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Speaker: The Honourable Peter Kilabuk, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Nattilik)

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(Rankin Inlet North)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday, June 12, 2006**

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, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Mr. Patterk Netser, Honourable Paul Okalik, Mr. Keith Peterson, Honourable Edward Picco, Honourable David Simailak, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier, Ministers, and Members.

Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister for Community and Government Services, Ms. Brown.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 092 – 2(3): Minister's Tour of Communities

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recently had the opportunity to tour 15 communities in Nunavut. I met with mayors and council members and saw first hand the many challenges our communities face.

Ajiiqatigiinniq, one of our guiding principles, and stresses the importance of decision making and communicating with Nunavummiut through face to face meetings, and this was clearly appreciated by the communities I visited.

The meetings with the mayors and council members were an excellent opportunity to get a better understanding of the issues. I was particularly interested in the challenges faced by the smaller communities.

During the community visits, I toured offices, recreation centres, hamlet garages, and water and sewage facilities. The opportunity to see things first hand and communicate in person is invaluable.

During meetings with hamlet councils, priorities were identified. Some comments made were unique to specific communities and others were mentioned by two or more. Much discussion focussed on the significant challenges created for municipal governments by

population growth and the need to replace or add to aging and inadequate physical facilities.

Council members told me that there are questions on hamlets operating budgets caused by cost increases, particularly in utilities and transportation. They described the impact of increasing construction cost which is slowing down the ability of all levels of government to provide more infrastructures.

These visits will assist the department in; planning, policy development, and program creation to better meet the needs of all communities. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased with the hospitality shown to me and the opportunity I have had for discussions with the council members.

I admire the dedication and commitment of all municipal council and staff. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Brown. Ministers' Statements. Minister Akasuk.

Minister's Statement 093 – 2(3): \$5 Million for Small Community Economic Development

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I wish inform the members of this House of a new funding program, the Small Communities Initiative Program, with \$5 million dedicated to supporting economic development in our smaller non-decentralized communities.

Members will recall the Minister of Finance announcing in his 2006-07 Budget Address the creation of the Northern Strategy Trust Fund, which includes \$5 million for small community economic development.

First, a \$1.4 million fund. The Small Communities Initiative Fund will allocate \$100,000 to each of 14 communities to support community economic development initiatives identified in their community plans.

Second, a second fund, the Small Communities Development Fund makes \$3.6 million available for development projects in smaller communities that support growth in strategic economic sectors.

In the coming weeks, community operations staff from the Department of Economic Development and Transportation will visit each small community to provide hamlet councils with detailed program information.

Both funds are available now to non-decentralized communities. I know this House recognizes that more support will be provided for the development of local economies in our non-decentralized communities.

These funds together, create the *Small Communities Initiative Program* and offer a step towards independence.

I look forward to reporting to this House in response to our smaller communities to this innovative program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 094 – 2(3): Update on Polar Bear Status Review

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The US Government is conducting a review on whether or not polar bears should be listed as a threatened species under the *U.S. Endangered Species Act*.

If they decide that polar bears are threatened, then importing polar bear products into the states would be banned. Obviously this will harm many people in Nunavut who depend on American sport hunters for valuable income.

Mr. Speaker, it is becoming clear that some environmental groups are using the health of polar bears as a symbol for the impact of climate change. Those of us, who live in Nunavut, and amongst the polar bears, are aware that each population area is different and must be considered individually.

In the south, people are not familiar with polar bears, and too many have the simple and incorrect view that all polar bear populations are changing due to climate change. Officials in my department have been correcting misinformation in the national media regarding the health of the polar bear populations we manage.

We have had letters and news stories published in the *Toronto Star*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *National Post*, and the *New York Times* in an attempt to make sure the most accurate information is available. This is something that I will continue to do. Inuit and scientific knowledge agree that in general, polar bears have never been more numerous.

Of the 13 populations of polar bears that Nunavut has or shares with other jurisdictions, there are two populations in the Western Hudson and Baffin Bay that may be having difficulties, but overall, polar bears are not threatened.

The Government of Nunavut remains committed to ensuring that our polar bear population is sustainable and that the traditional hunting can continue.

Later this afternoon, I will be tabling the Government of Nunavut's response to the United States' fish and wildlife service review. I am sure that you will agree with me when I say it is an excellent defense of our Polar Bear Management Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 095 – 2(3): Heavy Equipment Operator Program

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good afternoon. I rise today to inform my colleagues about an exciting opportunity for Nunavummiut. This opportunity offered through the labour of market development agreement.

Since January 2006, 44 Nunavut students traveled to Morrisburg, ON for the Heavy Equipment Operators Program at the Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario. This training is being offered at a transitional program until programs at our Nunavut Trade School are delivered.

Mr. Speaker, students are enrolled at the institute for a total of ten weeks where they receive two weeks of safety instruction, followed by a four-week practical training component on two separate pieces of equipment. This training prepares students for employment in the private sector at DEW line site clean up with hamlets, and mine and exploration sites.

Feedback in the courses have been very positive, Mr. Speaker, and the students have shown excellent work ethics and incredible dedication. At present, the student completion rate is 92 percent. Student follow-up will be administered through 12 weeks after the completion of each program to track employment opportunities and student satisfaction.

Mr. Speaker, the instruction allows Nunavummiut to participate mark fully in our territory's expanding economy. I look forward to offering similar programs right here in Nunavut in the near future when our own Trade School opens in Rankin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 096 – 2(3): Pan North Projects – Torch Relay

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to update the House on one of many projects associated with the upcoming Canada Winter Games 2007, the Nunavut Torch Relay.

I am not exactly sure what it is called in Inuktitut. In grouping with the Pan Northern vision of the 2007 Canada Winter Games, the Torch Relay is a journey that spans the entire Canadian North.

From April 2006 to February 2007, three northern torches bring the spirit of the games to every region of Canada's territories. Culminating in the Games' opening ceremonies on February 23, 2007, no Torch Relay of this scale and challenge has ever been attempted in Canada.

It is made possible through partnerships fostered by our government with the Canadian Forces, Parks Canada, The RCMP, hamlets, and the Pan North host partners the governments of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

A schedule of the route for the Nunavut Torch Relay has been widely distributed, and my staff is working with community representatives to bring the torch to every Nunavut community.

I hope all of you can share in the celebrations that this event will bring to all Nunavummiut. The torch is on display for the rest of the day in to foyer outside of the Legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 241 – 2(3): Congratulations to NTEP Students

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the NTEP students in Arviat with their recent graduation. First of all, I would like to thank Minister Picco and his staff, who made the long trip to Arviat this Saturday to be with the students who were graduating from the NTEP program. There were thirteen of us on the plane. It was bit crowded by we came back on Sunday morning.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the NTEP graduates from Arviat. I would like to acknowledge those individuals. They are: Susan Arloo, Darryle Baker, Michelle Curley, Joshua Iqkahik-Gibbons, Angeline Eqkahik Koomuk, Jocelyn Okuktak-Malla, Agnes Mamark, Maggie Manik, Rufus Manik, and Tiffinay Aniksak-Mukpak.

We have heard that many Inuit teachers, some of the very first graduates from the NTEP program, will be retiring soon. I am also very pleased to welcome the next generation of

Inuit teachers. They will be able to communicate together. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these NTEP students on their success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 242 – 2(3): Igloolik High School Graduates

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Friday, there were graduates in Igloolik. They had completed their grade 12. The individuals graduating at this time make up the most number of graduates at the end of the year, since we began to deliver grade 12 within our community.

There were 16 individuals that graduated and I'm not sure if they will be listening or not, but I would like to list their names.

The graduates consist of: Corey Akittirq, Danny Akittirq, Jason Angilik, Kirt Aqatsiaq, Annie Main-Arnatsiaq, Melissa Arnatsiaq, Allen Auksaq, Jonathan Ferguson-Smith, Lila Haulli, Jessica Rosie Komak, Roseanne Krunnut, Esther Krunnut, Sally Kunnuk, Elizabeth Qaunaq, Sienna Tulugarjuk, Alexander Ungalaq, Tracy Uttak, and Terry Ujarak.

I would like to congratulate these individuals and also the Department of Education for funding those educational programs as we're seeing more and more young people graduating.

Some of the graduates may not receive employment right away, but it does open them to another door of opportunity. I would like to urge all young people in Nunavut, to make sure that they complete their schooling, and also to push for further education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 243 – 2(3): Relocation to Grise Fiord

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon. I recently received a copy of a letter to our Premier Mr. Paul Okalik from Mr. Larry Audlaluk, one of my constituents in Grise Fiord. The letter clearly outlines the historical and ongoing challenges faced by people of Grise Fiord. I rise today to share the contents of the letter with my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, as many members know, the people from Inukjuaq and Pond Inlet were relocated to Grise Fiord. Many reasons for these relocations have been identified. To this day, the relocation continues to support the federal government's claim to sovereignty in the High Arctic.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the letter from my constituents speaks of decline in providing services and promises that were made and then broken by the federal government.

The letter is full of frustration in the lack of breakwater, cost and level of services offered by airline companies, and inadequate community infrastructure. I think this letter describes that many of my constituents feel they are frustrated by seeming neglected of people of Grise Fiord by both the territorial and the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Audlaluk for taking time to write such a comprehensive letter.

At the appropriate time, I will be tabling the letter in its entirety, and I urge all Members of Cabinet to take time and read this letter and work and address the issues that were raised in this letter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. (interpretation) Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Member's Statement 244 – 2(3): Ninth Annual Nunavut Mining Symposium

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to update the House on the very successful Ninth Annual Nunavut Mining Symposium that Cambridge Bay was host of March 31 to April 2 of this year.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier and Ministers Akesuk and Picco attended this symposium. Their appearance was vital to the success of this symposium and I thank them for their support of this key sector of our economy.

Mr. Speaker, nearly 250 delegates from around the north and across Canada attended this very important event. It was an excellent opportunity for them to be colleagues and counterparts in the mining industry and for government to talk about the state of industries in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of meeting with many of the delegates during the symposium and I personally contacted several of them after they returned home. I'm happy to report that they were all very pleased with the event and feel that Nunavut is a great territory to do business. However, I also heard from them that it would be better if there was less red tape and more streamlining of mining permitting.

Mr. Speaker, I had an opportunity with the Minister of Education and myself to meet directly with several mining and exploration companies to discuss current and future issues related to training and employment.

Mr. Speaker, we clearly heard from the companies that there will be many employment, training, and business opportunities for Nunavummiut in the coming years. However, Mr. Speaker, we also heard from them that Nunavut has to work hard to prepare Nunavummiut to fully participate in the mining sector. They emphasized the need for trades-qualified Nunavummiut in all of the major trades, otherwise jobs will be lost to people from the south.

Mr. Speaker, Minister Picco learned much during our meetings that would enable him to incorporate the appropriate training that our Kitikmeot high schools and the Nunavut Arctic College Campus need to prepare our future grads for exciting careers in the mining sector as well as the mining support industry sectors.

Mr. Speaker, the minister's commitment earlier this year to upgrade the high school shop area to deliver mine training and millwright courses is a good start. However, Mr. Speaker, the Kitikmeot requires substantial Nunavut Arctic College Campus infrastructure upgrades to offer a full array of diploma and degree courses to Kitikmeot residents and other Nunavummiut to prepare them for careers not only in the mining sectors but for careers in accounting, business, health services, and public service professions to name only a few.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to request unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues.

I urge the Government of Nunavut to seriously consider the future of education and training needs of our Kitikmeot residents during the upcoming Government of Nunavut capital planning process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 245 – 2(3): Congratulations to Qikiqtarjuaq High School Graduates

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Members of the Legislative Assembly.

I'm now looking at new faces since I'm sitting on the other side of the table now. I would like to congratulate the people who have graduated with grade 12 from Qikiqtarjuaq. There are just a few, but again, they are increasing every year, and when they have finished their grade 12, it opens up further opportunities education, or to take on employment.

In the smaller communities, there are barely any jobs, but of course they can move onto the other communities to take on jobs because, of course, this government's goal is to reach the 85 percent representative mark.

These are the students that graduated Grade 12 from Qikiqtarjuaq: Alana Nuqingak, Grant Sanguya, and Jerry Kooniliusi graduated last year, but are celebrating this year with two other individuals from Qikiqtarjuaq. I congratulate these students. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Members' Statements. Member for Natilik, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Member's Statement 246 – 2(3): Congratulations to Taloyoak Nunavut Arctic College Graduates

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to congratulate the students from Taloyoak. They have gone back to Nunavut Arctic College. They are: Rachael Totalik, Louise Aqqaq, Dora Qayaut, Elizabeth Nulijuk, and Mary Iqallijut. They returned to school even though some of them now have grandchildren, I want to offer my congratulations.

Secondly I want to mention four students graduating from grade 12. Only two graduated last year, but we now have four in 2006 and they are: John Charles Lyall, Curtis Paulosie Jayko, Violet Jayko, and Megan Pizzo-Lyall.

Megan stated that she wants a seat reserved in the Legislative Assembly, as her goal is to become a politician. I would also like to thank the Minister of Education who was able to participate in the graduation ceremony, and also Steven Mapsalak.

Lastly, I want to congratulate these students who went to Cambridge Bay from Taloyoak and took the Social Service Program. The students consist of; Rita Qaminguaq, and Jeanie Ugyuk. I congratulate them both. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aglukkaq. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Member's Statement 247 – 2(3): Shortage of Nurses in Rankin Inlet

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today, although there will never be unanimous consent in this House; we are having a severe shortage of nurses in

Rankin Inlet. That's happening today. There are people who are there who don't have the RN status. This is an urgent matter and it has to be dealt with as soon as possible by the Minister of Health and Social Services. This problem has to be rectified.

I believe there were five nurses from overseas who were placed in Rankin Inlet. Two of them failed their Canadian nurse's exam, the other two have written their Canadian exams twice and we don't know if they passed or not.

This is now an urgent matter. There are a lot of people who utilize the nursing station, or the hospital in Rankin Inlet. I just received a letter from Rankin Inlet which states that this is now an urgent matter and that they need help from the Government of Nunavut. I would like to assure the people of Rankin Inlet that they will be getting this support.

We have a doctor who is based in Rankin Inlet and tours the Keewatin area. I hear that Friday, June 16 is going to be his last day working as a doctor over there. He is very well liked by the elders and we need the minister's support to make sure that this doctor stays in the Keewatin.

In the Keewatin region we are now in an urgent situation and it is something that should not be tolerated by the people of Nunavut. I urge the minister to work on this as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement 248 – 2(3): Recognition of Peter Irniq

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize one of my constituents and a friend to the Legislative Assembly, our former Commissioner Mr. Peter Irniq. Mr. Irniq was honoured on May 15 with an honorary doctorate degree in civil law from Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

Throughout his distinguished career, dedicated to Nunavummiut, Inuit culture, *Inuit Qaujimagajatuqangit*, and helping a worldwide audience learn and know about Nunavut, the North, and Inuit; Mr. Irniq has been a tireless advocate.

Mr. Irniq is a former MLA, minister, deputy minister, and Commissioner. He has held elected and other leadership roles in all levels of government throughout Nunavut. He has spoken all over the world about Inuit and Nunavut, whether in Canada, the United States, or Mexico. He is much in demand.

On behalf of all Nunavummiut we wanted to extend our very best and sincere to Dr. Peter Irniq and his family; his wife Marie, on the awarding of the honorary doctorate degree in Civil Laws to this distinguished Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 249 – 2(3): First Poetry Slam held at Inuksuk High School

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to take this opportunity today to inform members of a first, I think it was the first Poetry Slam that was held at Inuksuk High School by Beth Gregory's Grade 8 Language Arts Class. My daughter, who is paging here with us today, was the first person to go up and recite her poem at the Slam. I'd like to just acknowledge the fact that it made a subject that I'm sure most of us didn't look forward to in language arts – poetry - fun.

I'd like to congratulate all the students that said a poem, I'd like to share with members a poem, as my first ever poetry recital, with the members that was read by one of the students at the Poetry Slam at the High School. The poem, I'll just say was recited by Lewis. It's a poet by Pat Williams entitled, 'Winners Versus Losers.'

"When a winner makes a mistake, he says, 'I was wrong.' When a loser makes a mistake he says, 'It wasn't my fault.' A winner works harder than a loser and has more time. A loser is always too busy to do what is necessary. A winner goes through a problem. A loser goes around it, and never gets past it. A winner makes commitments. A loser makes promises. A winner says, 'I'm good, but not as good as I ought to be.' A loser says, 'I'm not as bad as a lot of other people.' A winner listens. A loser just waits until it's his turn to talk. A winner respects those who are superior to him and tries to learn something from them. A loser resents those who are superior to him and tries to find chinks in their armor. A winner feels responsible for more than his job. A loser says, 'I only work here.'"

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask unanimous consent to conclude my member's statement. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may go ahead Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to thank my colleagues for not shutting down my first ever poetry recital.

My favorite of the poem, Mr. Speaker, that caught my attention the most was, "A winner says; there ought to be a better way to do it. A loser says, "That's the way it's always been done here."

Mr. Speaker, again I would like to ask all members to join me in congratulating the students that had the courage to get up in front of their classmates and all their parents that were there and recite their poems. That was worth a good portion of their language arts mark for this semester.

I also thank Ms. Beth Gregory for coming up with a fun way to present this to these students. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo. Item 3 in our Orders of the Day. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I am pleased to draw members' attention to the presence in the Gallery of visiting parliamentarian interns from the House of Commons. These young Canadians are participants in a prestigious national program.

They are in Iqaluit this week for their annual study tour. The participants are; I apologize, Lesia Horbay, please stand: Jordan Hatton, Marion Laurence, Tannis Bujaczek, Shannon Wells, Maxime Bernard, Paul Thomas, and Joshua Bates.

I would like to welcome them all to the legislature. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier in my Member's Statement, I would like to recognize my daughter, Eden Tootoo, that is here with us today as a page. She is filling last minute to help out our other two pages that were pretty tired working on their own on Friday. So I'd like to welcome Eden to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Item 5 in our Orders of the Day. Recognition of visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was very enlightening to hear Mr. Tootoo quoting some poetry. I'd like to get into a conversation at some point about his favourite poet. I would say, "For whom the bell tolls, break, break oh mighty seas on these twisted, torn rocks." He knows the context.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce to the Gallery today some very distinguished guests and visitors. They come all the way from Syracuse, New York. I have a brother in Syracuse, as some of the members know. They're representing different indigenous people from across North America, indeed I believe there is an Inukpiat among them from Alaska, so it give me great pleasure to begin by introducing them. I will ask them to stand up when I say their names.

The Program Director from Syracuse: Holly Uniqaq-Dobbins, Holly, nice to see you. The Teaching Assistant, who is Marina Hosener-Briggs. Amanda Tiana, Amanda is from the Mohawk nation in Syracuse. We also have with us, Hannah Gullickson, Hannah; Heather Knapp; and Elizabeth Rexworth. A very warm welcome to this Inukpiat Inuk from Alaska.

(interpretation) Please don't hesitate to give us a hand. (interpretation ends) We have Bethany Higgins. We have Simone Jorgen, Simone again I want to point out is a Sami from Sweden. I'm a big fan of Mats Sundin.

We'd also like to take this opportunity again to welcome Carol Thomas, Carol is also from the Onagan Nations in Syracuse; a very warm welcome to the Gallery.

I want to add that when we were up to the graduation in Cape Dorset two days ago, a student from Cape Dorset, who just graduated over there is actually going to Syracuse University, Evie Pootoogoo. I hope that you extend a warm welcome to Evie when she goes there this Fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Evyagotailak.

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize that we've been married for 13 years, me and my wife, and our adopted daughter, Susie Evyagotailak. It was nice to be with my wife during our anniversary here. I am very happy that she could be here with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors to the Gallery. I would like to welcome all the visitors to the Gallery. Thank you.

Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 287 – 2(3): Recruitment of Nurses Contract

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services.

On February 23, my colleague from Arviat asked a Written Question on the recruitment for nurses in Nunavut. I was very interested in the minister's reply. It indicated that while

the Government of Nunavut, the Department of Health, has hired 40 nurses through the efforts of the Trillium recruiting company. The company has actually been paid over \$200,000 more than the actual costs of recruiting those 40 nurses.

I understand from the minister that this over-expenditure is considered a credit balance on the contract with Trillium Consulting. Mr. Speaker, can the minister clarify for this House whether it is common practice for her department to set up credit balances with services providers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not a common practice to set up credit balances. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to thank the minister for her response that it isn't a common practice. Why is a firm from outside of Nunavut getting prepaid for hiring people that they haven't hired? Meanwhile, I know that there are many businesses within Nunavut that can't even get paid six to eight months after they render their services? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had provided a response to the member on that in writing based on a letter I had received in regard to that same question.

The situation behind, from what I understand is that the nurses that were being recruited on an international basis, we have recruited about 40 to date. It was an average of a certain amount divided by a prorated amount, and that was distributed that way.

The other piece that I think needs to be factored into this is that to initiate the process, there are initial costs that are also incurred. At the same time, during the process in the hiring for the international nurses, we had asked the firm to evaluate how they are doing before we proceed further.

At the same time, we have also directed the agency to concentrate more efforts in recruiting within Canada. So that there is that balance that was for the international recruitment efforts but that is also being used up for services to recruit nurses within Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that that response of that letter that the minister was talking about is what kind of caught my attention.

The math didn't add up for the number of nurses that were hired and I understand that the contract says that the company is going to get paid so much per nurse. The initial contract I believe was for 100 nurses. What was the expiry date of that initial contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From what I understand, that contract is still in place. The department's officials met with the Trillium Organization over the last few months again to refocus it's energies to recruiting within Canada.

At the same time I've asked my department, through Trillium, to also evaluate the international recruitment efforts and see how we are doing with the ones that we have here so far.

In terms of the expiry date of that contract: I don't have that specific date, but can provide that information to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pretty sure, if memory serves me correct, and if I am incorrect I hope that the minister or her officials will correct it, but that initial contract to supply 100 nurses, the initial date on that has passed. And, the full amount of the contract was paid out.

I'm just saying, this common practice that the Department of Health and Social Services will prepay...why did they pay out that extra \$200,000 for 60 nurses that we didn't get? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have asked Trillium to evaluate its international recruitment efforts, to evaluate how we are doing, where we can improve. We have currently approximately 40 international nurses that are in Nunavut that are in a process of writing their exams and so on.

Before we go forward with additional international recruitment efforts, I want that process evaluated. Until such time, we are satisfied that we can continue with that process. I also asked Trillium to do the recruitment efforts for Canada and the amounts of nurses as per the clause that are still in place.

The amount has not changed, the contract with Trillium is for a hundred nurses and it will remain at a hundred nurses. They all currently, as it stands right now, are recruiting within Canada with the financial resources that have been paid to them. They are continuing with that effort.

At the same time in this House, the member himself has raised that we should be recruiting more within Canada, so that is part of that initiative. We have a number of ads within Nunavut to fill the positions on an indeterminate basis. So there are a number of methods or initiatives underway to recruit the nurses.

In terms of the contracts, data are assigned to the terms and arrangements with Trillium are still in effect until they meet the one hundred nurses requirement as per the contract. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 288 – 2(3): Update on Nunavut Housing Corporation Plans on Construction of Houses

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, recently the federal government announced that in their government budget, \$200 million for Nunavut Housing. Mr. Speaker, this amounts to perhaps 800 housing units in Nunavut with an average cost of \$250,000 per unit. I think we need 3,600 houses.

My question for the minister: can the minister update the House on the Nunavut Housing Corporation plans? Does he plan to construct housing units in Nunavut in the current fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are going to order the sealift this summer, perhaps enough materials for 100 units. We are trying to build units in each of the communities this year and the following year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Your first supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. I am not clear of the minister's answer. He said that they're planning to build houses in each community.

My next question for the minister is: has the Housing Corporation made any specific decisions about which communities will be allocated for housing units from the \$200 million to meet the sealift shipping season? If so, will Cambridge Bay receive any units? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are planning to build units in the first year in every community. From there, we will have to decide how we are going to deliver the rest of the houses.

For this year, we are trying to build five-plexes in some communities. There will be duplexes in maybe three other communities. We are doing our very best to make sure that we build houses for each and every community on this first sealift.

We are going to work very closely with the Department of Education, Department of Economic Development and Transportation and Housing to come up with ideas so we could benefit more towards communities with this \$200 million. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Your second supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. I am sure that all the communities would appreciate additional housing.

Mr. Speaker, some communities are higher priorities. Some communities have not had housing delivered to them for several fiscal years. The minister indicated that all communities are going to get housing in this fiscal year. Could the minister describe to the House the allocation model that the Housing Corporation will be using to determine which communities will be receiving houses this and over the next few years. Thank you.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have directed my staff to conduct consultations with every community and look at how we could deliver this housing better for our people in Nunavut.

We shall go on the needed basis to come up with which communities will need houses from these \$200 million. I am still going to push for more money in the upcoming years from the federal government. At this time, we need \$1.7 billion in order for us to be at the same national average as other province or territory or Canada as a whole. It's important that we benefit from this \$200 million as much as possible to the communities that need them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: You're very welcome, Mr. Akesuk. Your final supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that it's difficult with having every community having 50 to 100 people on a housing waiting list. I'm sure the federal government is doing what they can for us in Nunavut. The average cost to construct a Housing Corporation house it cost \$250,000. I think during the last capital estimates we were told that it's about \$330 per square foot to construct a house. Can the minister shed light on what the portion of this that goes towards the cost of shipping the building materials to Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we know the shipping cost to Nunavut are very high. I do believe that shipping costs are estimated at about a range of 20 to 40 percent.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member representing Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Question 289 – 2(3): Urgent Need for Registered Nurses in Rankin Inlet

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health in regard to the statement that I made earlier. In Rankin Inlet, there are a lot of elders who at times need to be treated on an emergency basis and they are working with non-registered nurses. Can the minister make improvements to our situation as we are in an urgent basis? Thank you, Mr. Speaker

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Ms Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will follow up to see what the statistics are for registered nurses in the Kivalliq. As far as I know, there are 51 nurses overall and that there are a vacancy of four positions of registered nurses using the statistics information that I have as of June 1 of this year. Normally if there are vacancies, these positions are back filled by casuals or agency nurses. I will commit to providing the member information on the current statistics for Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In a particular community, they are facing issues with registered nurses. The contribution to that problem may be that there are some vacancies, but we do have four international nurses that do not have the credentials to do the nursing work. So that's part of the problem.

I spoke to the mayor of the community this morning, and he's treating this problem as urgent and he now sees that without the support of the minister, it's not going to be addressed.

So will the minister tell the people of Rankin Inlet that registered nurses are important and that the medical conditions of the elders are important and that she will take immediate action as she did with the accreditation problems with the Iqaluit hospital? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think any individual who requires medical care is important, whether you're an elder or a youth that is very important.

To practice nursing, the member is correct that you have to be a registered nurse and you have to have written your exam. No person in Canada can practice nursing unless they are registered.

So yes, we fall under that category, and I commit to the member to looking into that and further supporting our efforts to hiring registered nurses for Nunavut and I will come back to this House and to the member to provide the current statistics for registered nurses in Rankin Inlet and overall for the Kivalliq.

And again, as far as I know, the statistics as of June 1, there were four registered nurses' positions that were vacant and I will confirm otherwise for the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Your second supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated in my Member's Statement also, Mr. Speaker, one of the doctors that has been so dedicated not only to the community but to the region as a whole has been given a notice that his contract will not be renewed with only three weeks notice and his last day is June 16.

There are urgent medical needs of that community, this doctor is popular with the elders and the mayor, will the minister speak directly to the Manitoba Northern Medical Unit, stating that we have shortages of doctors in Nunavut and the services of this particular doctor based in Rankin Inlet is urgently needed, will she commit to speak directly with the Manitoba Northern Medical Unit and allow him to stay for an extended time? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member raising the concern and Levinia from Rankin Inlet also raised it this morning, my colleague.

There are some issues that I cannot disclose in the House and I can sit down with the member to speak to the member related this particular file. Our staff and officials have

spoken to the Manitoba Northern Medical Unit around this contract and about this individual.

I will speak to the member privately; I cannot discuss those details in this House as it relates to confidential matters, and I will leave it at that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Your final supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Mr. Speaker, the concerns and the needs of the individuals with medical needs are not confidential. These are public needs and their community is facing a very important public requirement that one of the doctors had been given and the information has gone to the council that his last day to provide his service is for June 16 and these services will not be renewed not based on his performance as a doctor.

So in that regard, will the minister make a promise to the community of Rankin Inlet and those with the medical needs that his services are important and that she will try and convince the Manitoba Northern Medical Unit that this particular doctor should stay in Nunavut? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. There were some references made to that but we will allow minister to respond to that question. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Northern Medical Unit is the agency that provides the physician services for the Keewatin and we have spoken with them. Our staff here, the head of the physician services have spoken to them and the member is correct that medical service is in that process itself is not confidential. What is confidential, that I am not prepared to discuss in the house is it relates to the physician himself.

Again, I can speak to the member himself, and there are two sides to every story, and I think it is important that the information that has been shared with me relates to concerns expressed by the Northern Medical Unit Services. So I will speak to the member in private on this file and take it from there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Evyagotailak.

Question 290 – 2(3): Improvement of Flight Services to the Smaller Communities

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. Last meeting I raised a question regarding to a scheduled flight to Kugluktuk. In Kugluktuk my constituents has raised questions. There is only one airline coming into Kugluktuk as a scheduled flight.

The Government of Nunavut recently introduced a Fuel Tax Rebate Program to encourage more mining companies to come here to Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, what is the minister doing to work with the airlines to improve services to the smaller communities in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said during the midterm review we are working on our Transportation Strategy, and we want to make sure that we do this properly and respect each and every community, how we could have more different airlines coming to the communities. It is not fair for our people in Nunavut to have one airline servicing the communities. I think it is fair that they respect how the competition will help out one of the causes of the transportation.

So we are doing our very best and respecting all the communities in Nunavut how we could work more closely with the airlines that service Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. Yes we all know that when there is only one airline service in the communities, the smaller communities, the cost of food goes to the communities, this is very high. Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Government of Nunavut has been working on updating its Air Services Strategy. Can the minister update us today on what his department is doing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With very limited airlines that service our territory, I think it is important that we look into other ways how we could better serve people in Nunavut, on the airlines. Again, it is the airlines that really controls where they are going to fly. So we are trying to work very closely with them to come up with ideas how they could better serve our communities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. I apologize. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 291 – 2(3): Medical Travel Escort Policy

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services.

Again, we have a problem in regard to medical escorts that are provided for patients who are coming into the capital or going to Southern institutions. We have a problem with patients leaving on an emergency basis without an escort.

It is very obvious that the policy has to be changed because of the problems it creates at the community level and especially for the Elders and people who require this kind of assistance.

Could the minister indicate to the House if the escort policy can be changed so that there are escorts provided for patients? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Friday I mentioned that I would be providing an updated Medical Travel Policy that will address issue such as escorts, to this House.

The current medical travel policy as it is, I think, is not the issue that is in question. Where we come into concerns and questions is around the whole escort interpretation of when an escort can be provided and when it can't be.

So I had committed to the House on Friday that I would share this information within the next month or so to my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you probably know, the Tammaativvik Boarding Home is full all the time, and we are having problems with patients who cannot go home on the day that they are supposed to.

(interpretation ends) What kind of assistance is expected from individuals who are traveling as escorts? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. The minister made an assurance to the House on Friday, but I'll give her another opportunity to respond.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, that would depend on the patient's needs. The person that is traveling maybe require assistance to getting in and out of the aircraft, or picking up their luggage, or does not speak English, or requires medical documents to be signed by an adult in the family.

So, again, it depends on the patient's needs, which is why the issue around escorts has been one that has been causing some confusion. At the same time, there are some disagreements as to when an escort should come or not come.

I'll give you one example. If a 16 year old girl travels down to a medical facility to have a child, the 16 year old would require an escort because that 16 year old can not sign the

medical forms and is still considered a child. So, in that case the person would have an escort.

In other cases the people may be disabled and require assistance to get from A to B, and so on. So, the situation differs. Based on the patient needs, the role of the escort would differ. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Your second supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During this month especially, there have been a number of emergency cases where they had to go see a specialized doctor and they didn't have an escort.

(interpretation ends) It is my understanding that after an individual has finished receiving medical care for treatment at the Southern hospital; they have to call the medical office to make arrangements to go home.

Can the minister confirm this to the House, to explain how medical clients travelling to Southern jurisdictions make arrangements to return and especially how an elder without an escort is expected to do this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From what I understand, when the person's appointments are done, the person is staying at the boarding home, who then notifies the travel coordinator to book the airline.

There are translation services available through those agencies. So, the individual would then just notify the boarding home folks, or the individuals that are providing the coordinating for the medical appointment in Ottawa, Winnipeg, Yellowknife, and Edmonton and so on.

At the same time, the office here is notified for the Baffin Region. So there are a number of different people involved, not only just the travel piece; but also the medical appointment piece.

There is a lot of coordinating involved in getting a patient from A to B. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Your final supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister commit to closer reviewing the medical travel policy as it relates to providing escorts for elders and

people with disabilities and updating the members of this House of any proposed changes to the policy and its implementation as earliest possible opportunity? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I've committed to that, and I will again state that within the next month I hope to prepare or have one prepared to share with my colleagues.

At the same time, I would encourage my colleagues to continue to forward their concerns around the policy itself. The policy we're trying to develop in such a way that it's quite broad, at the same time that it allows for family input in deciding when an escort or if an escort is required, at the same time, a patient's input into the process.

So, I welcome suggestions from members on how we can better improve that part of the medical travel policy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. And thank you Mr. Barnabas. Member for Uqqurmiut, Mr. Arreak.

Question 292 – 2(3): Update on the Construction of Breakwaters

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Transportation.

Just recently we had heard an announcement from the Department of Transportation that they are now working on safe harbors for Clyde River, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, and to other communities. What is the progress on that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Minister responsible for Transportation, Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are now working on this at this time.

When we were in Ottawa I met with Minister Hearn regarding safe harbours or small craft harbours. We're now discussing these and I was told that our officials are going to work harder to make sure that this occurs in an earlier stage. So, we would like to deal with this issue right away. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister too for his response. I'm very glad that you will be working on this file. My next question is when do you expect to start construction? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the upcoming months we are going to have discussion as to when the funding can be made available by the federal government, because it is going to get more expensive annually due to the increased cost of living. So we asked them to work on this right away.

It is approximately going to cost about \$48 million to work on the breakwaters. So approximately next year we'll know when they can start the construction once the funding is made available from the federal government. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister. Do we expect to see any breakwaters constructed this summer? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Arreak, thank you. Minister Akesuk.

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you. I don't think we are going to construct anything this summer but, as I stated before, that once the funding is made available from the federal government then we can start working on it. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. And also thank you. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 293 – 2(3): Health Coverage for Students Outside Nunavut

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again my question is for the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. I asked this question three months ago; I asked a question Friday for the minister of students being covered for health benefits when they're outside the territory.

Reviewing the *Hansard* from Friday, the minister indicated that individuals that move from province to province are covered for three months. It doesn't matter if you're a student or not. They're covered for three months. During that time you are to apply to the jurisdiction that you moved into to be covered for medical coverage.

For the minister's benefit I tabled some information on Friday as well. I'd just like to ask her if she stands by that comment, or has she now learned that things are done differently? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. The Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think on Friday there were a couple of questions. In March the question related to medical services was around people

traveling to different jurisdictions for medical reason, and whether they're covered. I wanted to clarify this because in March's Hansard, I went through that on Friday, were quite different from the questions on Friday. The questions on Friday were around whether students were covered.

One distinction that I tried to make during those discussions, based on the documents before me and related to residency and the document the member tabled. I think it's important to recognize that under the Non-insured Health Benefits Program for Inuit and aboriginal people, that coverage is applicable to you, no matter what province that you live in.

When you are non-aboriginal what you do is before you leave, as per this document, that you have to notify the Northern Healthcare Plan in writing on an annual basis before you go to school. This will ensure that your insurance coverage is transferable to that particular province, or jurisdiction.

However, if you move on your own basis, whether you've moved as a student, or you're relocating for a job, and so on, you should again notify the province or territory that you apply to for that medical service. Normally, in those cases, it'll take three months to transfer that medical insurance plan; that's the three months here that I made reference to. At the same time not everybody files, or applies, then that's a catch up factor.

A person in any province is always covered by medical insurance and the whole reason behind the transfer portion is actually who pays for the bill. And that's our method of following which jurisdiction covers the cost, which is why you need to apply or notify which jurisdiction that you're going to.

As a student, you're a Nunavut resident and that's covered under that. As an aboriginal person, you're continually covered under the Non-Insured Health Benefit Program no matter what province or territory you live in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to refresh the minister's memory. The questioning that you referred to back in March did refer to health and education purposes, and I'll quote the *Hansard* from March 14.

I asked the minister then, where individuals move, whether they are moving for temporary purposes, whether it be for education, education's in there, so it's not just health, or whether it be for health reasons, are those individuals not still covered for health purposes, a resident of Nunavut? That's what I'm referring to, Mr. Speaker.

The minister I believe has misinformed the Members of this House and has misinformed the public out there as far as the forms that they fill out for their kids to be covered for health purposes by Nunavut under Nunavut healthcare when they're attending school in a university or college in the south.

So Mr. Speaker, I think it's very important that we set the record straight and it's important that the right information gets out there for these parents; they want to know: are their children covered under the Nunavut Healthcare Plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. For all members, I remind you that your Oral Questions are responded to with the words that are used at the time of the questioning. So in fairness to all members and the public at large, I ask that you be clear both in your questions and responses to the questions being asked of you.

Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not misinformed the public, I have not done that.

I'm going to read a question from March 14, "In cases where individuals have to leave the territory to obtain medical services, how does the department look at residency in cases like that?" That was your first question. The second question is, "For individuals that leave the territory for medical purposes because of services not being offered in Nunavut, and they require those services, how does the department determine residency...?"

Those are the questions from March 14 and then the questions on Friday related to students, and I think it's important to make the distinction. When you're talking about students, the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program applies to aboriginal students or individuals. It doesn't matter what province you live in.

If you're a non-aboriginal, you're always covered by the Northern Health Insurance Program. For the residency term for students, yes, the residency applies. But for Non-Insured Health Benefits, it doesn't matter where you are; you're covered by that program.

So it's not a straight answer; you're mixing *Igunaq* to *Pirujaq*, you know it's different. So I'm sorry if the member does not understand that. I can try and further clarify that, but it's not a straight answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Your second supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, it seems to be something that happens a lot around here is selective memory.

Mr. Speaker, the question I quoted earlier is on page 29 of the *Hansard*, it's the fifth paragraph down where I specifically asked for education reasons as well. On page 29, March 14, halfway down the page it says education there. I'm not making it up.

So my question again for the minister, I was following this up on Friday: are residents or parents and families that have...whether they are a beneficiary or not, that are residents of

Nunavut, are their children covered for health care under the Nunavut Health Care Plan when they are attending college or university in the south? That's my question. It's as simple as that. Are they or not; yes or no? Does the minister not know? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for, Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The same page further on says; yes. My question says... I mean the response to that question is the same. If you move to another jurisdiction the services provided by the medical service providers in that province applies.

If you are a beneficiary, an Inuk, you're covered under the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program, and insurance in Nunavut always covers you. The province that you go to, if you moved, as per my response on that day, states that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aglukkaq. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is a little bit of confusion. Mr. Speaker, I'm asking if for medical reasons, those students whose parents live here, whose children go out to university or college in the south are covered? Do they have a Nunavut Health Care Card?

If they are, then one would assume that their covered under the Nunavut Health Care Plan, not from another jurisdiction like the minister had indicated they would have apply for on Friday in the House, and in March.

So, again, maybe we could get that clarified because as the minister also said to me earlier in this term, it's important to get the right information out there. I had a number of parents who have students going to school in the south really concerned, wanting to know if in fact their students were covered under, if the forms that they are filling out and sending in to the Department of Health any good; are they? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the key word the member did not listen to or hear is "service." I said if a person leaves the territory to go to school, then that student in any province would access that provincial medical health care service, not coverage services. There is a big difference there. And, to answer the question around; are they covered under the Insurance Program? The answer is yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Oral Questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 294 – 2(3): Obtaining Passports

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

The U.S. is moving forward to implementing a National ID Registry. What will the effect on Nunavut be? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister responsible for Immigration, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like every other jurisdiction in the country, we are concerned by the move of the American Government to request that Canadian citizens, whether they are from Nunavut, or anywhere else in the country have passports when entering the United States. It is an area of concern for us.

And it has been raised when we went to provincial/territorial/federal level, as well as I believe, with our Premier at his annual gathering. It is something that we continue to follow up on with the officials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister responsible for Immigration. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister inform the Americans about our concerns? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have a considerable number of Nunavummiut whether through the Nunavut Youth Abroad Program, through different types of exchanges with our students, business contacts and so on, who actually have an opportunity to go back and forth between Canada and the United States.

That is correct, the Premier just informed me that he had a meeting recently in May and made known to our Ambassador our concerns with this issue. It is an important issue, Mr. Speaker, and as I said earlier, Minister Soleburg is now the new Immigration Minister for Canada.

We believe that we will be meeting with the minister in the next several weeks to review some of the aspects of Canada's position. The federal position is no different than ours, and we believe that Canadian citizens should have the opportunity to and the right to travel unencumbered buys a passport through the United States.

Maybe there is an opportunity for other types of identification purposes, exactly what you are using right now when you go to across the border. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nunavut residents travel outside of Nunavut and we are still encountering problems in obtaining passports, especially when they are applying. How come there are so many problems when applying for a passport? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This issue had some residents with the member because of issues, for example with sport hunters and fisherman who come into Nunavut from the United States on a regular basis to hunt wildlife and so on.

Contributors to our tourism economy and if it is more restrictive where American residents will also have to need the reciprocal passport, then there is an indication from American friends that they will not come into Canada. So, that is a big issue for us.

On the passport side, there are a lot of logistic as well as administrative problems. For Nunavummiut, when we are trying to access passports, some of them have to do with birth.

For example, Mr. Speaker, many of our citizens, if you are in the central region of Nunavut, a lot of our mothers have children in Winnipeg. In the western part of Kugluktuk and so on, they might have the baby in Yellowknife or in Edmonton.

That means, that a baby has been born in a different jurisdiction and that causes some issues for us. We have had the same problem with trying to get passports out of Quebec because we have had mothers who have had to go to Quebec and had to go to Ottawa to have children.

So those are some of the issues that we are trying to deal with. With our MP's office in Ottawa, as well as continue trying to raise the issue with our federal counterparts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Picco. Your final supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister update the House this fall on his discussions on the passports? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier just mentioned to me that we need to continue this open dialogue with our federal partner, and for some residents of Nunavut it is not seen as an important issue, but when we are looking at the possible loss

of thousands and thousands of tourist dollars or sport hunters and fisherman, or even, Mr. Speaker, issues around cruise ships.

We have foreign visitors on cruise ships that actually have an opportunity to come into Canada can be restricted by needing that passport and so on. It has some residents for us in Nunavut. So, I will update the House this fall on some of the discussions that we hope to have with the Minister Soleburg and our provincial and territorial colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Picco. Going to the Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 295 – 2(3): Contractors Provided a Credit Balance

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Finance. We heard from another minister earlier that they paid out an entire amount of a contract for services that haven't been fulfilled.

My question for the minister is: if the government puts out a contract; say like the hospital contract; school contract; any type of construction contract, is it common practice that the government would pay out, like up front pay out the whole entire contract, or is there a process that the government uses in determining when pay out, and how much gets paid out throughout the term of any contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Finance, Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe this was responded to already. She mentioned that this is not our usual practice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't ask if it was unusual, I think we're certainly all aware that it is unusual practice. My question to the minister was: is there a process that they usually use when paying out contracts? Do they always, as soon as they enter into a contract with someone, it doesn't matter what it's for, pay it all up front, or is there a process that is used in determining a pay out process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my earlier answer I did not say that it was unusual, I said it was not common practice. So that's like interpretation in differences in dialects.

(interpretation) The contracts are dealt with by the different departments. It states in the contracts how they will be paid out. It's usually specified in the contracts, and stipulated when they will get paid. They are all done within the departments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Your second supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize to the minister for that confusion. Uncommon, unusual, I think they're synonyms. In a case like this, as he said that it is something that is uncommon, is that something that would have to go through, he, as the Minister of Finance, or chair of the FMB for approval, prior to it getting signed off? Is it something that's uncommon as that, or can the departments do that on its own? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Finance, Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The ministers or their departments can do this. They don't necessarily have to go through Finance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to ask this one anyways. It's probably going to be my last one. My question to the minister is that I know that one of the areas in his department that he has control over; the Internal Audit Division, and I am just wondering if transactions like this that are uncommon, is that something that the Internal Audit Division would look at in an audit for uncommon transactions, that the minister referred to? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. That was your final supplementary. Minister of Finance, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When they draw up the contracts, they put in what criteria will be followed. I don't know if there has been a request for internal audits and I am not sure. If there was a request, then it would be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. As you probably know, Question Period is now over. Item 7. Written Questions. Member for Rankin North, Mr. Curley.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 017 – 2(3): Government of Nunavut Contracting Practices

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a Written Question to the Honourable Levinia Brown, Minister of Community and Government Services concerning Government of Nunavut contracting practices.

1. For each of the fiscal years from 1999-2000 to 2005-06, how many contracts did the Government of Nunavut departments and Crown Agencies enter into on “as and when” required basis of service?
2. What was the value and purpose of each contract entered into by the Government of Nunavut departments and Crown Agencies on this basis?
3. As of June 1, 2006, how many contracts did the Government of Nunavut departments and Crown Agencies hold on an as and when required basis of service?
4. What is the value and purpose of each contract held on this basis?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Evyagotailak.

Written Question 018 – 2(3): Correctional Facilities and Other Matters

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Minister Responsible for Justice, Correctional Facilities and other matter.

1. What is the current capacity at the Kugluktuk Ilavut Men’s Healing Centre?
2. As of June 1, 2006, how many offenders were placed in the centre?
3. What plans does the Department of Justice have with respect to increasing the capacity of the Kugluktuk Ilavut Men’s Healing Centre?
4. How does the Department of Justice determine the placement of offenders at the Ilavut Centre?
5. How does the Department of Justice assess the risk status of offenders placed at the Ilavut Centre?
6. What measures are in place at the Ilavut Centre to ensure the safety of the community and residents of Kugluktuk?
7. As of June 1, 2006, how many offenders were incarcerated at the Baffin Correctional Centre?

8. What is the maximum capacity of the Baffin Correctional Centre?
9. As of June 1, 2006, what is the status of the Department of Justice's plans for new correctional facility in the Baffin and the Kivalliq?
10. How many offenders at the Baffin Correction Centre have been allocated individual beds, and how many have other sleeping arrangements?
11. As of June 1, 2006, how many offenders from Nunavut were incarcerated in correctional facilities in the Northwest Territories?
12. As of June 1, 2006, what was the status of the Intergovernmental Service Agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories for the placement of offenders in the Northwest Territories correctional facilities?
13. As of June 1, 2006, how many offenders from Nunavut were incarcerated in correctional facilities in jurisdictions other than Nunavut or the Northwest Territories?
14. What arrangements are in place with jurisdictions for institutions outside of Nunavut or the Northwest Territories for the placement of Nunavut offenders?
15. As of June 1, 2006, how many offenders were placed in outpost camps?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. I would like those documents to be brought up to the clerk's table. Thank you.

Item 7. Written Questions. Thank you. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Curley.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

Committee Report on Bills 004 – 2(3): Bill 11 – An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development and that the bill as amended and reprinted, is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 11 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 11 moved to Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are no nays.

We will then move Bill 11 into Committee of the Whole. Thank you.

Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 118 – 2(3): Nunavut Association of Municipalities Annual General Meeting 2006 Adopted Resolutions

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the 2006 Nunavut Association of Municipalities' Annual General Meeting Adopted Resolutions. I hope that the minister reviews and take action on as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Please bring the documents up to the Clerk's table. Item 13. Tabled Documents. Mr. Netser.

Tabled Document 119 – 2(3): Polar Bear Up-listing to “Threatened Status” Under the U.S. Endangered Species Act Response to Mitch Taylor

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to table the following document: Polar Bear “Threatened Status” Under the *U.S. Endangered Species Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Netser. Please bring the documents to the Clerk's table. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Barnabas.

Tabled Document 120 – 2(3): Grise Fiord Community Concerns – Letter to Premier from Larry Audlaluk

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a document dated April 28, a letter written to the Premier and it's in regard to the Grise Fiord concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Thank you, very much for your patience. (interpretation ends) Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Tabled Document 121 – 2(3): Nunavut Lottery GN Department of CLEY Financial Statements Ending March 31, 2006

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a document regarding to the lotteries that were reviewed by the Nunavut Government and they're dated March 31, 2006. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Please bring them up to the Clerk's table. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Mr. Peterson.

Tabled Document 122 – 2(3): Letter Regarding: Employment from Eddie Amagonalok

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a letter from a constituent of mine addressed to the Government of Nunavut. It is requested that I table in the House. My constituent is named Eddie Amagonalok; he is concerned about the fact that he can't get an appointment with the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Ms. Brown.

Tabled Document 123 – 2(3): Minister's Tour of Communities – Report from the Department of Community and Government Services

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a letter regarding the visits that I made to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Brown. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

Tabled Document 124 – 2(3): Nanisivik Mine – Correspondence with Minister of National Defence Gordon O'Connor Regarding An Armed Forces Training Site

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I asked a question in the House of the possibility of the Nanisivik site becoming an Armed Forces training site. At that time the Minister of Education committed that he would follow up with the Department of National Defence on this issue.

Today I would like to table some correspondence on this issue between myself and the Honourable Gordon O'Connor, the Minister of National Defence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Okalik.

Tabled Document 125 – 2(3): Utility Rates Review Council of Nunavut – 2006 Annual Report

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You look like you're in the perfect place up there. I would like to table a document, an annual report of the Utility Rate Review Council. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Please bring them up to the Clerk's table.

Tabling of Documents. Thank you. Orders of the Day. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 16 – Family Abuse Prevention Act – First Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik, that Bill 16, *Family Abuse Prevention Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All in favour.

Let's get back in order. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Are there any nays? Thank you. The motion is carried and Bill 16 has had first reading.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 17 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #1, 2006-07 – First Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rankin Inlet South/Whale Cove, that Bill 17, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #1, 2006-07*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 17 has had first reading. Thank you. To remind the members, Mr. Premier, we would like to have a copy of the motion brought up to the table. Thank you.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Okalik.

Bill 20 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 – First Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 20, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act 2006*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. The motion is in order. All in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried, and Bill 20 has now had first reading.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Bill 18 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act #1, 2006-07 – First Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for South Baffin, that Bill 18, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act #1, 2006-07*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 18 has had first reading.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Brown.

Bill 19 – An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act – First Reading

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nanulik, that Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 19 has had its first reading.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Okalik.

Bill 22 – Settlement of International Investment Disputes Act – First Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member Baker Lake, that Bill 22, *Settlement of International Investment Disputes Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 22 has had its first reading.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Simailak.

Bill 21 – An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act #2 – First Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act #2*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 21 has had its first reading.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow the second reading of Bill 16, *Family Abuse Prevention Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister is seeking consent of this Assembly to waive Rule 62(2) to have the second reading today. Are there any nays? There are no nays, please proceed Mr. Minister.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 16 – Family Abuse Prevention Act – Second Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik, that Bill 16, *Family Abuse Prevention Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would provide additional legal tools to help protect people who are experiencing family abuse. These tools would be available to anyone in a spousal, intimate, family, or care relationship, as well as to victims of stalking.

The main tool in the bill is the emergency protection order. This bill would establish a simple procedure for an application to a designated Justice of the Peace. The emergency protection order offers protection to people who, because of the serious or urgent nature of their situation, require immediate assistance.

If an emergency protection order is granted, the order would have to be reviewed by a judge within a brief period. The respondent could also challenge an emergency protection order before it was reviewed, thus requiring a hearing before a judge.

Another important tool is the community intervention order which would assist elders, members of the community, and the parties' families to both remedy the family abuse and support the parties.

The third tool is the assistance order. A person would apply to a judge for an order to protect him or her from family abuse in circumstances where the danger is less imminent.

The final tool is the compensation order which would allow a person to apply to a judge for compensation for any loss suffered as a result of family abuse.

Various other provisions are included that are incidental to the scheme. For example, procedures for the variation of orders if circumstances change and for appeals to the court of appeal, a process for obtaining a warrant assists people who may be experiencing family abuse, and a declaration that property rights would not be affected by orders made under this bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. I just want to remind the members that once we talk about the motions, we can make statements. All those in favour. All those opposed. Bill 16 has had its second reading and this bill is referred to a standing committee.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Simailak

Bill 17 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #1, 2006-07 – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nanulik, that Bill 17, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #1, 2006-07*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations for the Government of Nunavut to defray the capital expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister is seeking consent to...I am sorry...the motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Thank you. Question is being called. All those in favour. Opposed. Thank you. Bill 17 has had its second reading and that this bill can be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow second reading of Bill 20, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act 2006*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to waive Rule 62(2) so that Bill 20 can have second reading today. Are there any nays? There are no nays, please proceed Minister.

Bill 20 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 – Second Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and also my colleagues. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 20, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act 2006*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill corrects inconsistencies and errors in certain acts and regulation of Nunavut. It also changes the name of the Federation of Nunavut Teacher and adds to the general rules of the *Interpretation Act*.

Finally, this bill updates two Acts to change references that relate to the Northwest Territories to refer, instead, to Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question is being called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 20 has had its second reading. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Seeing that Bill 20 now has had second reading, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baker Lake, that notwithstanding Rule 67-(2), that Bill 20, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2006*, be ordered into the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. The motion is in order. All in favour to the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried, hence Bill 20 is ordered into the Committee of the Whole. Thank you.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister Simailak.

Bill 18 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act #1, 2006-07 – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik, that Bill 18, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act #1, 2006-07*, be read for the second time.

This bill makes supplementary appropriations for the Government of Nunavut to defray the operations and maintenance expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried, and Bill 18 has had its second reading and this bill can be ordered into Committee of the Whole.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request the consent of this Assembly to waive the one day notice requirement to allow for second reading of Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Fund Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to waive Rule 62(2) that Bill 19 be read for the second time today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may proceed Minister Brown.

Bill 19 – An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act – Second Reading

Hon. Levinia Brown: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nanulik, that Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*, be read for the second time. This bill increases the authorized limit of the Petroleum Products Revolving Fund from \$110 million to \$150 million. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 19 has had its second reading. The bill can be ordered to Committee of the Whole.

Thank you. I was reminded that this is ready for standing committee. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the second reading of Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act #2*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to waive Rule 62(2). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Minister Simailak, please proceed.

Bill 21 – An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act #2 – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West that Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act #2*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the making of agreements with respect to the management of risks relating to petroleum product prices. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. Bill 21 has had its second reading, and hence is ordered into Committee of the Whole to the Standing Committee.

Orders of the Day. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I ask for consent to waive the one-day notice for Bill 22, *Settlement of International Investment Disputes Act*.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister is asking for consent to wave Rule 62 (2) to read Bill 22 for the second time. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Minister Okalik, you may proceed.

Bill 22 – Settlement of International Investment Disputes Act – Second Reading

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 22, *Settlement of International Investment Disputes Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will assist Canadian international investment transactions in economic development by authorizing the Nunavut Court of Justice to recognize and enforce arbitration outcomes made under the convention of settlement of investment disputes between states and nationals of other states.

The convention provides for specialized kind of arbitration for disputes between participating countries and direct foreign investors. After the provinces and territories have all enacted implementing legislation, Canada will be in a position to ratify and to pursue dispute resolution under this convention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 22 has had its second reading and is referred to a standing committee.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 11, 17, 18, and 20 with Mr. Arreak in the Chair. Before we proceed with the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

My apologies, Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Mr. Speaker, I would like to read the point of clarification if I may.

Earlier in Question Period, there were concerns raised about vacancies in Rankin Inlet. I would like for the record that there are no vacancies of RN's in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aglukkaq. Before we go to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:49 and Committee resumed at 16:14*

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

Chairman (Mr. Arreak) (interpretation): Thank you for returning. (interpretation ends) I would now like to call the committee meeting to order.

In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bill 11, Bill 20, Bill 17, and Bill 18. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee would like to deal with Bill 11 and Bill 20, after that is done, we will report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Are we in agreement that we first deal with Bill 11?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Bill 11 is in the white binders. (interpretation ends) The Law Clerk is here and I would ask the minister responsible for Community and Government Services to make her opening remarks. Minister Brown.

Bill 11 – An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

It is my pleasure to be here to regarding Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*. The proposed amendments are based on our experiences over the past several years and update certain parts of the Act in order to provide legislation that reflects the circumstances of Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) The amendment clarifies the aim of the Fire Marshall and local assistants. They improve the procedure for the review of plans and specifications. They establish clear procedures for reporting in the investigation of fires and revised the offenses and penalty's section of the Act.

The amendments to the Fire Protection legislation are a response to the changing roles and the responsibilities of communities in Nunavut. The intent of these changes is to make the *Fire Prevention Act* more relevant to requirements of life in Nunavut. This will enhance the ability of the Office of the Fire Marshall and community-based fire protection services to maintain the higher level of service for the safety and well being of Nunavummiut. The amendments complement the Fire Protection Strategy, they are part of our ongoing efforts to protect lives and reduce fire losses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown: Yes.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to bring the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. Minister, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is my Deputy Minister Tom Rich, and to my right, who is from the Department of Justice, Thomas Druyan.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the chair of the standing committee have any opening comments? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Yes we do, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Please proceed.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Housing, and Economic Development has reviewed Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, with the minister and her officials.

The standing committee is in support of the bill, as amended. Members worked well with the minister during the committee's review of the bill, and appreciated her willingness to accept the committee's amendments to the bill in order to increase clarity by including the definition for substantial operations, increase accountability by including a clause to explicitly bind the GN under the Act, and requiring that the minister table the Fire Marshal's Annual Report, and increase public confidence by including a time factor for the review of plans by the Fire Marshal's Office.

Mr. Chairman, during the scrutiny of the bill, members were satisfied that stakeholders were adequately consulted by the minister and a request for public submissions to the committee did not receive any input. The committee noted the minister's commitment to consult with stakeholders throughout the drafting of regulations under the Act.

Members remain somewhat concerned that the regulations may impact negatively upon contractors. Given the cost of construction and the time constraints related to our short construction season, members urge the minister to work closely with the contractors to ensure that the regulations serve to streamline the system, and that important projects are not delayed because of miscommunications.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. The standing committee recommends the passage of the bill as amended and reprinted. Thank you.

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

Are there any general comments? There being none. We will now deal with Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Mr. Chairman, actually it was Clause 6, on clause 5.1, I wanted to make a comment. It's just a comment.

The members were particularly concerned with respect to the submission for the review of the plans to the Fire Marshal's Office originally did not contain a timeframe, but we were able to reach I think an acceptable arrangement that the government will try and submit the review of the blueprints by the contractor from the Fire Marshal's Office in a timely manner.

Still, the members have some kind of reservation, but I believe that with the understanding that we do have a short construction season, the department and Fire Marshal's Office will try in all phases to try and submit these comments as quickly as possible.

Thank you. (interpretation) That's it.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation) When you have comments, please signify. We will go back to Clause 6, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Clause 7?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 8?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 9?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 10?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 11?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman: Did I hear agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 12?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 13?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 14?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 11. Clause 15?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 16?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 17?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 18?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 19?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 20?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 21?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 22?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 23?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: And, Clause 24?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to Bill 11 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 11 is now ready for third and final reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you, very much. I thank you. Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Druyan. Thank you, Mr. Rich.

Do you have any closing remarks minister?

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleagues for working on this and it was very important. Lastly, I would like to thank my senior officials, Tom Rich, and to my right Thomas Druyan. Also, the Fire Marshall, Tim Hynes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. You can go back to your seat now. Next we have Bill 20. I would now like to ask the Minister responsible for Justice to make his opening remarks.
Minister Okalik.

Bill 20 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the members as I wanted to proceed with Bill 20.

We know that there has to be a change. We will have to make an amendment and there has been a request to change the name of the teachers' association. We're going to be putting them all together and putting them under Bill 20, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act*.

That was very brief, and I'm sure that there will be comments and questions. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Yes, I do.

Chairman: We have Bill 20 to deal with. Before we proceed, I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion, but not until every member who wishes to speak has spoken.

Are there any general comments? There being none, we have Bill 20, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act 2006*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 4, Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 5, Clause 8. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 9. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to Bill 20 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Agreed. Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 20 is ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Thank you, minister. Are there any closing remarks? Thank you.

Now we have Bill 17. What is the wish of the committee, do we continue? Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we would like to report progress.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is non-debatable. Are we all in agreement?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress. Thank you, committee.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Arreak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Arreak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 11 and Bill 20, and would like to report that Bills 11 and 20 are ready for third reading. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Seconder. Thank you, Minister Akesuk. Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Thank you

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

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder of a standing committee meeting tomorrow morning at 10:15 on Government Operations and Accountability in the Tuktuk Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for June 13:

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 17
- Bill 18

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

- Bill 11
- Bill 20

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. This House stands adjourned until June 13, 2006 at 1:30.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:36*

