmeot right now who don't have the information on the language that they speak and they read.

Mr. Speaker, I also like to acknowledge the Pages for their hard work and Mr. Picco noted his son was one of them. I am wondering if he gave him \$20 yet to go towards his haircut. I'd also like to acknowledge our technical staff and also the media people as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While we are under recognition I haven't had a chance to recognize someone that has been assisting us in the Assembly. I would like to recognize Naimee Kilabuk-Bourassa, one of the interpreters. And I'd like to recognize those people who do the Hansard at Innirvik. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the Health and Social Services employees: the five ladies that are sitting behind me. Some of them have been recognized already. Those individuals are hardworking CHRs that deal with the grassroots community initiatives and I'd like to welcome them to Iqaluit as well to the gallery and thank them to their dedication and commitment for this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6, Oral Questions. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 108 – 2(3): Administration Office Transferred To the Kitikmeot

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader.

Mr. Speaker, during their Minister's meeting it was stated to my constituents in Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord that the administration and Capital Plans of the operations of the Hamlets are no longer handled in Qikiqtaaluk but in the Kitikmeot. They have sent their requests to that area. This kind of communication creates a lot of problems for the two Hamlets. I wonder why they were transferred to Kitikmeot to administer.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I haven't checked into this further because my other Minister handled it. It has been tried out so it will have a smoother operation because a lot of times we encounter problems when it was handled in Qikiqtaaluk but I will certainly check into this and see how it is doing by asking my colleague, the Minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe if they go through what the problems might be, because we know now that there are problems. They can even go through the capital estimates, with the office being in the Kitikmeot for Resolute Bay or Grise Fiord. If they see any problems or serious problems, will they be able to move it back to Qikiqtaaluk, to the Baffin region? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this is on a trial basis. After the trial then we can review it again by our staff. The Minister involved is not here at this time. We can certainly check into it. Thank you.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Did the government explain to those two hamlet councils before their transfer took over? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was told that they were advised before the transfer. After I check how it is, and I'm pretty sure after a year of operation we'll have a better understanding if it's working better or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for responding. Will they have to make their budget without any material to refer to? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not too clear as to the details of that, but I will try and keep them informed as to how it will be but I will certainly check into this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 109 – 2(3): Nunavut's Deficit Situation Resulting in Hiring Freeze

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Finance. As we all know the Minister indicated that we are heading towards a deficit this year. This morning on the news there was an indication that came as a bit of a surprise to me, that one of the reasons that a government official gave for not being able to have information translated for delegates for a meeting was because there was a freeze on hiring casuals. My question to the Minister is: has this directive gone out? Is this part of cost cutting measures to try and reduce the deficit that has been forecast? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The Minister of Finance, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I haven't heard anything like this, whether this is the cause of it. This is the very first time that I have heard such a thing. I don't even know where it is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recall, earlier this session that one of my colleagues, Mr. Peterson, asked the Minister if the Financial Management Board has made any specific decision, or directives in regards to fiscal restraints, or hiring freezes. At that time the Minister had indicated that FMB had not made any decision yet.

My question is: is this something that they made a decision on? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, that is not the case. We have not made a decision. It still stands the way I said it before. (interpretation ends) I have just been informed by the Minister of Human Resources that no, the Government of Nunavut does not have a freeze on casual hires. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just as someone else indicated there is a little bit of a thaw on hiring. Mr. Speaker, it's obvious that we are heading into a deficit, is the Financial Management Board looking at putting any restraints in place to try and reduce the deficit that we are going to be facing this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Financial Management Board has not made a decision, they are starting to consider how we can

have a reduction in the deficit but we are not up to that stage yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was a little surprised that the Minister wasn't aware of that issue that was aired this morning on the radio. I would think that would be something that the staff would flag as an issue.

Given the Minister's response that they haven't gotten there yet, are they planning on looking at restraints? If so, when would he have an idea of when he will make an announcement, or bring any decisions that FMB makes forward to the Members of this House? When will they let the Public Service know what those restraints are? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The regional staff has checked how we can use our money better. We want to see improvements. We are not just sitting on this. This will certainly continue where we should make reductions in order to avoid a big deficit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 110 – 2(3): Religion in the Schools

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday's return to my oral question provided by the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth revealed that government facilities and public money were used to hold some form of workshop during working hours that involved the discussion of Shamanism. We read in the dictionary that Shamanism is religion. Others may not think so, but that's what it means.

I recognize that the government, likely, wanted to make its employees aware of this aspect of Inuit history. We have talked a lot during our session about the need for good curriculum materials in our schools for our children. However, people of faith in Nunavut often feel that they are under attack, especially by voices that seek to portray religion in as negative a light as possible. Interestingly, these people are not Inuit, or rarely Inuit.

Can the minister assure me that the materials being developed for use in our textbooks will be respectful of religious faiths and their practice, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The Minister Responsible for Education. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the Member's question. I want to just clarify your earlier question and the response from Minister Tapardjuk. The workshop that was given on Shamanism was given to some of the staff of the Department of Education. It was through the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit group of the department, and suggestions came up for different types of questions and different types of areas to be asked about. That was one that they had raised. It was facilitated through the group.

Specifically, on the Member's question on the textbooks. Mr. Speaker, all of our textbooks are again drafted and proofed before they get into a classroom. We have certain protocols in place on the design of textbooks.

Some of those include the western protocols where they involve other territories and Alberta and British Columbia just to name a few provinces working on curriculum matters.

Specifically on the issue when it comes to religion, when you look at religions, you want to have a depth of understanding of different religions. As the Member pointed out, there is more than one religion in the world. And when you are looking at multi-cultural programs and courses in the schools, at times they will touch on some of the different religions in the world.

I hope that answers and clarifies the question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that there are double standards when it comes to what groups can and cannot use public property and resources for different purposes.

My question for the Minister is this. What is his department's policy with respect to the use of departmental or school facilities to hold discussions on the rich religious traditions and practices that we have in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the direction on the policy of school usage is dedicated and acquiesced through the auspices of our District Education Authorities or the local DEAs. For example, if a group wanted to use the school for a meeting and what have you, it goes through the District Education Authority process for approval at the local level.

I am not aware of where a particular religious group have contacted the District Education Authority and requested to use the school to hold meetings or so on. I am not privy to that information. But that is the process, it goes through the local District Education Authority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We can call it Inuit Qaujimagatunangit just for a cop out. But really it is religion. And we heard from the Returns to Oral Questions that a workshop was held in terms of promoting shamanism.

Mr. Speaker, you will have noticed the very first item on Orders of the Day for the Legislative Assembly is prayer, and the last time I checked the Legislative Assembly it is a public institution. What is the Minister's position on prayers in our schools? Does he support Christian biblical programs in our schools? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I go to church every Sunday and my kids don't. I give them the opportunity when I go. Do you want to come with me? They say no. I don't try to bring them along. However, that is my belief.

Mr. Speaker, when we look at our school system, when you are doing subjects in schools...let's use an example Mr. Speaker, if you use history for example, if you are going to study what has occurred throughout history in the last 2,000 years you have to look at the Moors, where Muslims invaded Europe and took over for example Spain. Their cultural influences, the cultural influences through the dark ages, the middle ages with the Christian renaissance, when you look at what has occurred with the second world war with the holocaust with Jews and Judaism as an example. The strong Southeast Asian religion of Hinduism, Shintoism in Japan.

So Mr. Speaker, anytime when you are looking at cultures, you are studying history, you are going to have a religious aspect Mr. Speaker. I would welcome, like any individual looking at studies and academics, to be able to look at all that in context in the school. And I support that practice in the school like any other jurisdiction.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over in the Kivalliq region there's pastors that call youth rallies and they often ask for funding from different various organizations but the government's stand is they cannot fund religious activities.

Are we hearing then that he will support programs like this and will they be able to ask for funds from the Department of Education for the youth rallies that they hold each year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government of Nunavut and most governments don't fund churches as such.

Mr. Speaker, they don't fund programs offered through secular or through structured religions. We have a public school system and a public government, Mr. Speaker. So, when programs or services, or events come forward for different departments to fund, each one is based and judged on its own merit.

So, I think that's the short answer to the question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 111 – 2(3): Review of Funding Strategy for Safe Harbours

Mr. Alagalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, earlier today I spoke of needs for a safe harbour in Arviat. The Minister of Economic Development and Transportation recently wrote to the Chair of the Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development.

He indicated that his department has been working with the federal government to review funding options for implementing the Safe Harbour Strategy. The minister tabled the *Safe Harbour Strategy* document earlier this week. I note that a breakwater project in Arviat is not specifically identified with the strategic vision, however there is potential for work to be done under minor works.

Will the minister commit to including a review of the breakwater needs of the Arviat community under the minor work plan for the Safe Harbours, Healthy Communities Strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to assure my colleague that I am committed to working with the community of Arviat along with the other communities that have not been identified in the first proposal that has been submitted to the federal government.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, our department, being responsible for the breakwaters, under transportation, we have also identified a need to the federal government on the other communities that are not identified currently in the proposal.

So, to answer my colleague's question, yes I am committed to looking at Arviat and also the other communities that are in need of breakwaters and facilities to be able to provide

a safe harbour and also conveniences for both economic development opportunities and also safe keeping of community infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We've been neglected for over 15 years in regards to this. I know that you'll be receiving some requests for compensation from individuals that have lost their boats. We don't even have a safe harbour. The dock we have is not even safe enough.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister provide an update on the current status of the Safe Harbours, Healthy Communities Strategy and provide details on what funding options are currently being considered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation currently has no base funding. It has nothing in the base funding for facilities such as breakwaters or to even develop them.

However, Mr. Speaker, as a verbal update in the House today, we have been continually discussing this matter with the federal government and we had reached a point in having forwarded this to the Deputy Minister of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans at the federal level but, as everybody saw the other day with the collapse of the government, it is very hard at this time to determine where this file will sit and if there will be delays. Mr. Speaker, I remind myself and my colleagues that the next steps in how well this file advances at the federal level will be dependent on the elections and the appointment of the minister.

Mr. Speaker, I will commit to providing this in written form to my colleague and also the House of the events where they are today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 112 – 2(3): Food Mail Program Point of Entry Winnipeg

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Premier. I made a statement in regards to the food mail order program, especially in the Keewatin region. The point of entry that you can order from is Churchill. Churchill is not very useful for the Kivalliq region. The only time you go to Churchill is when you are ill, as a patient. The Keewatin people don't even go there to shop.

During the summer could the Premier state that Winnipeg could be a point of entry if he had heard from the federal government if this could be changed, that Winnipeg could be the point of entry for those food mail programs? Is he working to make this proceed?

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we've been lobbying on this. It is still under review and we have not received any response from the federal government. The elections are on now. It is evident that this election is going to delay the review of this.

It's not just for Winnipeg point of entry; it's for the Baffin region too. The point of entry is Val D'Or for the Baffin region. So it's not just the Kivalliq that requires a solution for a point of entry. When we have those places as points of entry the fresh products arrives already rotten. So all Nunavummiut need to get fresh produce that are still fresh. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Premier for working on this because we know that this has to go ahead in the Kitikmeot.

They are not as concerned about this because their point of entry is Edmonton or Yellowknife. They are able to send the food mail program.

I am urging the Premier to continue lobbying. Perhaps the federal government should transfer the responsibility to the Nunavut Government. If you have not considered this perhaps if you can consider taking that responsibility. That way we can administer our own point of entry for a food mail program. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have been looking for solutions because it's quite expensive. That is a concern but we can try and lobby the federal government to continue to pay for this program. I believe that we can probably take that on.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Some of the harder issues that have been transferred from the federal government have been done in the past along with the funding.

That way, I would support it myself if the transfer came with the funding. I would not be in support of it if the Nunavut Government would have to use its own funds.

I know that the federal government is not too respectful of where we can get cheaper groceries. For that reason, perhaps you can include this in the list of your priorities because it's getting very expensive to order food and we keep talking about how expensive the food is in the communities of the High Arctic, Kivalliq, and also the other communities. The government can give support in regard to this. Perhaps you can work harder on this issue. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps it's more expensive to use this because they have to transport their order by train. If they had directly flown those orders from Winnipeg or from Ottawa directly, it would be cheaper for the freight.

I will not stop dealing with this issue and I will have my officials look into this further. With the next new government that is elected I will discuss this and also work with the members of the legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 113 – 2(3): Northern Strategy Funding

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Premier. Mr. Speaker, the Northern Strategy Fund for the north was announced in December 2004 and Nunavut's share of the \$120 million strategy funds is \$40 million.

My question for the Premier: can the Premier explain to the House if the Government of Nunavut undertook a comprehensive public consultation process to discuss with Nunavummiut how the Government of Nunavut should invest the \$40 million from the northern strategy funding? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What we were given is the option to spend the money any way we wish as a government. So, what we set out to do was to accomplish what we set out during this term and we also talked with the regular members before announcing this \$40 million expenditure.

So, that's what we have done and I feel that, with the responses that I have received so far, that those are the right decisions we have made on the \$40 million. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for the answer.

I'm a regular member as well and I don't recall being directly consulted on how to spend the money. I recall bringing it up in March of 2004, and I recall the Premier mentioning that we would be consulted at a Full Caucus Retreat.

My question for the Premier, Mr. Speaker: can the Premier explain to the House exactly how the Cabinet arrived at the decision about how to spend the \$40 million? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have discussed it over a lengthy period of time. We wanted to take the time to review it and felt, as a Cabinet, that if we were going to accomplish what we set out, as a whole, the direction that we received from Arviat just after we created our government is that we want to set up a trades school, we want to set up a culture school, we want to set up a heritage centre, and we want to focus on the smaller communities. Those are the directions that we received from all members of this House.

So, as a Cabinet, we said, how are we going to accomplish that? Well this \$40 million is targeted toward Nunavut and that's the vehicle that we will use to accomplish what we set out, as a whole, in this legislature. So that's what we discussed and agreed that that's the direction that we will go on.

So, all members took part in forming that mandate for this term and I recall that I wrote a letter to all members outlining how we will spend that money over a month ago before we announced how we would spend this money to the public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for the answer.

Yes, the Arviat Retreat was last September 2004 and the funding was announced in December 2004, and it was my understanding that there would be a consultation process. Yes, I did get a copy of the letter.

The letter is obviously... it looked like the decisions were already made and we were just being informed of the decision. Mr. Speaker, in the Northwest Territories the government decided to move \$35 million of their funding directly to communities using a base allocation and per capita formula.

They obviously felt that more of their residents would benefit if the funds were moved directly down to the community level. My question for the Premier: why didn't the Government of Nunavut consider doing the same to help out our Nunavut communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we have differing issues in Nunavut.

We've decentralized our government considerably, so some of those communities are doing quite well, and we all hear that the smaller communities are suffering so we wanted to provide special attention to the smaller communities and give them special attention in terms of improving their economies.

We also agreed as this government that we have to incorporate more of our culture into our government. So that's why we felt that, in this government, we wanted to institute our own school. We don't even have a museum or cultural centre in Nunavut.

Those are some things that the Northwest Territories already have. That's why we felt that in order for us to promote more of our culture here in Nunavut, we have to implement those things.

How are we going to implement them? So, the first opportunity that we received was with the \$40 million. That's why we put those programs in place, so that we can make those happen.

The Northwest Territories have the luxury of having a heritage centre. They have a diverse population so, they can't focus so much on any particular cultural group. In Nunavut, we have the benefit of having a homogeneous populace so we can focus on our culture to enrich it and make it stronger for future generations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for that answer. Mr. Speaker, I think the heritage centre may end up costing \$60 million over the next five to ten years, and we need money now in our communities to help with economic development and other social and cultural initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, over the last two and a half weeks during the capital estimates process, the cabinet members heard directly through regular members about several possible social and economic development projects across Nunavut.

Every riding I believe... I didn't keep track, but every Member of the Legislative Assembly spoke about things that their ridings needed.

So my question for the Premier, Mr. Speaker: will the Premier commit to reviewing the issues of projects raised by the regular members before the Northern Strategy document is finalized with the issues mentioned in the Commissioner's with a view to ensuring that every Nunavut community benefits directly with investment funds from the Northern Strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We also have the benefit of getting some federal assistance for all municipalities. I believe it is over \$30 million that will be coming in the future.

So, we have the benefit of that, which is going directly to the municipalities to assist them in building up the infrastructure.

So, that's why we felt at this time that the focus should be on our priorities as a government as a whole on issues that we've discussed in detail as a caucus, and that's why we felt that to catch up to the rest of the country in terms of having those facilities.

In particular, we don't even have a trades school, and there are these mines that will be opening up in the very near future and we felt that should be a priority and we want to make sure that we take advantage of any mining activities coming to Nunavut.

So, those are priorities that we've set and we want to implement, so that all Nunavummiut can benefit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 114 – 2(3): Include Mine Training in Adult Learning Strategy

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

(interpretation ends) On the mine training; will the government include mine training in the Adult Learning Strategy. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Member is correct. Under the Adult Learning Strategy that we tabled in the House, mining is a component of that as well as the other trades and secondary education. Again, the strategy is just a draft and we are looking for feedback from Nunavummiut. I would hope to be in the position in the new year to bring forth and complete this strategy and will include I am sure at the end of the day different types of trades that are involved in mining.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas: Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Mine training includes many trades and does the Minister acknowledge this. Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the mining trades are inclusive which means Mr. Speaker, they are not exclusive of other trades. They include heavy equipment operations, they include administration work, they include financial accounting and so on, whatever the trades are that are involved in mining operations.

What we are seeing right now Mr. Speaker, is that the traditional mine trades, when we think about mines a lot of people think about a hole in the ground with someone with a pick and a shovel. Mr. Speaker, we are far removed from that reality today. Today many of the mine jobs are technical and they require a good sounding in engineering and carpentry in some of the trades because Mr. Speaker, in many of our cases our mines are isolated mines and so you actually have a worksite. And at that worksite if you had 300 people working, you need cooks; you need heavy equipment operators and people to extract the product from the ground and so on.

So the short answer to the Member's question is yes it includes all of the multi-facets of trades. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the training be available to all the communities in Nunavut? Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is a Nunavut mining training group that is in place looking at the different training opportunities. For the Member for example near Arctic Bay we heard talk of the Baffinland iron ore find.

Mr. Speaker, some of the projections show that mine in itself could be 75-100 years in a timeline. So there is going to be a lot of opportunity in mining throughout Nunavut. And we know about the situation in Baker Lake and we know what is happening in the Kitikmeot as an example, in Igloolik with the recent diamond find. Mr. Speaker, in the next ten years, there will be a lot of activity in mining in Nunavut as these projects move forward.

So part of the opportunity for training is for all of Nunavut, that is part of the Adult Learning Strategy and it is also part of the mine training focus group and also with the commitment by the Premier and the government to move forward on our own trade school program in Nunavut itself.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Qujannamiik, Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker, we have asked repeated questions on the trade school and the cultural school. Could the Minister tell us what is going to be happening with the trade school and where it is going to be located?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, right now the opportunity had presented itself to look at putting the trade school in the community of Rankin Inlet because we had an opportunity with our partner, with the federal government the Department of National Defence with the FOL site.

We've had a team in Rankin Inlet over the last several weeks looking at the opportunities that present themselves with that site. We have to be cognizant of the fact that the federal government and the Department of National Defence may have different caveats in place.

For example, would we have to leave the building within 24 hours, or 48 hours, or two-week notice? Would we have to return the building the way we found it? For example, if we put up walls and so on, and make classrooms. What are the O&M costs on the FOL site?

So, all of those factors should be figured out in the next several days. I would hope to be in a position in two weeks to have a report on the FOL site, whether we move forward with it, or not. At that time Mr. Speaker, we'll look at options on how we deliver trades training in Nunavut. As the Premier just indicated earlier, under the Northern Strategy, we have allocated \$10 million for a trades' school. At the same time we have \$780,000 in the capital budget.

What that brings for us Mr. Speaker, is an opportunity to look at, if the FOL site is not available, is there other infrastructure available in the community. Should we multi task our money? For example, to multi task the monies in different regions of Nunavut to provide the same exposure? Should we have a stand-alone facility?

Once we look at the report in two weeks, which will be presented to me, as Minister of Education, on the FOL site, if we are going to move forward, or not, then we can actually look at the other options; A; B; and C. What I would to is make a commitment to the members of the House, and to the standing committee that I will bring an options paper to the Cabinet and then to the standing committee and members on how we can approach delivering trades training in Nunavut.

Some of the members have said Mr. Speaker, that it is not acceptable that all of our trades people, in many cases, have to go to the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton, or to the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary, or indeed, go to Fort Smith. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 115 – 2(3): Inuit Employment Plans

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is not for the minister with a pick and a shovel. My question is for the Premier, the Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Yesterday I raised some questions in regards to hiring practices and basically outlining that there are gaps in how our priority hiring policy is implemented. I know that the Inuit Employment division is a division within the Department of Human Resources, and basically, it has the task of policing themselves. We all know how that works, you can ask the RCMP when it comes to people's opinion when it comes to the dog slaughter issue.

My question to the Premier is in light of this, in light of the slow increase over the last three years, I think we're at 46 percent Inuit hire right now within the government, as a whole, it is just like it crept up, one or two percent each year.

Would the Premier be willing to take a look at shifting those responsibilities out of the Department of Human Resources, putting it in as a secretariat, like they did with decentralization, and giving them some teeth; broadening their power to monitor and patrol these hiring practices by the departments and the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So far we are making slow progress but the benefit of having it at human resources is that there is additional staff that they can draw on to ensure that the Inuit Employment Plans can be followed through.

That's the concern I would have is that I don't want a build up of more bureaucracy in our government, overall. That's something that would require careful attention. With the limited resources that we have I want to take advantage of all potential opportunities throughout the government. That's something that would require careful attention if we are going to build up additional bureaucracy, that's something that I'm not too keen on. I'd rather that we take advantage of any additional resources that we can draw on from all parts of our government.

So, that's something that we can review but it's something that we have to keep in mind. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not talking about creating additional bureaucracy. I'm just talking about shifting responsibilities from one department to another.

As the Premier and his department have the overall responsibility for monitoring all the other departments, and like the Standing Committee on Health and Education heard when we traveled around, Arctic College felt that it was a poor cousin of the Department of Education, similar to, I think the Inuit Employment Division in the Department of Human Resources, given the workload that they have doesn't get the attention it deserves, and I don't think it has the mandate or the teeth to monitor, police, and enforce the priority hiring policy of this government.

I'm not talking about a shift or the creation of a new bureaucracy. I'm just talking about shifting responsibilities into a different area and broadening the powers to ensure that the departments are not being complacent and disregarding the priority hiring policy of the government and give them the ability to monitor.

Will the Premier commit to looking at that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must say that the Minister of Human Resources has been very focused in making sure that Inuit employment targets are met.

So, it's not for a lack of trying. The department is trying to make plans and trying to enforce them, but what I will do is see what we can do in terms of making sure that issues don't fall through the cracks.

But, I'll also commit to seeing if we can make that work. But, as I said, the current location of the Inuit Employment Division at Human Resources, gives it the ability to put in training plans, put in more focused attention with the resources that are available overall at Human Resources.

So, that's something that we have to review carefully because by moving it to a separate department without all the resources, then it becomes quite difficult to implement some things that may have been easier to implement in a bigger department that has more resources.

So, that's something that will require careful attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think, that as representatives for our constituents, I'm sure I'm not the only one that has received calls and comments from constituents that are frustrated, that they never seem to be able to get a job.

I received a phone call from someone from another community last night, saying that this person was a grade 12 graduate and had been trying for five years to get a job, but can't, and for no reason other than that individual felt that there was favouritism going on and bias, and for lack of a better work, "buddyism", within the government for hiring.

It's for these reasons that I'd really like to get a commitment. The minister said he would have to look at it, but will the minister commit to looking at a different option to try and strengthen and speed up the process of this government meeting its obligation to have a representative workforce? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will continually look for ways to improve our Inuit employment numbers because they are unacceptable.

We're working with the federal government to get additional resources through the land claim agreement so that we can train more Inuit not just to get to grade 12 but go past grade 12 and become qualified to take on all the other jobs that are available in our government.

So that's something that will be ongoing and the member has made a request to see if we can review it. We will look at all options to improve our numbers and how we can prevent some issues from falling through the cracks. I admit that I receive calls from my own constituents that are concerned with what's been happening and some of practices that are taking place. So I've talked to my ministers and said that we have to look at this very seriously and see how we can improve what's happening for all of our constituents in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can appreciate the minister's comments and I don't think that any member in here wouldn't acknowledge the efforts that this government is trying to do. However, the Premier indicated that he talked to his ministers; it's not the ministers that are making those decisions; it's the people that are working in the bureaucracy. There's no one really watching them.

I'd like to ask the Premier, he said that they would be looking at all the options, would he have his people look at that particular option and report back in our next session after Christmas with some findings, even if they're just preliminary? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can say that I'll talk to my colleagues and see how we can improve the current practices. As to creating a division, we'll see what we can do, but I'd like to see some improvements. I want to prevent future cases where beneficiaries may be denied employment. So I'll remain open to all suggestions from my

officials, along with my colleagues here. I wish to thank the member for raising this matter so that all priority hires are not denied opportunities in our government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 116 – 2(3): Sixty Thousand Contract – Call for Tender

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance. Yesterday we heard that the government has a \$60,000 contract for a lobbying company, Hill and Knowlton Canada. All the contractors, when they're hired from Nunavut to do snow removal and others have to compete. Why aren't those southern companies given an advertisement or call for tender?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I am not mistaken, especially for those people from Ottawa that do advisory consulting for us, we'd like to be able to get some people that can do the work for us as the Nunavut Government. So those are the only people that we could get to do consulting work for us.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We always say that there is some office for the Nunavut Government in Ottawa and there is a lot of staff there. We have not heard what they do. The minister's department has a contract with Earnscliffe Strategy Group. Was that tendered? How much is the fee for a year?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The contract was never tendered. They had had the contract with us since 1999 and they have been given an extension and it costs \$60,000 and \$1,800 for the administration work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The company is very lucky that they don't have to compete to get a contract. We just found out that...are there any other lobbyists contracted by the Nunavut Government besides the two? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not that I know of. I don't know of any other southern firms that are doing contract work for the Nunavut Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. According to the rules of the provinces and the federal government, the lobbyists have to be registered in a province. I just wondered whether the Nunavut Government has a guideline because the public has to know who is doing the lobbying for the government. If you don't have a policy, how can you find out to see which companies have to be registered? Thank you.

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

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, they are under the federal registry, whether they are lobbyists or not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 117 – 2(3): Update on Access Road Funding

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The small craft harbours or wharfs, the non-decentralized communities were consulted by the government. I just wanted to find out from the Department of Transportation's Minister what they are doing in regards to access roads. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Transportation, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There was an announcement in the Legislative Assembly that in the year 2006-2007, the money was already approved for access road projects to provide access roads to hunting camps in the communities and access roads to fishing places outside the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we are talking about wharfs or docks, will the smaller communities be considered for getting funding for access roads? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For those communities that would like to build an access road, they would have to apply for that funding. We will be writing a letters to the members of the legislature and the communities that there

is funding available for building access roads and we will give out information; a clear indication that there's only a certain amount of money.

But we had some requests from communities at the end of the construction year. For them to be able to request funding for access roads, they have to request the funding before the building season is over. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The bigger communities seem to have more advantage in obtaining those. Will the smaller communities have that access too? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think you already got a response. Yes. The smaller communities will be able to apply and I don't know how many times we have said it. When the Premier made me responsible for this portfolio he asked me to look for some ways to assist those smaller communities in order for those smaller communities to have the same access.

Their only disadvantage is if they don't apply. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Question period is over. Orders of the day. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like unanimous consent to go back to Item 5. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is asking to go back to Item 5. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Minister Kilabuk.

Revert to Item 5: Recognitions of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to try something. I'd like to recognize every time we have a session there are hard working people who do the transcription of the English and Inuktitut Hansard at Innirvik. We can assist those people more, the workers; when we speak in a language, especially for us bilingual people, we tend to use two languages and that makes it very difficult for those transcribers.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the staff from Innirvik. Peepeelee Qappik, Mary Arnakak, Lucie Idlout who is well known, my sister Mary Kilabuk, and Kaitaasi Peter, Silasie Kilabuk welcome, Annie Iola, and well known guitarist and singer Jose Arreak and no stranger to Pangnirtung Leevede Atagoyuk. Thank you. Welcome to the gallery.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize my wife but she can't play guitar. But she can play the accordion very well.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From our beautiful community Ashley Dean who is enrolled in the Teacher Education program. Is that right. Yes. And a very hard worker who entered a beauty contest when we supported her and she was there last year. Welcome.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Orders of the day. Item 7, Written Questions. Written Questions. Item 8, Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9, Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10, Petitions. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Item 10: Petitions

Petition 002 – 2(3): Severe Shortage of Social Housing – Gjoa Haven

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition dealing with a matter of the severe housing shortage for Gjoa Haven. Mr. Speaker, the petition contains 142 signatures from the residents of Gjoa Haven and Mr. Speaker, the petitioners request that Gjoa Haven be moved up in the 10 year plan 2006-2007 capital plans for new housing and Mr. Speaker, I also want to include a quick response from the appropriate Minister, Mr. Akesuk to the petition. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Petitions, make sure you give them to the Clerk. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Premier.

Item 13: Tabled Documents

Tabled Document 062 – 2(3): First Ministers and National Aboriginal Leaders Strengthening Relationship and Closing the Gap Communiqué

Hon. Paul Okalik: Qujannamiik, Uqaqtiji. I would like to table the following document; First Ministers and National Aboriginal Leaders Strengthening Relationship and Closing the Gap Communiqué. Qujannamiik, Uqaqtiji.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Pass the documents on to the Clerk please. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

Tabled Document 063 – 2(3): Presentation to Members of Legislative Assembly of Nunavut on Mining by Miramar Mining Corporation

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to table a presentation by Miramar mining to the Members of the Legislative Assembly the Doris North project is based in the Kitikmeot in Nunavut. The presentation was in Iqaluit November 20, 2005. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Tabled Document 064 – 2(3): Kivalliq News Editorial on Literacy

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to table today a copy of this week's editorial in the Kivalliq News on an important issue of literacy in Nunavut. I really encourage the Minister of Education to add this item to his Christmas reading and the title of the editorial is "Literacy Numbers speak a language all their own". Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 065 – 2(3): Letter from Seemee Angmarlik Concerning Time Change

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to table a letter from Seemee Angmarlik, one of my constituents, on his concern on the topic of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and time change. The letter that I am tabling is requesting that NTI go to their community in regards to that. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of documents. Mr. Peterson.

Tabled Document 066 – 2(3): Letter to Minister of Health & Social Services regarding Children’s Advocate for Nunavut

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’d like to table copies of correspondence between the Minister of Health and Social Services and I, concerning the establishment of a Children’s Advocate here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of documents. Item 14. Notices of motions. Item 15. Notices of motions for first reading of bills.

We’ll break for twenty minutes. Sergeant-at-Arms

>>*Session recessed at 15:42 and resumed at 16.27*

Speaker (interpretation): Back to Orders of the day. Item 16, Motions. Mr. Curley.

Item 16: Motions

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Member for Cambridge Bay, that Motion 011 – 2(2), titled *Mid-Term Leadership Review of the Executive Council*, be rescinded.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. Comments to the motion. Each Member has 20 minutes to make comments to the motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. The intent of the motion is to make it clear that the motion we amended last year to do a mid-term leadership review of the Executive Council, if you look at this motion we are not in mid-term yet. We are three quarters of the way done. If we want to do an earlier leadership review we have to rescind this motion. I am urging Members to support his motion because we’ve got some concerns. If we do an earlier mid-term review it will be easier and better. So we would like to have accountability for an open leadership review. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Comments to the motion. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as of yet, I’m not decided whether I’m going to support this motion or not.

Mr. Speaker, I know we have had that motion in place allowing for a midterm review by next fall. The mover of the motion indicated that if we wanted to have an earlier midterm review, that we had to rescind this motion.

So I'm just wondering if he is indicating that he does want to have an earlier midterm review and maybe if he could just let us know why so that will help us when determining whether or not to support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we are going to make changes to the midterm leadership review, it's not going to be appropriate for the members and the government.

We want to be open and transparent of the activities of the government because we are not in the midterm as yet. We want to see the Cabinet members willing to do their work. I'm not pleased with this at this time because this is not the midterm as yet. We would be able to follow it earlier, there will be less concerns and Nunavummiut know the midterm review and it's not even midterm yet. The Cabinet members will be more relaxed personally because we are not up to midterm yet.

So, I'm going to be in support of this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Comments to the motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): According to the rules, the mover of the motion has the last comment to make. As the mover of the motion, I would like to make the last comment.

In order to have a clear understanding, I think this motion is very clear that, at this time, it's for the whole of Nunavut. I want to have a recorded vote on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Question is being called. A recorded vote was requested. All those in favour of the motion please rise.

Mr. Curley. Mr. Arreak. Mr. Netser. Mr. Mapsalak. Mr. Alagalak. Mr. Peterson. Mr. Evyagotailak. Mr. Barnabas.

All those opposed to the motion, please rise.

Mr. Tootoo.

All those who abstain, please rise.

Mr. Akesuk. Ms. Aglukkaq. Mr. Picco. Mr. Simailak. Mr. Okalik. Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Tapardjuk.

All those for the motion eight. Against one. Abstained seven. The motion is carried.

Motions. Mr. Curley.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS it is incumbent on the Executive Council of Nunavut to account openly to the Legislative Assembly and Nunavummiut for its performance in developing, implementing and managing the policies, decisions and expenditures of the Government;

AND WHEREAS the Second Legislative Assembly adopted, without opposition, Motion 8 - 2(1), *Working Together for a Stronger Nunavut*;

AND WHEREAS this Motion stated in part that “the values of consensus, co-operation, accountability and respect must guide us in our deliberations”;

AND WHEREAS this principle was acknowledged in the 2005 Budget Address, which stated that there are “responsibilities that flow from the public service to Cabinet, to you, the Members of the Legislative Assembly, and ultimately to Nunavummiut”;

AND WHEREAS the Members of the Executive Council were sworn into office in March of 2004;

NOW THEREFORE I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that a Mid-Term Leadership Review of the Executive Council of Nunavut be held prior to March 31, 2006.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. Are there any comments to the motion? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This motion is very straightforward and to the point. The people of Nunavut have to understand exactly what’s happening within the government. They have to have an explanation of what the government’s doing and its performance in developing, implementing, and managing the policies, decisions, and expenditures.

There are only 19 of us. We want the government to be open, transparent, and accountable to the people of Nunavut. We would like to see a review be held prior to March 31, 2006. The federal government is going to be having their elections in February.

The people of Nunavut do not select their Premier. It is the 19 Members of the Legislative Assembly who select the Premier, but some time in the future we would like to see the people of Nunavut select their Premier. What we’re doing at this point is that we are going to be reviewing the Executive Council. We think that there should be a

change in the membership. If the other side is more capable then they would have the freedom to do so.

With that, I would like the motion to be supported by all the Members of the Legislative Assembly. Anybody should be able to get in to those positions. I think that's the only way that we can be more open and accountable to the people of Nunavut.

What we don't want the people to say is, "are they just here just for the job." They might be saying that if they don't know what we're doing. In full caucus we can select the date, whether it's going to be during the budget session, or prior to.

If it's going to be prior to the budget session, I think the people of Nunavut would be more in support of it. For example, for these following reasons, the ministers are going to be allocating the monies to the departments and to various programs and services, and we'd like the people of Nunavut to be able to see us and see how the government works.

I'm not overly concerned, even if it goes after the budget session, but my first reason is in regards to the comments that were made by the member from Arviat. The government, the deputy ministers, and the ADMs, have to be open and accountable and know that there is a possibility of a change in the Executive Council.

What I'm trying to say is that the civil service has to be settled down. They can't be worried about who their minister is going to be. I think it's better for all of us if we get a stable government.

I would like to have a recorded vote. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Are there any comments by the seconder of the motion? Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We were first elected to the Legislative Assembly in February of 2004.

Most of us were newcomers and rookies so to speak. We talked about the mid-term review but I don't think we were fully thinking the true meaning of mid-term, and now we've had time to reflect. The mid-term is half way through the term of the government.

I think September 2006 is going a bit too far. I think February, or by the end of March is adequate. It's half way. I think the people of Nunavut would appreciate that. It would give us an opportunity to question ministers on their performance, their mandate, and role.

In 2006, a lot of new issues or new things are developing. As Mr. Curley said, there is a federal election on January 23. That could have some serious and grave ramification with what we want to do in the next few years in Nunavut.

The Premier has talked about a Devolution Secretariat being set up. That will be very important. From my region, economic development is going to be very critical. We have a mine opening up over there and people want to know how the government is going to be looking at economic development in the Kitikmeot.

I just think, further to my colleague's comments, that a mid-term review would help us clear the air between Members of the Legislative Assembly and ministers, clear the air for Nunavummiut out there, who have been listening over the last two weeks. There have been some interesting discussions in the House.

I know I have to answer a few questions when I go home. I just think people would like to have a chance to consider the performance of the ministers in February or March, and then we'll go on from there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Having been one of the few members here that have gone through a leadership review in the past, and knows what's involved with preparing for it, I think that all members of this House want to be open and transparent and show, I think beyond a reasonable doubt, that this whole process is objective and done in a well thought out manner. Mr. Speaker, I know that at the time that is suggested in the motion we will be dealing with the budget.

I know I don't look forward to questioning a new Minister who had no input into the budget. If someone else is put into the Executive Council they are going to have to defend the budget that's there. And I can just see Question Period and Committee of the Whole...well, I didn't do that. But we have to work with it, for now it has already been an approved budget.

So, Mr. Speaker, with that I have some concerns over the timing of it. I have no problem with supporting a Leadership Review. I think it is a good process and allows for an opportunity for all Members to raise issues that have been brought forward to them by their constituents.

I am sure I guess for both Regular Members and Executive Council an opportunity to share mutual frustrations. Again I am speaking from experience. Mr. Speaker, I know the comments that I have made we have to show Nunavummiut that we are accountable, open and transparent.

The reason I said on the previous motion that I hadn't made up my mind yet because I still wanted to hear why. That didn't happen. So I didn't support that motion. When we talk about being open and transparent I think that should go for everybody. I've got no problem standing up and saying why I want to do something.

I am telling you right now. So for those reasons and I also hear our government is not stable. I think it is much more stable than the last government, if you look back at some of the events that transpired in the last assembly.

Again, my biggest concern with the timing of it is the budget session. It is just going to be very frustrating for Regular Members to question Ministers that had no input in developing the budget and I don't want to look forward to...well we are stuck with the budget like we were in 1999. I'd like to be able to question Ministers and hear why they made the decisions that they did on our behalf.

And I think if anything, that will be more, how that process goes will be more useful for us in our evaluation of them in the mid-term review. You know it should happen after that. Also given Mr. Speaker, the fact during the last year before this sitting there has been a considerable amount of time since we sat.

There was no work for us in the spring. I think that maybe we should be looking at the spring, at least we'll have something to do. Unless we see more legislation come forward from the government between now and then, at least we'll have an opportunity to be here in the springtime and work.

Mr. Speaker, with that I'd like to make an amendment to the motion.

Motion 006 – 2(3): Amendment to Motion 006 – 2(3)

Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Quttiktuq, that the motion be amended by striking out the words March 31 and replacing them with June 30. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): There is a proposal to amend the motion. This amendment was seconded by the Member for Quttiktuq. We would like to see it in both Inuktitut and English and we will do so and take a brief break in order to make the amendment. We will take a 15-minute break.

>>House recessed at 16.50 and resumed at 17.02

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think I don't need to speak too much to the motion as my concerns and reasons for bringing forward the amendment I mentioned, earlier, but I think it is a much more prudent timeframe to work within for all those reasons that I mentioned before.

Like I said, I am in support of the process of having a mid-term review. I'm just thinking of timing-wise it might be more appropriate for all members to have it before the end of June, rather than before the end of March.

With that I'd like to ask all members to support the amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The seconder to the amendment motion. No comments from the seconder. To the motion. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've gone through a review and it's very time consuming. It deserves full attention from all members. During our winter session, we'll be focused on our budget. As ministers, we're here to govern. That's our main focus. The review will happen and we're not scared of that. Either way it will be the wish of the members at the end of the day; so I've told my Cabinet colleagues don't worry about the review. Our focus is on governing and that will continue to be our focus.

I'm concerned, like the Member for Iqaluit Centre that our focus should be on the budget, when we're dealing with it, for the benefit of Nunavummiut, and to mix it up with a Leadership Review would be difficult at best because having gone through an extensive Leadership Review in the last session, it was very time consuming and taxing on everyone.

So I have asked my Cabinet colleagues to support the amendment for the benefit of Nunavummiut, the people that we represent. It's 90 days more than what is proposed right now. So I'll be asking my colleagues to support the amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Any comments to the amendment motion? Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker. I also have comments to the amendment to the motion.

As we all know, the budget is going to be done before the end of March. I don't think the Nunavut people would support us if we try to work on the review of the Executive in June because most of the people and our employees are not really interested. I feel that the amendment to June 30 doesn't seem to make any sense because you are going to have the entire budget done anyways.

When we were done with the review, it would be better. All of the government employees would be in a better position and we don't want them to be concerned and have a good summer. I don't want them to be expecting something unexpected and we don't want them to be concerned because we have to go through the job that we are supposed to go through. I don't support the amendment because it's not going to make much sense and it's going to be depressing for everyone.

I feel that it would be a lot better to make it at the end of March. It would be a lot better for all of us to be in a better position for the summer. I'm just going to be in support of the first motion that was moved. I will not be supporting the amendment to the motion

because I feel that I want my constituents and the people of Nunavut to be in a better position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Comments to the amendment to the motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All of the sudden now, the government is supporting the amendment to the motion after abstaining, but the Premier is not supposed to tell the members to vote either way.

I know this is not a joke. It would be a lot better if we can have the leadership review sooner. This is not a joke. But looking at some of the Executive members, maybe it would be better for some of the Executive members to stay a little bit longer so that after April 1, they could spend a little bit more time; three months, because the budget comes on April 1 and they will be able to sign more fiscal spending. What are you going to do for three months? Are you going to do a lot more in three months? If the Cabinet is working very hard, then what are you going to do? Are you going to divert more money to the communities that you want more done for?

It would be better to have new Cabinet members sooner. Like the Member for Arviat said, in the springtime, in the Kivalliq region, there are a lot of people out on the land, especially in Arviat, there's a lot of activity like hunting and camping, and the school is finished in May. So, from then on, they go out camping over there. I know that in the Baffin and in the Kitikmeot region, there are a lot of people that go out camping and hunting because the family activities are happening in Nunavut.

It would be better if the Premier could let his colleagues have a free vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Any comments on the amendment to the motion? Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I supported the motion for a mid-term review on March 31.

What we were saying is that we're not going to remove anyone from Executive Council; we're just going to do a mid-term review of the Executive Council of Nunavut. It would be a lot better if we do it on March 31, or be held prior to then.

Just a little while ago, there was a motion that did not have a seconder. There was one Cabinet Member that the member wanted to remove, but what we're going to do is review the whole Executive Council, not just one minister.

I feel that trying to remove one minister and looking at one minister is not right as far as I'm concerned. I will not be supporting the amendment to the motion at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Comments to the amendment to the motion. There is an amendment to the motion and the mover has the right to speak last. No, I'm sorry. I have no more hands up and I did not hear any member wanting to speak.

Mr. Curley: Recorded vote please. I'd like to ask that members stand to indicate their vote.

Mr. Speaker: I did not hear a recorded vote. Mr. Curley. All in favour of the amendment to the motion please stand up.

Mr. Tootoo, Mr. Barnabas, Mr. Akasuk, Ms. Aglukkaq, Mr. Picco, Mr. Simailak, Mr. Okalik, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Tapardjuk.

All those opposed to the amendment to the motion, please stand up.

Mr. Mapsalak, Mr. Alagalak, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Evyagotailak, Mr. Curley, Mr. Arreak, Mr. Netser.

Abstentions to the amendment to the motion. There are none.

Amendment of the motion, in favour, nine, opposed, seven, no abstentions. The motion is carried. Mr. Curley.

>> *applause*

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you could say that we have the ability to speak for twenty minutes on the amendment to the motion. I am happy to say that it's now closer...it would have been a lot better if we would have had it before...prior to March 31. I would like to say that you will be able to sign more cheques and have a bigger pension...the amendment to the motion to have the review on June 30...

A Member: Point of Order

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Point of Order

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the point of order I make is that the member is implying there are alternative motives for the decision that was made by the majority of this House. Regardless if I'm a minister or not, I would take offence to those comments that the member is making, or the "wannabe" minister, is making. Where is he getting this from? He is saying that we want to take someone out. I thought the whole process was to review and then decide and not have your mind made up before you get into it.

So you know, by imputing these motives of Cabinet for supporting the amendments, I think is a breach of the rules of this House and actually, probably, an insult to every single one of us in here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Members: Hear, hear.

A Member: Point of Order.

Speaker: Mr. Curley.

Point of Order

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I take offence to being associated with imputing ulterior motives. This is not the case. If he were to listen to my speech in Inuktitut, that's not what I said. He's going to have to look at both transcripts; the Inuktitut version and the English version. I will never personally impute any ulterior motive to anyone. That's not what I said. I stated the facts and that is the case.

Speaker (interpretation): To the point of order I will try to make a ruling during this sitting and the session will continue. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I am not too sure what you want us to do.

Speaker (interpretation): You were talking and you can conclude the statement that you were making earlier.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Yes, it's true that the review if it went up to March 31, then if there were any changes to the ministers; those ministers, maybe some of them would not have made it up to June if there were changes.

But to the Nunavummiut that month is not very appropriate. We know that for Qikiqtaaluk region it is not too much of a problem but for the people of the mainland the timing of the year is not appropriate. So we wanted you to support the motion.

Speaker (interpretation): To the amendment. Are there any other comments? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: A procedural nightmare Mr. Speaker, speaking to the amended motion. Mr. Speaker, I just got one thing to say. I wasn't elected not to come to work and go hunting and camping. I was selected to do my job and I will do that job whatever time is required. I have no problem coming here in the spring.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): To the amendment. Comments. There was a motion and the motion was amended. The motion as amended. Are there any comments? There is a motion. There is a motion. Mr. Curley's motion. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask for a recorded vote. Sorry I called you Chairman too. I thought we were at Committee of the Whole. That is usually where we are by this time. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask for a recorded vote on the amended motion. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Comments to the motion. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): We already voted on the amended motion. So it seems like it's not much use for the original motion.

Speaker (interpretation): Question has been called. Please rise to the amended motion. All those in favour of the amended motion please rise.

Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Evyagotailak. Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Curley. Mr. Arreak. Mr. Akasuk. Ms. Aglukkaq. Mr. Picco. Mr. Simailak. Mr. Okalik. Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Tapardjuk. Mr. Netser. Mr. Alagalak. Mr. Peterson.

All those against. Abstaining.

Mr. Mapsalak

In favour of the motion 15. Abstentions 1. The motion is carried. The amended motion is carried.

Item 16, in our orders of the day, Motions. Item 17, First Reading of Bills. Mr. Alagalak, did you have your hand up?

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Yes, although I did, I wanted to go back to Item 13, Tabling of Documents. We usually have the Committee of the Whole at this time and need to stand up, so I started doing that. I would like to go back to Item 13. I would like to ask my colleagues to go back to Item 13.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is seeking consent to go back to Item 13. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Alagalak.

Item 13: Tabled Documents

Tabled Document 067 – 2(3): Photos of Damaged Boats in Arviat

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My statement this morning, I would like to table these documents in regards to the boats that have been wrecked due to a lack of safe harbours. I would like to table them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Please pass the tabled documents to the table officers. Tabling of documents.

Back to our orders of the day. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters; Bill 2, Bill 3, Bill 4, and Bill 10, with Mr. Arreak in the Chair.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

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

Chairman (Mr. Arreak): I will now call the Committee to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bill 2, Bill 3, Bill 4, and Bill 10.

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

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of Bill 2, Bill 3, Bill 4, and Bill 10. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Are we agreed to deal with those Bills?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 02 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 2, 2005-2006 –
Consideration in Committee**

**Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (O&M) Act No. 2, 2005-06 – Consideration
in Committee**

**Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (O&M) Act No. 4, 2004-05 – Consideration
in Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Simailak, (interpretation) you can go to the Witness Table along with your officials. (interpretation ends) Mr. Simailak, for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Bob Vardy, and to my left is Roy Green. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Simailak. We are on page 12. Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #2 2005-2006. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is turning out to be another one of those grumpy days. I would like to go back to page 10 if it's allowed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Netser. Page 10 was already approved. Do you agree that we go back to that page because page 10 was already approved? Would you like to go back to page 10? There are no nays. Page 10, Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A quick question here. During the Minister of Environment's appearance before the standing committee earlier this fall, maybe September, we understood that the Alijivik Park Project was on hold.

Why are we carrying over the funds for this project? That's my one quick question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, we don't have that information. Unfortunately the Minister of Environment is not here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That would be really nice to have when we do the Cabinet review. I don't want to go back to it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Do you have any more questions on Page 10? Page 12. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Actually my question is on Page 11, but I think it's part of the same.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the minister and his officials for coming again today. My question concerns the Government of Nunavut Iqaluit Contribution Agreement.

They were proposing to carry over, or carried over \$4,697,000. I think the annual contribution is \$4 million. Could the minister clarify what is happening? Which projects are not being implemented by the City of Iqaluit with their \$4 million contribution? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bear with us for one second; we're just looking for the answer. One moment please. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Green I believe has the answer for that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Green.

Mr. Green: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government has entered into an agreement with the City of Iqaluit for the contributions for the capital infrastructure for the city.

The reason why the request was carried over was because the city did not have the resources this year to be able to deliver all the programs as originally projected. The funds have been re-profiled for the '05-06 fiscal year.

There is a section in the agreement that states that any unused funds must be carried forward from the prior year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I thank the minister and Mr. Green.

When you say Mr. Green, that the city didn't have the resources, can you be more specific? They didn't have people, or they didn't have the matching funds? Exactly what didn't they have? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Green: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Based on the information that was provided to me from the Department of Community Government and Transportation that the reason is, they indicated that the funds could not be spent in '04-05 is because the city just didn't have the resources to be able to carry out the number of projects that it had undertaken for that particular fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Green. The Department of Community and Government Services didn't tell the Department of Finance what the specific projects were that they couldn't fund? Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Green: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is correct. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Green. I'm just going to follow this through to a logical conclusion. Can we be sure that the City of Iqaluit is going to come up with the resources to implement the capital projects for the city? I keep reading in the newspaper and hearing in the media and elsewhere in the city that there are all these capital projects that are desperately needed. And then we give them the \$4 million and then we find out that they can't use the funds.

If they can't use the funds I could think of 24 other communities in Nunavut where we could certainly use the funds. I'd like to get a little bit of clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry, we just simply can't provide any more information at this point without the Minister of Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. How long can the City of Iqaluit carry the funds over? Can it carry over one fiscal year, or can they carry over for two fiscal years, if they don't use the funds in 2005-2006, do the funds become unavailable to them? If so, what happens to the funds? Can it be re-profiled to other communities in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the agreement the funds can be carried over from one year to the next. I don't have the contribution agreement here in front of me but I would imagine that there are no restrictions on the amount of time it can be continually carried over from one year to the next.

If the monies are not spent, it shows up in our fiscal numbers. Each time that there's monies appropriated for any purpose that don't get spent, it is referred to as drop balances. That shows up in our fiscal numbers and eventually that money is there for allocation by the government based on the priorities as they see fit. There is a provision, automatically, for monies if they don't get allocated to be spent.

The next capital-planning season we're bringing in a new procedure that requires a lot more monitoring. There's monitoring of any projects, I think it's over \$300,000 a year, it is going to be monitored at least on a quarterly basis, and as they get into it, on a monthly basis.

So hopefully, we have a better system of dealing with those sorts of things. It's a concern that's expressed by FMB members about the size of capital carryovers. This year, with the hospital projects, that they were used. We need to tighten up the system. So this doesn't happen on such a regular occurrence. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Vardy for those comments. He was echoing what I was thinking that we need better monitoring of the capital projects process.

I don't think any of the members want to necessarily deprive any community of vital resources for capital projects because the communities need them. But if they are not

going to use them for the purposes intended, then we should be moving very quickly to reallocate them to those communities elsewhere in Nunavut that require the funds so that they will be used during the season when it's the best time to do those kind of projects.

I'm very concerned about this large amount as it jumps out at me when I see the documentation.

I'm glad to hear you talk about monitoring and I hope that's a serious intent of the government, Department of Finance in working with the Department of Community and Government Services that this will happen and we don't see it occurring too often in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. (interpretation) I didn't hear a question. Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I totally agree with the member. We are going to be tidying up the structure; that's our goal at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are you done, Mr. Peterson? Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to follow up where my colleague left off with a very good line of questioning; however, he limited his questions to that one project.

If you look at all of the projects over the years, is there a timeline for any capital project that the departments have for how long they can carry them over for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. For those on the right side of the room, quiet down a little bit, please.

Some Member: Hear, hear.

Chairman: Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, there is no set timeline right now, but one of the long-term goals is we try to tighten up the process for capital projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have any ideas of what they may be looking at for timelines; one year, two years, three years, four years, five years, how long can funding be tied up for capital projects that don't proceed for whatever reason? I

would just like to get an idea of if they have given any thought to how long. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) We don't have any set timelines at this point, but we will be looking at the amount of dollars that were allotted to projects and others items into consideration.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The carryovers are a concern for everybody, especially people waiting for that work to get done in their communities, but if for whatever reason, it's not going ahead, I would like to know.

Maybe just for a way to try to have a better understanding of how long some of these things go on for, would the minister be willing to, in the future, when they have these carryovers, list it in here to show when the initial appropriation was made so that we can see how long it has been sitting there tied up, and then it would help members decide for whatever reasons to address it or re-channel those resources to projects that could happen right away if, for some reason, those ones can't? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will in the future and I think that it will be better if we have more details. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It might be helpful as I look through some of these carryovers and I've been around here for a little while and they look very familiar and we keep seeing them year after year.

There is one here the Gjoa Haven water thing. I remember when the former Member brought in a sample of water and it had bloodworms in it and it was quite some time ago. I am sure there are other examples. I remember the bloodworms. I know there are a lot of them in here like that. I think it would be a good idea for us to see how long or that funding that funding has been tied up for without being able to be used and assist us in making a decision whether, okay that one is going to take a few more years or whatever those reasons are and re-profile funding for projects that move forward.

There was a motion here the other day for a school project to move forward in the capital plan. If for some reason and I am not saying any particular reason or for any particular project but you know sometimes you run into site contamination and you get into a dispute over who's responsible for it and who's going to clean it up.

That happened here, or delayed for a number of reasons. If you know if it is going to take 2-3 years to solve that outstanding issue then you know it should give you time to budget in those years ahead for different projects to bring forward and switch them around to get things resolved. It is a much more common sense approach to using and maximizing the limited resources that we have for addressing the needs across the territory as far as capital goes.

I look forward to seeing that information and hopefully we can use it as useful fiscal management tool in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank is not a question. That is more of a comment. Mr. Minister.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand the Member's concerns. And as a department we will try to resolve this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I have no more names on my list. We are page 12. Capital. Special Warrants. Not previously authorized. Total Capital. Planning and technical services. Special warrants. \$13 million 64 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Not previously authorized. \$1 million 840 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Next page. Page 13. Community and Government Services. Capital. Special warrants. Petroleum Products Division. \$2 million 484 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Petroleum Products Division. \$2 million 484 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total department. \$15 million 548 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Not previously authorized. \$1 million 840 thousand. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 14. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Chesterfield Inlet airport granular stock. \$998 thousand. It says they will award the contract in the winter of 2006. And what month are we looking at. Are we looking at January of 2006 or December 2006? Or June 30 2006.

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

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that money would become available on April 1.

So it would be up to the department of Economic Development and Transportation to do it when they're ready I suppose, some time after that date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Simailak. If you want Minister Kilabuk to respond to part of the question, it's up to you, Mr. Netser.

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

Chairman: Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The money will be available on April 1, and the Department of Transportation would be able to tell you the specific date.

Chairman (interpretation): We're on page 14. Economic Development and Transportation. Capital. Special Warrants. Not Previously Authorized. Transportation, \$2,742,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Not previously authorized. \$500,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total transportation, \$2,742,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation) Not previously authorized, \$500,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total department, \$2,742,000. Special Warrants. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Not previously authorized, \$500,000. Page 15, Nunavut Housing Corporation Capital. Not previously authorized. Nunavut Housing Corporation, \$1 million. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. Not previously authorized, \$1 million. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go back to Page 2. Oh, I'm sorry. Page 15. Total Department. Not Previously Authorized, \$1 million. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now you can go to Page 2. Schedule One, Capital. Total Capital Appropriation, \$58,188,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Bill 2 is in your white binders. Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 2, 2005-06. Definitions, clause 1, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2, Application. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4? Oh I'm sorry. I'm reading a little too fast now.

>>*Laughter*

Page 2, Schedule. Supplementary amounts appropriated for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2006. Vote, Capital 1. Total Supplementary Appropriation, \$58,188,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Bill 2, Clause 4, do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Clause 6?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Is the committee agreed to Bill 2, as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that Bill 2 is ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you, very much. Now Bill 3. Appropriations (Maintenance) No.2, 2005-2006. Page 4. Government of Nunavut. 2005 – 2006 Supplementary Appropriation. Operations and Maintenance No. 2. Legislative Assembly. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized. Expenditures on behalf of members. Not previously authorized. \$200,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total expenditures on behalf of members. Not previously authorized. \$200,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total department. Not previously authorized. \$200,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 5. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized. Devolution. \$661,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total devolution. \$661,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total department. \$661,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 6. Finance. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized. Directorate. \$103,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total directorate. Not previously authorized. \$103,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total department. Not previously authorized. \$103,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 7. Human Resources. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized. Directorate. \$5,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total directorate. \$5,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Staffing. Total staffing. Negative \$1,500,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question on this is the transfer from HR to health for relocation costs for nurses and urgent casual healthcare professionals. I am just wondering why that's going to health. Isn't that a function that is carried out on behalf of all government departments by the Department of Human Resources? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For those particular positions the hiring is done by the Department of Health. The budget was being allocated in the Department of

Human Resources. So to improve accountability; the budget has been moved to the Department of Health, where the actual decisions are being made regarding those positions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It says for the relocation costs for nurses and urgent healthcare professionals. I would assume urgent casual healthcare professionals are your agency nurses? I just want to get a confirmation on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The emergency healthcare positions, the agency nurses are covered through separate contractual arrangements and it's not covered in this budget allocation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to get an idea of the difference between a nurse and an urgent casual healthcare professional. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department is in the process, as I mentioned some time ago in the House, in hiring international nurses; we are in the process of hiring 50. We have also made arrangements with the hiring company to have a pool of people from that recruitment process to hire when vacancies occur.

So, if there's a vacancy in say Baker Lake, we would then use the pool of nurses that have already been hired to relocate. As much as possible, we are trying to get away from agency nurses because of the high cost associated with agency nurses. So, the pool that we would be using for this emergency would be to fill positions that become vacant in the communities from the international nurses pool. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the relocation cost, if that's for the international nurses, does that mean that we are paying to bring those nurses from wherever they come from? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We hired a firm to do all of the recruitment for us. When we have hired the international nurses, we relocate them to

wherever they are placed. In terms of how those actual dollars are set up between the firm that we have hired, I don't have those details before me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just generally for nurses, do you relocate them...if you hire someone from somewhere else, are they treated the same as everyone else whether it be within Nunavut, within the north, within Canada, or within a different country, then for any purpose, whether it be a teacher or anyone else, is that a common practice that they would bring in whoever you are hiring from wherever in the world that they are from? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Mr. Chairman, I said earlier, I don't have the breakdown in terms of how the cost is arranged between the hiring company, the firm that we have hired to recruit the international nurses.

In terms of hiring any other professional, we hire them from Point A to where they are placed for the job, yes; we do cover their relocation costs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister indicated that she didn't have the information. Would she be able to get and provide that breakdown of that information to the members? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If Phil is listening up there, if he can bring my binder down, then I can probably get that information before we finish today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think it's going to get down in time. I'm just recognizing the clock; I would like to move to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. There's a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour, raise your hand please. Opposed, raise your hand. (interpretation) Abstentions.

Again to the motion. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Motion is not carried, defeated.

We are on page 7. Human Resources. Operations and Maintenance. Staffing. Not previously authorized. Negative \$1,500,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total staffing. Not previously authorized. Negative \$1,500,000. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I still would like to see the breakdown of how much of that \$1.5 million is for travel. So here comes the binder I guess.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll go through my binder and if I don't have it I'll find it tomorrow. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Do we want to take a break and look? I thought we were supposed to recognize the clock at 6. I just thought I was going to do you a favour there that's all.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Yes, I could have done that but the motion didn't go through, didn't pass. Thank you. Madam Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the information on the international recruitment of nurses that I have here don't provide the breakdown of how much relocation cost is. The budget that is transferred from Health and Social Services... or from Human Resources to Health and Social Services covers recruitment, relocation of all the nurses and professionals.

So if the Member wants a breakdown of the cost for just the international nurses I'll have to provide that during the next sitting date. But the budget that is being transferred from Human Resources to Health and Social Services covers all costs of relocating those professionals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am wondering instead of waiting until next year for that information I wonder if the Minister could provide it through the clause of back door tabling, just providing it to the Clerk to be distributed to the Members. I'd like to see a breakdown of what all those positions were as well. Whether international nurses. Urgent casual health care professionals that is pretty wide open eh. I'd just want to see that those are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Madam Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Mr. Chairman, I'll write a letter to every Member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: No. Taima.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Page 11. Staffing. Not Previously Authorized. Total Staffing, negative \$1,500,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. Not Previously Authorized. Negative \$1,495,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 8. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Law Enforcement. \$375,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Law Enforcement, \$375,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Legal Services Board. Not Previously Authorized. \$160,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Legal Services Board. Not Previously Authorized. Negative \$160,000. Oh, not negative. I'm sorry.

I am sorry... Total Legal Services Board. Not Previously Authorized. \$160,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Registries and Court Services. Not Previously Authorized. \$300,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Registries and Court Services, \$300,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 9. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Corrections and Community Justice. Not Previously Authorized, negative \$75,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Corrections and Community Justice, negative \$75,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. Not Previously Authorized, \$760,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 10. Education. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Adult Learning and Post Secondary Services. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under here, there is a little over \$1.2 million dealing with an increase for Nunavut Arctic College.

I know last year, there was I think, I think the term was bridge financing, which is another word I think for bail out for the college. At that time, I'm just wondering if this is additional increases with that or is this just a transfer to take care of that bridge financing. Is it on top of that? Are they going to get on top of that? Or, is it that bridge financing that was announced last year plus this amount? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Simailak: I'm sorry Mr. Chairman. That one time bridge financing that was announced last year was for 2004. This one is for the 2005-06 supplementary. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm pretty sure if memory serves me correct; I think the last one was about \$2 million or so, around there, for the bridge financing.

If there is only an increase in funding of \$1.2 million this year, are we going to be looking at having to do more bridge financing or bridge building in this fiscal year?

Also, is this a permanent increase to the base budget for the college? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, for 2004 was one time bridge financing of \$1.3 million. And the feeling is that this 1.2 million dollars for 2005-06 should be enough to cover the necessary increases.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It must have been in the Auditor General's report or something where that \$2 million figure came out that the College needed. They indicated that it was going to be their shortfall for their deficit. And that \$1.3 whatever it was, was just a portion of it. That they were still going to end up in a deficit.

I am wondering again are we going to be looking at, are they going to eat that other, the Department of Education are they going to eat that other \$800,000 if that projection of \$2 million deficit continues. Down to \$800 thousand I guess with this amount and also again is this amount a permanent, will it mean a permanent increase to their base funding.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Minister.

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister of Education will answer that. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Member is correct. Over the last few years the Nunavut Arctic College has dealt with some issues around a deficit. Some of those are the pension buy backs and unfunded liabilities of the College. The College is a corporation and as such receives this transfer of funds from Government of Nunavut.

The \$1.3 million dollars funding last year was able to help alleviate some of those extra costs and deficits. The monies that we see here again are to cover the unbudgeted costs of the pension buyback and so on. At the same time, the deal with the issue the Member is talking about, the college was asked to bring forward to the Financial Management Board a proposal on a new funding formula allocation to look at how its funding will be dealt with within that context.

That has been done and we hope to be in a position in the New Year to be able to look at that formula funding model to be able to alleviate some of the deficits and some of the issues around the areas that were raised by the Member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is this going to be a permanent increase to college's budget? I guess that is the other thing I am sure the college is waiting to hear as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: That is correct, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sure there are some happy people at the college including the Minister. I congratulate him on getting that additional funding that they have been arguing for, for quite some time now. Must be a good Minister.

Mr. Chairman, the other question that I have on that section is just below that. There is \$652 thousand for Early Learning and Childcare initiatives. I am wondering if the Minister knows what initiatives those are specific initiatives that the funding is going to be targeted for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that \$652 thousand is contingent on the ELC, the Early Learning Childcare agreement that we have had some discussion and the motion on in the House.

That \$652,000 is put up by the federal government without strings attached before the agreement was signed. However, if we don't use that money it will lapse. So as a government we have decided to draw down on that \$652,000 and be able to provide those monies to our member daycares. As a good example of the \$652,000, we could use Coral for example. We had two programs in Coral and these are all new monies. So as of, if this money is approved today, the daycare in Coral for example will receive an extra \$16,000 which they didn't even know about before, and the Head Start Program in Coral will receive \$5,000.

In Iqaluit, Akuluk Daycare would get \$29,000. It depends on how many students, and so on, are enrolled in each member daycare. So that \$652,000 will be going directly out to our daycares in Nunavut.

So this is a really good news story for our member daycares. Again this is federal money, transferred to us and we're sending right back out to the daycares. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister indicated going out there; I guess he said a per capita delivery to the daycares. Is that what he's indicating that that funding will be distributed evenly, based on daycare spaces, I guess you could call it, I don't want to use that per capita word there. Will it be equally distributed to daycare spaces across the whole territory? Is there any specific purpose for what that funding will or could be used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. I think he just mentioned it will be distributed out to the communities with daycares. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On November 30 the Minister of Finance wrote to the member, Mr. Evyagotailak, on the breakdown, and so on, I think that most of the members probably received a copy of that as the Chair of the regular caucus. It gives a breakdown and an explanation of the monies that will be spent. The majority of that money will be going to member daycares across the territory, and at the same time we have held back some of the money that will be used to develop a daycare manual for some of the daycares. That's something that has been asked for by the daycare groups.

I had a meeting with representatives from across Nunavut from different daycares on my Education Advisory Committee and that was one of the recommendations that they had made. The issue is not solely on per capita, meaning the number of students enrolled. There are some of the other issues. For example, some daycares had issues with frozen pipes when there was no extra O&M. So those daycares might have received more money based on their specific needs, on top of the enrolment numbers too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: This is terrible. I'm almost starting to think like Mr. Picco. Do you have any more questions, Mr. Tootoo? No more? Thank you. We are on Adult Learning and Post Secondary Services. \$1,325,000. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's an item in the amount of \$968,000 transferred from the Department of Health and Social Services for the nursing program at Nunavut Arctic College. Could the minister explain exactly how that amount was spent in a way, was it mainly overhead? Or salaries? Or any going directly to student's benefit?

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Which one is going to respond? Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past the monies for the nursing program were done through fees paid by the Department of Health to the college. What we've done this time is actually a single transfer to the college to deliver the program. That includes all the operational costs, instructor salaries, and so on, that is associated with running the nursing program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I appreciate the minister responding to it. That is an important program. Is that an ongoing program? If it is, how many are involved in the program right now? Students from Nunavut, in terms of regions, how many from the Baffin, Kivalliq, if any, as well as the Kitikmeot?

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct; the nursing program is a Nunavut-wide program. The number of students right now in the program is 26. They come from across Nunavut. I don't have a regional breakdown with me right now. As the member knows we've graduated four nurses in the program and right now, in the health access year of the program, we have six in year four. It looks like we have five, right now who may be in a position where they would graduate and that would be pretty good; almost double what we had last year. As the member has suggested, it has been a successful program for us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Thank you, Minister. I would appreciate it if the minister would provide an update to members, he doesn't have to actually table it, but if you would maybe provide a letter to all of the MLAs so that we could understand a bit about it.

But my other question is: is it an ongoing program, if so how is it promoted to the communities or is it just a short-term affirmative action program?

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is an ongoing program in the college. We started that program shortly after division and I can say with some authority that when we started the program, I actually went from the feds and said, look we are doing the first Inuk-specific nursing program in Canada, and when you graduate from this program, you will have your bachelors degree, your expert nurses certificate, and you can nurse anywhere in Canada. And our federal partner never came to the table.

So, the program had to be base funded to the college that we have just talked about, and it's an ongoing program of the college. It's not an affirmative action program; it's one of the programs that we want something similar to the NTEP program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: It's an important program I would say and I would really like to see, certainly myself, if there would be a little more promotion for the possible prospective students for the coming years because we do need nurses badly, particularly the bilingual nurses in Nunavut.

My next question to the Minister of Health, it was earlier indicated that the minister has an ongoing sort of a recruitment of mostly Asian nurses. Does the government have a direct policy in that they would go to the Asian market for nurses instead of, for instance, European or any other continent? Thank you.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The international recruitment effort, in the past, has focused on different countries where there was interest in professions to come to certain countries. One example is Australia. The past few years ago, there was a lot of effort put into recruiting nurses and doctors from Australia to come to Nunavut.

As it is right now, there is a worldwide shortage of nurses and we are dealing with shortages not only in Canada, but also in the States and all over the place.

One of the areas that we focused on was India as well as in the Asian countries. We have been very successful in those recruitments in those countries to come to Canada. A recruitment team went over and did extensive recruitments in the country to ensure that the people that are being hired into Canada met the Canadian standards. So, we have been successful there.

One of the things we also did was we are dealing with an international recruitment firm in deciding where best to market our strategies and our efforts. It was chosen that the Philippines as well as in India that we would focus our recruitment efforts and we have been quite successful in that program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I appreciate the response. I understand that the international recruitment centre, there should probably be private markets out there that they do understand certain shortage of nurses around the world. But it's probably really up to the Cabinet, through the policy, of where they want to recruit.

What guidelines do you actually give the international recruiting agents to give you a sort of a list of nurses available and are these criteria based on cost, the rate of compensation or experience or graduates of the schools that are providing surplus to their nation countries.

I assume the Cabinet gives certain guidelines that you not just buying the recruits from this nation that kind of thing from the international private search group. So, it would be helpful if you give the Committee and Nunavummiut a little more explanation the amount of money that you are asking right now. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The nursing program has been going on for some time and the funding in the past was with the Department of Health. That funding is being transferred to the Department of Education but aside from that the department has a recruitment strategy in place for not only the nursing field but also in the areas of mental health, dentistry, and in the areas of translators, midwifery, and social work. There is a whole side in place that I will share with the members in the new year, which was approved by Cabinet a couple of weeks ago.

That is a whole Department of Health and Social Services recruitment strategy for a number of professionals in the department. Not only in the area of nurses but in the area of mental health and midwifery as an example and dentistry and I will be able to communicate that information with Members in the New Year. It was just recently approved.

One of the things that we're trying to focus on is that the programs be designed in such a way so that a person taking, as an example nursing program, a 3-4 year nursing program and decides that they are not able to complete the 2-3 years, then the first year can be transferred to, as an example, a midwifery program or the mental health program. So it is a going-up-the-ladder type of approach to recruitment and training. That plan is now in place and I'll be able to share with my colleagues in the New Year.

In terms of the strategy to recruit nurses. First and foremost they have to be qualified practitioners and various experiences. Some experiences in hospitals, some experience in health centre type arrangements, perhaps homecare, perhaps midwifery. There are a number of skills that the individuals have to meet but in having said that, in order to practice nursing in Canada, all nurses have to pass the Canadian National exam to practise nursing in Canada and in Nunavut. So we follow those same practices.

The recruitment efforts in place also focus on communications and information sessions with potential candidates so that they have a full understanding of the environment that they will be working in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are you done? Thank you. Adult learning and post-secondary services. \$1 million 325,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total adult learning and post-secondary services. \$1 million 325,000 Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Career and early childhood services. \$116,000 negative. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total career and early childhood services. \$116,000 negative. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total department. \$209,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 11. Health and Social Services. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to recognize the clock. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Peterson, only the Chair can recognize the clock so you can't report progress by recognizing the clock. Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized. Directorate. \$532,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Directorate. \$532,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Healthy Children, Families, and Communities. \$90,000 negative. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. For the Healthy Children, Families, and Communities. \$90,000 negative. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. \$442,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Chairman: Thank you. Page 12. Community and Government Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized. Community Support. \$92,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Community Support. \$92,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Chairman: Government Services. \$1,509,000. (interpretation) Do you agree? (interpretation ends) Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Are you in a rush, Mr. Chairman? You are going so fast we can't keep up to you.

Mr. Chairman, my question on this here is there is \$125,000 for a transfer of a lease in the Parnaivik Building that was held by the Qulliq Energy Corporation and is now being held by the Department of Finance. Does this mean that the Qulliq Energy Corporation offices are relocating somewhere else and they are giving up that lease? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Vardy.

Mr. Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Finance had staff in Iqaluit in five different locations, including our Corporate Services Division, which was out at the Federal Building. There was space in the Parnaivik Building next to our Directorate that was underutilized by the Qulliq Energy Corporation and there was insufficient space for the Finance staff. So, there was some movement of manpower from the Parnaivik to the Federal Building in the case of Qulliq Energy and Finance was able to consolidate at least one of those locations together in Parnaivik. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, the Qulliq Energy Corporation is not looking at moving out of their lease, so they are going to build them a new building to move into. I remember last year when you said...is that correct or are you just giving up some space that they were using? Is that it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Vardy.

Mr. Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In this situation, it was moving of resources around Iqaluit to provide better operational efficiency that was not connected to any other capital projects that I am aware of. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo. \$509,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Government Services. \$1,509,000. (interpretation) Do you agree? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: If we are going to approve something, do we need a quorum? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: I guess we do need a quorum. Thank you. We have a quorum. Total Government Services. \$1,509,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Department. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Could the Minister of the Department of Economic Development provide more information to cover the cost of utilities?

I realize that it sounds reasonable with the increase in power rates effective April 1, 2005. Could you actually provide that because I believe the rates of the electric or fuel in Iqaluit were not all that significant compared to increases that other communities have experienced.

It would be helpful to actually see a breakdown of the increased costs. I'm sure these are well documented and it would be helpful that they actually were applied to the increased costs of utilities. So that we can actually see the details of certain amounts of increase listed in this page. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we say increased utility costs it's more than just the cost of electricity. It is my understanding is when we talk about increased utility costs we do talk about the increase in electricity but we also talk about the increase in, for example, fuel oil to heat buildings and furnaces and so on. So I hope that helps to clarify the member's question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The explanation is useful but it's also important that we get to see the details, the back up documentation for expenditures of that amount. No other institutions are normally provided, for instance the hamlet facilities I know are provided by lump sum figures to reflect the increased costs of energy and utility costs.

Maybe once the information is provided that will be a good base document for the municipality to use in asking for increased funding from the government. Could the minister agree to provide us more information on that item?

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we look at the transfer itself, it states that it's under the Department of Transportation through Arctic Airports. That's the \$112,000, I believe that the member is looking at. Is that correct the amount that we're looking at? Arctic Airports. Thank you. If that's the case when we look at the operations of the Arctic Airports, those costs are considered within the departmental budget and are

transferred to the operators of the airports, which are usually the hamlets. That's the extra costs that they would receive.

Maybe the Minister of Transportation would have that information available. I don't have a breakdown of each airport. It is my understanding when we look at the airport operations, because there are staggered hours, meaning they are not on a regular schedule, depending on the planes, and so on, that's the total amount for the Department of Transportation for all Arctic Airports under the auspices of the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: I will ask the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation to provide that information because we have 25 other airports in Nunavut and hamlets have not been given additional lump sum amounts from Community and Government Services to cover increased costs.

I think we should have across the board standards for small airports. They certainly are paying much more energy and utility costs than the Iqaluit region. Could the minister also agree to provide that information to the members and to this House? Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The transfer was necessary because Nunavut airport's operating service contracts are largely held by, as my colleague said, by hamlets on behalf of the GN. Community and Government Services works with the hamlets very closely. So the request for more funding was lead by Finance and CGS in consultation with our department but I do not have in front of me a detailed information package to share with my colleagues as to the breakdown.

The transfer of \$112,000 from CGS to ED&T was completed to reflect the Arctic Airport's portion of the supplementary funding related to power rate increases, mostly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Yes, the minister has not answered the question. Could he provide more detailed information as to the exact impact of the power because that information will be useful to other increased costs of power rates in Nunavut communities?

They certainly felt the same impact as this airport did, and therefore, a number of departments, at least a couple of them, transfer funding, so that ultimately they will probably be transferred to the local airport authority.

So, in that regard, that information will be important to members as well as my constituency. So, could you undertake to provide that information through correspondence? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I can commit to doing that.

As I said, I regret that I don't have the detailed information in front of me but I will undertake to providing that important piece of information to my colleague, and I will also make sure that the hamlets are made aware of the information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Curley, anything else? Thank you. Total Government Services, \$1,509,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Department, \$1,601,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 13. Economic Development and Transportation. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Economic Development, \$81,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Economic Development, \$81,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Transportation, \$112,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Transportation, \$112,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department, \$193,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 14. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: I have a question to the Minister Responsible for Housing Corporation. Are there other staff housing needs and shortages of staff housing outside of Iqaluit in Nunavut?

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there have been some communities that are trying to get more staff housing for nurses and teachers mostly. But, what we're also trying to do is to provide adequate housing for the teachers, nurses and wildlife officers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: The item, additional funding required here indicates \$1,098,000 to lease 40 or 50 additional staff housing units in Iqaluit.

My question to the Minister Responsible for Housing Corporation: are there other additional staff housing unit agreements that have been entered into this year or up to April 1, 2006 outside of Iqaluit?

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. In the headquarters, we're experiencing a severe shortage and we haven't made any lease agreements in the other communities other than Iqaluit.

We would do so if the larger communities, Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, are also reviewing the possibility of going into a condominium agreement. We will be looking at that in the upcoming years. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Chairman, it says here that they have to furnish 40 or 50, additional staff housing units in Iqaluit, and they're leased from the private market I'm sure.

In Iqaluit, there are private homes that are on the market already. Why is it that you didn't get on that trend? As the government was saying, they're trying to get out of the staff housing units, but 40 or 50 additional staff housing units is quite large.

My question is: when we're looking at the market out there, did the government look at other alternatives or options whether to look at the down payment program, or others? Is it that urgent?

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are quite a lot of jobs that are open out here and that do not provide staff housing.

Looking at the government, we want to make sure that we do this properly. We stated that in the upcoming five years, the government is looking at getting out of leasing houses and looking more at increasing the number of homeowners. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Yes, in the next few more years, they'll probably go to the other regions and to the smaller communities, because there is a lack of housing in the communities. This amount that is a little over \$1 million, is that being used now?

Chairman: Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): We're going to be using that amount of money pretty soon.

Chairman: Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Can the minister provide us with information as to how many are being used and which companies are providing the leases. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is no information provided at this time, but I can provide him with the information. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. The people that you are leasing from, I would like to find out whether it's the same company or different companies. I would like that provided to all the members, not just myself.

Chairman: Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. We will provide that in the leasing agreements. I will provide it to the members. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akesuk. Mr. Curley. We're on Nunavut Housing Corporation

(interpretation ends) Nunavut Housing Corporation, \$1,098,000. (interpretation) Do you agree? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know earlier this year, and I raised it, there was close to a dozen teachers that I know of for sure that were staying in hotels here because there was no place for them to stay. Some of them are staying with their families in the hotels.

With this funding, does that mean that we're going to finally end up with not having teachers and their families staying in hotels? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It doesn't state whether they are going to be used for teachers or nurses, but we just want to provide that amount of money to lease and furnish 40 to 50 additional staff houses.

But I will find out for the members the majority of which staff will be staying in those staff housing and I will provide that to the members. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I don't need to know which staff are going to be staying in those units. I just want to try and make sure that we can finally have teachers and their families living in adequate accommodations and not in hotel rooms. So if that is what this is for I am in full support of it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): That is not a question just a comment. Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total department. \$1,098,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Question. Yeah. Mr. Chairman, my question to the Minister of Housing. I am just wondering, we have seen in other cases incremental funding to deal with increasing energy costs, I am wondering if there is nothing in there for them I am wondering if the Housing Associations across the territory are not going to have increased money for utility cost increases. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister of Housing, Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will make an attempt to find that out and we will look at it to see how we can provide that kind of funding for power. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that I am sure the Housing Associations and Authorities are going to be hit just like everyone else with these power and fuel increases and the Minister said he is going to take a look at it and report back to Members of this House so that they can inform their LHOs and the Housing Authority here on any plans that may be in the works to assist them to deal with the ever rising energy costs.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akasuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are in the very early stages of trying to figure out how we can help out the LHOs in all the communities and also other departments in housing to come up with an idea on how we are going to approach that. Again we are in the very early stages of figuring out how much we'll have to put into the communities. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo that's it. Thank you. Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. \$1,098,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Total department. \$1,098,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Back to page 2. Schedule 1. Operations and Maintenance. Operations and Maintenance. Appropriation \$4,772,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to Bill 3 on your white legislation binder. Thank you. Bill 3. Supplementary Appropriation Operations and Maintenance Act 2 2005-2006. Definitions. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page 3. Schedule. Supplementary amounts appropriated for the fiscal year starting March 31st 2006. Vote 1. Operations and Maintenance. Total Supplementary Appropriations. \$4,772,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go back to page 1. Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. I think you agree to Bill 3 as a whole.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Are you agreed that Bill 3 is ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. What is the wish of the committee? We're not quite done here yet. Bill 4. Supplementary Appropriation. O&M No.4, 2004-2005. Legislative Assembly. Operations and Maintenance. We're on page 4. Not previously authorized. Expenditures on behalf of members. \$504,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total expenditures on behalf of members. \$504,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Back to page 4. The Premier said no and that got us confused. Total expenditures on behalf of members. \$504,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Back to page 2. Schedule 1. Operations and Maintenance. O&M Appropriation. \$504,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Going to Bill 4 in your white legislation binder. Bill 4. Are you there yet? Bill 4 Supplementary Appropriation O&M Act 4, 2004-2005. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 2. Schedule supplementary amounts appropriated for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005. Vote 1. O&M. Total supplementary appropriation. \$504,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Mr. Okalik, do you want to say something?

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, the two of us didn't agree. Thank you.

Chairman: Clause 4.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Are you agreed to Bill 4 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that Bill 4 is ready for third reading. Thank you. (interpretation) Mr. Minister, thank you and your officials. Do you have any closing comments, Mr. Minister?

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you very much. That's it.

Chairman: Thank you. Go back to your seats. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to report progress.

Chairman: There is a motion on the floor and it is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Netser.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 2, Bill 3, and Bill 4, and would like to report progress, I'm sorry, and would like to report that Bill 2, 3, and 4 are ready for third reading.

And Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to and I would like to second the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Who is the seconder? Mr. Simailak. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2006-2007 – Third Reading

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 1, Appropriation

(Capital) Act 2006-2007 be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 1 has had its third reading. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 02 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 2, 2005-2006 – Third Reading

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act No. 2, 2005-2006 be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 2 has had its third reading. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 2, 2005-2006 – Third Reading

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 3, Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 2, 2005-2006 be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 3 has had its third reading. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 4, 2004-2005 – Third Reading

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik that Bill 4, Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No. 4, 2004-2005 be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Bill 4 has had third reading. 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 December 2:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 10
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We'll reconvene on December 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 19:16*

