



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

3rd Session

2nd Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 14

Friday December 2, 2005

Pages 779 – 806

Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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

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

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

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

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

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

Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)

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

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

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

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

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

Steve Mapsalak
(Akulliq)
Chair, Standing Committee Ajaqtiit

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

Levi Barnabas
(Quttiktuq)
Chair, Full Caucus

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

Patterk Netser
(Nanulik)
Deputy Speaker

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

Officers

Clerk
John Quirke

Deputy Clerk
Nancy Tupik

Clerk Assistant
Kooyoo Nooshoota

Law Clerk
Susan Cooper

Sergeant-at-Arms
Simanek Kilabuk

Hansard Production
Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

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

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	779
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters.....	779
Report of the Committee of the Whole.....	804
Third Reading of Bills.....	804
Assent to Bills.....	805
Orders of the Day.....	805

A.

Daily References

Friday December 2, 2005 779

B.

Bills

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act – Consideration in Committee 779

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act – Third Reading 804

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2006-2007 – Assent 805

Bill 02 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2005-2006 – Assent 805

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2005-2006 –
Assent 805

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2004-2005 –
Assent 805

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act – Assent..... 805

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday December 2, 2005**

Members Present:

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

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning, Mr. Premier, Cabinet members, and members of the Legislature. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Good morning, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to rule 18(1) I seek unanimous consent of the House to proceed to Item 19 on the orders of the day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Are there any nays. There are no nays. We will proceed to Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters, with Mr. Arreak in the chair. We'll deal with Bill 10.

>>*Sergeant-at-Arms*

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

Chairman (Mr. Arreak) (interpretation): Welcome. (interpretation ends) I would like the law clerk to join us; I see you are already here.

>>*Laughter*

We are dealing with Bill 10 today, an Act to amend the *Nunavut Elections Act*. (interpretation) I would like to ask the Speaker if he could do his opening comments.

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act – Consideration in Committee

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm very pleased for the opportunity to appear before the Committee of the Whole to introduce Bill 10, an Act to amend the

Nunavut Elections Act. I would like to begin by thanking all members for their contributions during the development of this legislation.

As you will recall, Mr. Chairman, the report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the 2004 Territorial General Election was tabled in the House on February 22, 2005 and considered in detail by members during proceedings of the Committee of the Whole.

Subsequent to the consideration of the report, the Committee of the Whole adopted a motion on April 27, 2005 recommending that the Management and Services Board, in cooperation with the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, make amendments to the *Nunavut Elections Act* for consideration by the Legislative Assembly. The Bill before you today is the result of that process.

As you will recall, the Chief Electoral Officer's 2004 report contained a number of recommendations for amendments to the Act. This Bill takes into account the recommendations contained in the report as well as the issues raised by MLAs.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take a few minutes to highlight the major elements of the Bill. I will begin by noting that this Bill does not make any fundamental changes to the electoral system currently in place in Nunavut, rather, it seeks to address a number of matters that came to light during the 2004 election, in addition to concerns raised by the members of this House.

One improvement that all of our constituents will note at the next election is a notification of the hours that polling stations will be open. In 2004, voters in the Kitikmeot did not learn of the results in their community until some time after voters in the Kivalliq and Qikiqtaaluk learned of the results in their communities.

By having the polls closed at the same time across Nunavut on election night, results will be able to be reported to the public in a more timely fashion.

All polls in all communities will continue to be open for a full 10 hours on Election Day. Polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. in Kitikmeot; open at 9 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. in Kivalliq; and, open at 10 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. in Qikiqtaaluk.

The Bill strengthens and clarifies a number of provisions in the Act related to the integration of the electoral process. Both candidates and their financial agents will be required to sign off on the accuracy of the financial information submitted to Elections Nunavut.

Membership lists of groups making contributions to candidates will be available for inspection by Election officials. Greater consistency will be required in relation to identifying sponsors of campaign materials.

The names of persons who fail to properly file their returns will be published in the territorial publication of record, *The Nunavut Gazette*. Non-residents of Nunavut will not be permitted to serve as a candidate's financial agent.

Mr. Chairman, the Bill also seeks to make voting more accessible to our residents and to streamline a number of administrative and enforcement procedures. For example, the provisions related to emergency voting provisions will be modified to allow greater voter flexibility in choosing a method of communication.

Provisions related to advance polls are simplified. In recognition of the fact that costs are higher in the north, the maximum limit of campaign contributions will be raised to \$2,500. This Bill also corrects a number of minor miscellaneous areas in the existing Statutes.

This concludes my opening comments Mr. Chairman. I am confident that, if passed, these amendments will improve what is already a strong Statute. I look forward to responding to any questions or comments members may have on this Bill. Thank you, very much.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Do you have witnesses you'd like to bring to the table.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be with Sandy Kusugak, Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut and Patrick Orr the legal advisor for Elections Nunavut.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-arms you can assist them to the witness table. Mr. Speaker, if you could introduce your officials.

Speaker (interpretation): To my left is Sandy Kusugak the Chief Electoral Officer for Nunavut, I'm sorry, to my right. To my left is Patrick Orr, the legal advisor for the Chief Electoral Officer for Nunavut.

Chairman: Before we proceed with Bill 10 in your legislation binder, I would like to remind members of the following. According to rule 77(1) you have ten minutes and according to rule 77(2) subject to the discretion of the chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion, but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken. Ministers will have equal opportunity at this time to speak to this matter. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to see these amendments being made to our *Elections Act*. I know that since our first election and also during the second election, there were a number of concerns raised by candidates and by the general public as well. I think that this is a perfect example of making something more suitable for us. For example, in anything you do your best to try and make it the best you can but there are always circumstances that come up you can't foresee. I think this is a great example of trying to adjust and evaluate those concerns that were raised and I fully support the Bill and the changes.

Hopefully it will assist anybody that has the courage to run in a campaign for public office with a clearer understanding of dealing with that which they are getting into and what they're required to do. It will also allow the general public to better understand the process as well.

I just wanted to tip my hat to our Chief Electoral Officer and her left hand man for working very hard at coming up with these amendments that were brought forward as a result of concerns raised during the last two elections. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. I don't have anybody else on my list. (interpretation ends) Bill 10 is in your white legislation binder. Bill 10, and act to amend the *Nunavut Elections Act*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Clause 3, I believe it's the one that states, paragraph 4.9(b) and 9(c), are repealed and the following substituted. I just want to get an explanation as to why that amendment is being made. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Speaker (interpretation): I'll let Patrick respond.

Chairman: Mr. Orr

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This change is to deal with an issue that arose in the last election. There was a member in Iqaluit who had difficulty in voting in the constituency in which he was running because the rules are that you can select a place where the Returning Officer is, but because in Iqaluit the Returning Officers offices were consolidated, it made it difficult for this member.

We've adjusted the provisions so that the candidate, who was a former member, can choose a site anywhere in the constituency that's appropriate for that person to choose as a residence so they can vote in the constituency in which he or she intends to run. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know when they first made some amendments, this was something that was addressed by, I guess by trial. I won't say trial and error, but by trial. They realized that the amendment that was made didn't meet the intent of what the amendment was there for. So is this amendment to more clearly meet the intent of the initial concern that was raised with the first amendment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: That was the amendment to directly resolve that problem. That was the issue we found and how we addressed it. It met the requirements of the Management and Services Board. They were content with it and it's why you see it before you today.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on my list. We are on Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 8. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 9. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How it deals with additions to the voters' list, maybe if I could get an explanation for the benefit of the members of the public as to what concerns came about to bring forward this amendment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The change here is purely technical. The current wording of the Act is that the changes to the list were made right on the list, so the Returning Officer would strike names or add names to the list.

The way it's done in practice is that there are separate documents prepared with a list of all of the changes. It's just a difference of how to record the changes. The idea is to record the same changes just not to put them on the original list but to create a separate document to make it easier to keep track of it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo. Clause 9. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 10. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On this one it talks about, I believe it is for contributions. It deals with that. I just want to get an explanation if it is for contributions or candidacy eligibility or something? I don't know, if I could just get an explanation.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: This clause refers to financial agents and it restricts the ability to be a financial agent to those people who are residents in Nunavut. It also reflects the administrative difficulty we ran into in the past election when the wording of this was different. We hope to avoid the problem we had last time by making a change. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Clause 10. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 11. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 12. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 13. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 14. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 15. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 16. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 17. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 18. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Clause 19. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 20. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 21. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 22. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think this amendment deals specifically to the uniqueness of our territory and I think it is important to highlight that. I would just like to ask officials if they could explain why an amendment like this is brought forward. I know that you know the objective of any election is to maximize participation. Could I just get a quick explanation of this from the officials?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The change here is to expand the current provision which allows emergency voting if the person is out of the constituency, if they are out of the community, out on the land, perhaps in an outpost camp or some work site and they

have no way to get to an advance poll or mobile poll. The changes to allow a person to vote by phone or radio, which may even be a fax machine in the office. The way it is worded now is if there is any communication device it would preclude a person from using this method.

So the change is quite small but it allows people in offices where there is a fax machine to still use a radio and communicate and record their vote. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Orr. Clause 22. Do you agree? I'm sorry. Madam Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, under the method of voting I had raised this concern last year as well during our meetings. Where there is a Member who has more than one riding, more than one community I should say. The issue around voting in advance polls only applies to communities where there is a Returning Officer. In using the Nattilik riding as an example, in Gjoa Haven the Returning Officer was from Gjoa Haven. In Taloyoak, there was a Deputy Returning Officer and the wording of the legislation reads in order to vote in advance polls people can only vote in an advance poll where there is a Returning Officer from what I understand. Individuals in a community where there are Deputy Returning Officers, that same privilege does not apply and I don't see that revision being made in the legislation again. For ridings with more than one community there are two inconsistent options available to citizens.

I wonder if one of the staff or the legal advisor can explain why that is and what is in place to address the inconsistency in that option to Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister Aglukkaq. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: In fact advance polling is something that is available in every community, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Just to clarify. In the legislation where there is that seven day period where people can vote, not so much the advance poll. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This question was referred to me the other day by the law clerk. At the moment as it stands the voting in the office of the Returning Officer of course happens because of course there are 19 Returning Officers, so it happens there.

And it's, generally speaking, the Returning Officers are in the larger communities of the ones that are available, of the ones that exist. So, it's a method that allows people over a

longer period of time to take advantage of being able to vote ahead of time and was very widely used in a lot of constituencies, particularly in Iqaluit and Cambridge Bay, where almost half the voters in Cambridge Bay voted prior to the Election Day.

What I would like to do; we still have a few issues outstanding from Management and Services Board that have not appeared in these particular amendments, things that they wanted us to consider more.

So, I'd like for us to present various options and work through that process as there will be a few more amendments coming forward, suggested amendments in the winter or the spring session. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Sandy for that response.

Will the amendments be made before the next general election? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are preparing our research for the Management Services Board meeting in January, and if it met their satisfaction, then they would be ready to proceed at the next opportunity.

So, I certainly, whatever changes we're proposing will be long in advance of the next scheduled election, or the next predicted election for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I thank Sandy for that response.

I think, just in closing, it should be noted for the record that there are inconsistencies in that option being available to Nunavummiut in voting. The larger communities have the option to vote in advance, and again, the smaller communities are penalized of that option, so I really hope that efforts will be made to address this issue before the next election.

And, I thank you for that and I thank the staff for following through. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Yes, that is noted.

Clause 2, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): 22. Tootoo.

>>*Laughter*

Clause 22, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 24, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 25?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 26, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 27?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 28? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On this one here, clause 27, it talks about striking out agents of the candidates to candidates or their representatives.

Maybe we could just get an explanation as to why that change was made. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kusugak: That change was made really to correct an inconsistency in wording in the Act, and it refers to those being present during the voting etcetera, and agents of the candidates would seem to indicate to people that you meant your financial agent, when in fact it meant it means any person delegated by the candidate to be their representative at that time. So, it really makes it clearer what we're talking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Clause 27, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Oh, I'm sorry. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just quickly on what the witness replied to.

When we speak about the candidate or the candidate's official agent, there was a concern I know in the last election. There were a couple of cases where a candidate was seen to be in, or near, or around the polling station. There were some concerns that the candidate should not be seen to be intimidating voters, or actually being around the actual poll itself.

Is that what you're referring to here in your response to the member? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: No, that particular change was only meant to clarify this business so that candidates would understand that their representatives weren't limited to their financial agents, that it could be any person that they chose to be their representative at the poll. It's an administrative clarification, really. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder then if the witness could tell me if the issue around candidates being in or around the polling station, not necessarily the candidate's agent, but the candidates themselves being in and around the polling station. Is there anything in the Act that supersedes, or prevents that from happening, or prohibits that from happening? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's nothing to prevent a candidate from appearing in the polling station, if he or she doesn't have something like a scrutineer to be there. However, there is no campaigning in the polling station, or any other polling station. So the candidate wouldn't be allowed to wear buttons or to try to campaign in that place, but would be entitled, as their agent will also be entitled to observe for the counting of the votes to be present. Thank you.

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

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that the candidate is not to campaign when you are in the polling station, but I've had a opportunity to be in a couple of these elections there have been concerns raised where candidates would actually show up at a polling station where they actually would have a scrutineer, and they were told to leave the polling station area, but hang out around the door. That could intimidate people going in because in a small jurisdiction we know who the candidates are and you see someone

going in and out. I know it's been brought to the Chief Electoral Officer because, indeed, there were complaints made in the last election.

My question to the witnesses would be have you reviewed that, and indeed, do you see that you actually want to bring forward some changes to reflect the concern that has been raised by the public in the past, with an actual complaint on issues like that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It hasn't been contemplated by any of these amendments. In actual fact the only complaint that we've received during the last election that could be even related to that was somebody wearing clothing that could be considered to be promoting one candidate over another.

As far as I know there is no jurisdiction in which this is a prohibition. Candidates cannot appear as their own agent. There's nothing to prohibit a candidate from actually sitting and being his own scrutineer if he has no one else for the day.

If the members wish us to consider this, we certainly will because it is your legislation. It has not been considered by us at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The witness, to be very clear, I said, and I suggested to you that when a candidate has a scrutineer, not acting as a scrutineer, when a candidate actually has a scrutineer in the polling station, and then shows up and is either going in and out of the polling station, or hanging around the polling station, there is a concern with that. I do know in other jurisdictions that there are pre-requisites to doing that.

So I'm suggesting to you, and I know it was raised in the last election, because I was privy to one of those concerns. So I'm suggesting to you, if you haven't looked at it, then maybe that's something that could be reviewed by the Returning Officer for elections.

So it was a concern raised and it is not just the last election. In the previous election I remember going back to the general election of 1995 where it was also raised at that time. Now whether it was raised officially or unofficially, the issue was still raised on several different times. So I want to be clear. I am not talking about when a candidate shows up and wants to be their own scrutineer, I am talking about when there are actually scrutineers that are appointed by the candidate, and on top of that, the candidate is coming in and out or could be dropping off people to the polling station. That was my concern.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The current legislation allows a candidate to have one representative at a poll at a time and as well allows for election officials to maintain peace and order. And certainly, candidates going in and out of the polling station is, I would consider if I was working at the poll, to be not contributing to the order of the poll because, at least there if nothing else, that is making life confusing. So the candidate can have one representative at the poll at the time.

And I would think probably the concerns are contained within that and a voter or another citizen could make a complaint based on if a candidate was causing that disruption. The poll officials have the right to ask them to leave and they would only come in to vote if they are causing a problem.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you. Again I don't want to prolong the debate, all I am suggesting to you is when a candidate for an election you know they are dropping someone off and they go into the polling station and they look around and they have a scrutineer there and they may be talking to the scrutineer and when you start off with an election 8 o'clock in the morning and goes to 6 or 8 o'clock at night depending on the hours of the poll. That is a long period of time.

So I am suggesting, and the candidate might not be causing insurrection, but the fact is that the candidate continues to come in and out four or five times during a 12-hour period might cause some area of concern. If you are a candidate and if you are a high profile person sometimes the staff working may not feel comfortable telling you to leave. That had occurred in the past. So, I think the area covered by the Returning Officer is not in the exact line of what I am talking about.

What I am asking is: Is there any type of mechanism that allows a candidate with a scrutineer in place to come into the polling station at different times? I know it has been raised at least, almost in every election that I am privy to going back to 1995. So if it hasn't been contemplated here maybe that is something that we can look at. I believe firmly Mr. Chairman, it does cause some areas of concern. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: Well technically a candidate going in and out would be being his own representative again which would be making two representatives at a time. And it could be handled in that way. I suspect, I'd like to try handling this by writing a guideline for candidates and their representatives at the poll and also to include it in a manual or the guidelines for the poll officials at the time, to be aware that this is a possibility and if we see it in the next election that it is still a specific problem and has not been apparently

handled by these kinds of administrative items then I guess we can look at further legislation on it.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Certainly, Mr. Chairman I have a bit of a concern on that too. Now we are opening the doors with a very simple amendment. Currently, what the Member from Iqaluit just stated as a concern, will now be allowed in the amendment in the new Act. It will now allow the candidates I believe throughout, two hundred odd some candidates, to be allowed to enter into polling stations.

This is what I understood, and I would like to ask our Legal Counsel of the Assembly exactly what the current wording is. I believe the old wording prevented candidates to enter polling stations or act as their agents; only the agents were allowed to enter a polling station. What's going on?

Now with this new version, the amendment allows those who are interested in being a candidate, including the agents that they have, they are allowed to enter into polling stations. Thank you.

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

Ms. Cooper: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The current section, the amendment is to Section 132 of the Act and that deals with when the ballots are being looked at and things of that nature and it currently provides for the presence of the Poll Clerk and agents of the candidates to affix their initials to the ballot paper if there's an issue over it.

There's nothing in the Act as I understand it that prohibits the candidates, as the Chief Electoral Officer has said, as acting as their own representative and/or from entering the polling stations.

So, right now, you could have a scrutineer there, but that wouldn't prevent the candidate, during the course of voting, from going in and out of the building itself. I think that that's the concern that has been raised by Mr. Picco.

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

Mr. Curley: Yes, they were allowed, but it didn't appear to be all that clear in the old Act of whether the candidate was allowed to go in. I think it's quite silent on whether the candidate could come in and go out. Now it's going to be explicitly clear that they will be able to enter, as well as their agents. Is that what it's now specifying? Previously, it has been practiced where the candidates have been allowed. Now it's going to be much clearer that in fact candidates will be able to enter polling stations, as well as the candidate. Is that the way I understood the new amendment?

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

Ms. Cooper: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, I think the Act, even with the amendment, will remain silent, essentially, on whether or not the candidate can enter the polling station while the polling is going on. So without an explicit prohibition on him coming in, you wouldn't be able to prohibit him unless you were to use the guidelines as suggested by the Chief Electoral Officer.

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

Mr. Curley: One last point. I think it's a real concern because nowadays, we have a lot more active press covering elections and everything else. If the candidates could also have that privilege of entering as well as their agents, then the candidates already have a pretty good ability to appoint agents to enter into the polling stations. So, I think we should address that, if not now but quite soon in the New Year. Thank you.

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

Ms. Cooper: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a clarification, Section 92 of the Act actually specifically authorizes a candidate and his representative to be present in all operations relating to the poll and to remain there for the counting of the ballots.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Supplementary, Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: I just wanted to be specific, Mr. Chairman, that 92 says the candidate or his or her representative may be there and further, subsection 3 of 92 says that a candidate may have a different representative at a polling station at different times, but may not have more than one representative present at any given time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a clarification.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if there's a little confusion, but I think there are two different issues being talked about. One, you are calling it a polling station, which addresses after the doors are closed and they are counting the ballots. I just want to have it clarified whether it is specifically addressing whether or not a candidate or their agent should be able to be at the poll when the ballots are being counted or, is it dealing with a candidate being present at a poll during the time when voting is happening?

I just want to have it clarified on that. What this is addressing, because I think I'm hearing two separate things here. I just want to get it clarified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps if I read the whole sentence under 92(1), a candidate or his or her authorized representative may be present at all operations relating to the poll, and may remain for the counting of the ballots. That is the current wording of the first section. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The other thing that has been raised is one thing that anyone participating in an election wants to be free from, and that is intimidation. I am just wondering if, I think that's what we are getting at if voters, by the presence of anyone in particular, whether it be a candidate or someone else at the polls, it can be deemed as intimidating the voters when they are going in to vote.

Are there provisions or ways in which this can be addressed, the intimidation factor, if you want to call it that, of being addressed at the poll by the election staff that are there, or by the current Act? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: We have a provision in section 247 that says a person's guilty of an offence by intimidation, duress, or pretence, or contrivance, he compels, or induces, or prevails upon a person to vote, or refrain from voting at an election, or represents to the person at the ballot, or the manner of voting in the election is not secret. It certainly is an offence to do so. Thinking it would be pretty hard to understand what one person would find intimidating in terms of the mere presence of another human being. We could certainly explore this more. That's what my first thought is. I wouldn't know who was intimidating to Ms. Brown, for instance. Who was intimidating to me might be different people and you certainly might not know that just by looking at them. Or maybe it's something that legislation cannot address. Maybe it can. This is my first thought on the matter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that everyone deserves to have, this is a democracy; people have the right to vote of their own free will. It is very important that people are not intimidated in any way, shape or form at the polls.

If I could ask the Chief Electoral Officer to look at this issue and see if it's addressed adequately within the existing Act. If not, I don't even know if it's possible, but like you say right now any candidate can drop people off at the polls. Or someone may consider a candidate being within a visual distance from a polling station to be intimidating.

And others could care less if that person sitting there and putting their x down when they vote. It is a hard one to judge and I appreciate that. And I think to make it clear because sometimes a lot of concerns are raised by individuals, as Mr. Picco pointed out.

So maybe it is something the Chief Electoral Officer can look at and bring forward for clarification or suggestions to the Management Services Board when the next set of amendments is going to take place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Kusugak.

Mr. Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will look at this for the Management Services Board. I suppose some of it also speaks to further education to ensure that people know no matter who says what to them when they go to the voting place with their x that is theirs and it is secret and no one will know how they voted. So there are both aspects of it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman there is sometimes confusion between a federal election and a territorial election with different rules. Just as an example Mr. Chair, we had rules in place, for example, where you are not allowed to place a sign within a number of feet or x number of meters of a polling booth or voting station.

There were rules in place where candidates should not be taking the voter to the poll because of the issue around intimidation and so on and so forth. Some of these may be in the federal domain and sometimes they influence the territorial domain.

In the case of an actual election where a candidate is driving a voter to the poll and gets out of the car, brings the voter into the polling station and hangs around the front door and is walking around and talking to different people. That is what Mr. Curley was raising and that is what I was trying to explain. That is what Mr. Tootoo was saying.

So I would agree with Mr. Tootoo that at some point, now that the issue has been clarified, the Chief Electoral Returning Officer should have an opportunity to make some suggestions to the MSB and maybe bring something forward for the next election. That is in 2008 and it gives us some time. I like the idea of bringing forward a Bill and getting all members having an opportunity to speak to it. I believe there have been some benefits this morning for raising some of these issues.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Ms. Kusugak.

Ms. Kusugak: I'll take that as information and we will look at them further. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names. Clause 27. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 28. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 29. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 30. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 31. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 32. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 33. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 34. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 35. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, clause 35 I think it deals with group contributions in the first part and maximum contributions in the second part. I wonder if we can get an explanation on that on why amendments are brought forward in that area by the Chief Electoral Officer or any of the officials. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The change here is to make it less bureaucratic to have a group contribution. The current rule is that a list of all the members of the organization has to be attached to the contribution. Because some of organizations have large membership lists, this was seen to be unnecessary. The idea is to attach the names of the members if it's up to 25 and if it's greater than 25 members, then the list just has to be available so it can be looked into. It doesn't have to be attached to the contribution.

Perhaps I can ask for clarification, if the second part of the amendment on the \$2,500 is included in that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I take it. The member is nodding. This is to raise the limit on individual contributions to \$2,500 from \$1,500. It was felt that the number of people able to contribute to local campaigns in Nunavut is not great so, the limit for individuals and also corporations should be increased by \$1,000 to \$2,500. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Clause 35, (interpretation) Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 36, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Yes, I would like a definition of a charitable organization, referred to and A) my point A) is that: many of the local charitable groups in our communities are normally not registered, this reference, does that mean the charitable organization has to be registered as such and able to provide taxable receipts?

Could you advise us Mr. Orr, explain to us exactly how the charitable organizations are defined? Thank you.

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

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The change relates to one of the first amendments in the bill which is to define charitable organizations, and this is in Clause 2, paragraph B which is basically; any society within the *Societies Act* would be eligible to receive this surplus from the candidates campaign contribution.

So, any organization that is registered as a society under the *Societies Act* in Nunavut would be eligible. They would not have to be registered with Revenue Canada. This is to simplify, to allow more organizations to be eligible to receive the surplus. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. So, the definition means then that they would have to be registered as a charitable organization through the *Nunavut Act*, charitable, what do you call these, *Societies Act*, or so.

If they're not registered, does that mean then that any group is not eligible to receive a donation from a candidate's surplus? Thank you.

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

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the organization is not a society and registered as a society under the *Nunavut Societies Act*, then it would not be able to receive that.

So, the only alternative would be to give it to the consolidated revenue fund for the benefit of all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. It is a concern in some smaller communities because many of the organizations that are doing good charitable work in communities, normally, many of them are not registered.

So, for instance, school programs, we have a morning breakfast program for some students. That is a charity that the local education society provides. Are the candidates prevented from donating revenue to this group as a result of the fact that they are not a charitable organization? Thank you.

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

Ms. Kusugak: We could look into expanding that list. I think we need to be wary of people giving to an organization that no longer met the requirements of a society.

We do have some organizations in Nunavut about whose financial dealings we're not too sure how they are proceeding. In some areas that a hamlet has found it necessary to take over the work of a group that was operating on its own and was raising funds through ordinary community means. Perhaps that wouldn't be the best group of people to be given a surplus. I think that we do need to have some oversight on it. Certainly I understand about school sport groups, etc., set up school lunch programs, and breakfast programs. Maybe we can look at a way that this can be expanded without being unaccountable. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. It would be important to note Nunavut is reflective of Nunavut groups. I understand that there are many circumstances where Hamlets take over many of the groups that are doing work. We have in Nunavut a whole lot of charitable groups, for instance, homeless groups, many of them are not registered, and that kind of stuff.

I know we have to wrestle with that kinds of stuff when we are dealing with that thing. So I appreciate that the Chief Electoral Officer has committed to the possible consideration of groups, and so on. I would certainly look forward to seeing the work once it's done. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I think that was just a comment. Clause 36. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 37. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 38. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 39. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 40. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 41. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 42. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 43. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 44. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 45. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 11. Clause 46. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 47. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 48. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 49. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This clause deals with the compliance statement. It mentions the Integrity Commissioner. I know that that's something that members and people want to see in Nunavut was less dealing with the police on issues that may arise.

I am just wondering, with that in mind, if the Speaker or the officials could give an explanation on this and whatever that was for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Orr.

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The change here is something that came out of our experience with the last election. We had a meeting among lawyers for the government, police officers were involved; Crown Counsel, the Integrity Commissioner, and Elections Nunavut to debrief on enforcement. One of the things that came up is the notice provisions for when the police notify a person who is accused of committing an offence, when the Integrity Commissioner gets involved.

The change that's in Clause 49 is basically to separate the Integrity Commissioner from the police process so that the Integrity Commissioner will handle all communications directly with someone that's been offered a compliance agreement. So the idea is to make them available generally. In the case of the last election they were made available to everyone who was charged with an offence.

Not everyone accepted the idea, but at least for the first experience they were widely offered to the people who had breached the Act. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Orr. Clause 49. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 50. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 51. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 12. Clause 52. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 53. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 54. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 55. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 56. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed to Bill 10 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that Bill 10 is now ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ms. Sandy Kusugak, and Mr. Orr. Mr. Speaker, would you like to make your last comment?

Speaker (interpretation): I would like to thank my officials from Nunavut Elections for making us understand the provisions of these amendments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of questions that don't deal directly with the amendments to the Bill, I just have more general questions to ask the Chief Electoral Officer and her officials while they are here.

I know that I had the privilege, if you put it that way, of being on the standing committee of the First Assembly that dealt with and reviewed the report of the 1999 Election. The work that the committee did jump-started efforts to lead to the passage of what we are looking at right now, with a Made-in-Nunavut Elections Act. Maybe the Minister of Education could take some notes on how it was done.

One issue that was considered then was the desirability of consolidating elections' administration into a single office. We know this is a very small jurisdiction with limited resources with all types out there to deal with elections and if you look at the history of elections, there has always been concerns raised sometimes due to just the wrong information getting out there for whatever reason.

So, I'm just wondering in the long-term of this office, it would seem to be able to administer elections at the territorial and municipal levels as well as for plebiscites and votes held under the *Liquor Act*, pretty much all elections in Nunavut. I recall, quite vividly actually, meeting with NTI on this idea and they were very receptive to it, to cooperating and coordinating these efforts along with Mr. Jean-Pierre Kingsley, the Chief Electoral Officer for Elections Canada was receptive to the idea.

So, maybe I would just like to ask the witnesses if they could inform us of any progress that has been made to date on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kusugak: At the moment, we have quite a few initiatives underway. During the last Federal Election, we did not, of course, administer the election for Elections Canada within Nunavut, but we provided them with a great deal of administrative assistance; suggestions on who could work for them, places to have polls, etcetera, we did some of the translations for them, and provided general assistance in how they can shift things to make life easier.

We are, at the moment, actually working on a pilot project with the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet and we have a voter information sharing agreement going on with them and at the moment, they are using staff under our direction to update voter information. We are doing data input and then printing their voters' list for them, as a path for the future and we are going to try this out and see how it goes.

We are also during this week we had our second meeting with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and we will be providing administrative assistance to them under an agreement for their upcoming election in March. They will have their own Chief Electoral Officer but we will be providing support and guidance in a number of areas for them.

So that is another step down that path. As well we will be submitting to the Management Service Board a legislative proposal for reviewing the Plebiscite Act to make it modernized and to sort of encompass liquor plebiscites and other plebiscites that we normally have in Nunavut as we are not so commonly having Nunavut-wide plebiscite votes.

So that is another initiative that we have underway. We would look to support any government initiative to review the Local Authority Elections Act so the legislation could be meshed and work better for Nunavummiut so that the procedures could be done in common. That is of course a government initiative, but we would be prepared to do certainly most of the legwork with regards to the elections aspect. That's assuming of course that the Department of Community Government handles all the issues related to the administration of Municipalities that need to go in that as well.

But during this period before, we need to gear up intensely for our own elections to work out well. The other initiative is to work to support the Boundaries Commission that will be established. At the moment that requires a fair amount of attention as they need a lot of work on electronic mapping that doesn't currently exist so we have to develop some expertise around that and with relationships that we already have with Community Government. The planner there helps us to provide the kind of maps that will be needed and the City of Iqaluit is helping to provide the mapping for that job. That is an addendum, but the reason I added that on was to show the kinds of work our office is involved in at the moment.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to seeing some progress made in this area. I think it can only lead to the ultimate goal of maximizing participation and economies of scale and providing expertise in all elections across the territory.

The Chief Electoral Officer indicated that they need to look at some things with Community and Government Services in relation to the City, Towns and Villages Act. I am not sure if that was the one that she was referring to. But I am wondering as a result of the direction that they want to move in; are there restrictions with current legislation that would prevent something like that from happening with municipalities or other organizations that would need to be looked at with other officials to address that and to try and move that forward. If those restrictions are in place I know we would be willing to initiate some meetings with the appropriate department to address those. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. We completed Bill 10 and you'll be able to ask those questions at a later date. Ms. Kusugak. Do you wish to respond?

Ms. Kusugak: No. I thank you for the opportunity to discuss these things and I think we have really developed a really good Elections Act. We are fortunate to have a competent drafter and somebody that deals with this on a day-to-day basis. Other jurisdictions are quite envious of the modern Electoral Legislation that we have. I think we are on a pretty good path. Thank you.

>>Applause

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Sandy Kusugak and Patrick Orr, and Sue Cooper. Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had one more question to ask.

I know a lot of leeway has been granted over the last couple of weeks about people asking questions that may not be directly related to this. I'm just wondering if I could ask,

the witness said she had mentioned in her comments that they were... a period to gear up for the next election, and a pilot project that is being started in Rankin Inlet.

If her office was ready, if need be for a snap by-election in Rankin Inlet, or where their office is situated, or any other office, that was going to be my next question, before you excused the witnesses regardless of whether or not any member had questions still to ask of them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. The Speaker is not here, and is not at the witness table anymore, and I'm sure we can ask this question at a later date. Mr. Tootoo, Bill 10 is completed. Mr. Netser.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Netser. There is a motion on the floor and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour, raise your hand. Thank you. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Back to orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Arreak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your committee has been considering Bill 10, and would like to report that Bill 10 is immediately ready for third reading. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to.

Speaker (interpretation): Who is the seconder. Mr. Okalik, the Premier, seconds the motion.

The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Kilabuk.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay that Bill 10, an Act to Amend the *Nunavut Elections Act*, be read for the third time. 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 10 has had third reading.

Mr. Clerk, could you please ascertain if the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chambers to give assent to Bills.

Assent to Bills

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2006-2007 – Assent

Bill 02 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2005-2006 – Assent

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2005-2006 – Assent

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2004-2005 – Assent

Bill 10 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act – Assent

Commissioner Hanson (interpretation): Members, please be seated. As Commissioner of Nunavut, I hereby assent to the following bills:

- Bill 1, Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2006-2007;
- Bill 2, Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2005-2006;
- Bill 3, Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2005-2006;
- Bill 4, Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2004-2006; and
- Bill 10, an Act to Amend the *Nunavut Elections Act*.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to wish all members a safe trip home to their communities and families. I would also like to offer my best wishes to all Nunavummiut for a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled with hope and promise. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Please be seated. Item 22, Orders of the Day, Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the day for February 21, 2006:

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
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Our session is adjourned until February 21, 2006 at 1:30 in the afternoon.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 11:36*

