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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Pangnirtung)

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(Nattilik)
Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister responsible for the Status of Women Council

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(Rankin Inlet North)
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(South Baffin)
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(Kugluktuk)
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Hon. Louis Tapardjuk
(Amittuq)
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday, November 22, 2006

Members Present:

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Levi Barnabas, 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, Members. I would like to ask Mr. Evyagotailak to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier and Members of the Legislative Assembly, I would like to read a letter from the Commissioner of Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut the passage of the following Bills during the third Session of the Legislative Assembly:

- Bill 23 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act #4, 2005-06;
- Bill 24 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act #2, 2006-07;
- Bill 25 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act #2, 2006-07; finally
- Bill 26 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2007-08.

From the Commissioner of Nunavut, Ann Mikidjuk Hanson.

(interpretation) I would also like to thank the Commissioner and Bob Hanson for serving us some food here.

Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister for Education, Minister Picco.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 115 – 2(3): National Homelessness Initiative**

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, and good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues that November 22 is National Housing Day to commemorate the anniversary of the Canadian Big City Mayors declaring homelessness a national disaster in 1998.

Mr. Speaker, as part of the declaration the National Homelessness Initiative was established by our federal government in 1999, investing \$1.2 billion over the past six years in solutions that address urban homelessness. From these funds \$1.6 million was allocated to Nunavut through a delivery agreement with the City of Iqaluit to provide assistance for a number of shelter and supportive housing facilities.

Mr. Speaker, although these funds were much needed, there were a number of limitations attached to these funds that limited both the distribution and the use of these funds.

Therefore, on this anniversary of National Housing Day, I would ask my colleagues to support my request to the federal government to consider the renewal of the National Homelessness Initiative that is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2007.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that the program not only be renewed, but it should also be enhanced to meet the specific needs of northern homelessness and provide long-term, predictable funding to allow non-profit service providers to continue offering their much-needed programs and services to residents in all of our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Akasuk, please proceed.

Minister's Statement 116 – 2(3): National Housing Day

Hon. Olayuk Akasuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the importance of housing in Nunavut.

November 22, 2006 is National Housing Day, and I believe that this is an appropriate to celebrate our achievements. Two weeks ago I was very proud to accept the 2006 Best Practices in Affordable Housing Award, which the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation presented to Nunavut Housing Corporation for its five-plex design.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize our housing corporation technical staff who helped in the development of this design, specifically Paul Chaulk, our technical manager in the Kitikmeot; Michael Aloscius, and Michael Dragnea, our architects in the design and development branch in Arviat for their contributions.

Mr. Speaker, this award recognizes the innovative work that is under way in Nunavut to improve the energy efficiency of public housing and meets the lifestyle and cultural needs of our Inuit tenants.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation five-plex design will make homes more energy efficient by decreasing the amount of space that needs to be heated and by reducing the chilling effect of arctic winters.

Five-plex homes are more affordable because they use more efficient materials such as rock wool for insulation and because the corporation has replaced solid wooden studs with lighter steel stud materials which are less expensive to ship to Nunavut.

Kitchens have been combined with living and dining room areas to create one large space for homes that will provide room for traditional Inuit activities. The five-plex also has a large storage area with a stainless steel sink and cutting area behind the kitchen for country foods preparation and separate entrance.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this housing project will go a long way for our people. The majority of the approximately 725 new units that will be constructed with the Housing Trust Fund will be new five-plex designs.

I am pleased that the intensified construction training, and economic development activities outlined in the Housing Trust Deliveries Strategy will reduce overcrowding and create jobs and true opportunities in Nunavut's construction industry.

One key objective of the strategy is to support the completion of training for 35 to 40 new journey persons. These skilled local trades people will be the next generation of housing maintenance service people, carpenters, plumbers and electricians helping the government to maintain quality housing in communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to an exciting and challenging year as we work to implement the innovation construction and training component of the Housing Trust Delivery Strategy.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Minister's Statement 117 – 2(3): 2006 Summer Student Employment Equity Program

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to let my colleagues know that in the summer time there are employment opportunities in Government of Nunavut positions.

There were 207 students that gained summer employment in 12 communities in Nunavut in 14 different departments of which 170 people that gained employment were Nunavut

Land Claims beneficiaries. It was 57 more student employment that happened over the summer and it was very good to see the success of that program.

This past summer there were a lot of people that wanted to gain employment with the Government of Nunavut departments and there were more of them last summer than any other summer.

We will continue to pursue this student employment in the summer with the Government of Nunavut offices. The students are also beginning to get confidence in working in government departments. We are also training them to be able to gain employment every summer in our departments following Article 23 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

Anyone who would like to gain employment with the Government of Nunavut; we have no complaints from any students that gained employment with the Nunavut Government as to any problems that they had encountered. I am happy to report that I would encourage the students to try to gain summer employment in the Government of Nunavut departments to try to get employment with them every summer so the people of Nunavut will have good leaders. We are in support of the students gaining employment with the government departments every summer.

There are various kinds of employment that the students can gain in the different Nunavut Government departments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The minister also has the portfolio of Human Resources. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Orders of the Day for today. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Barnabas.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 287 – 2(3): Food Mail Improvements for the Baffin Region

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon. I would also like to say hello to my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues about food mail in our communities. We heard in the news that there have been some changes in the services for ordering food mail in the Kivalliq region. Mr. Speaker, it must be very important for the people of the Kivalliq to hear about.

(interpretation ends) For my constituents in the High Arctic the cost of living is higher than almost anywhere else in Canada. Being able to take full advantage of the Food Mail Program would make a significant difference in our lives.

Mr. Speaker, the Food Mail Program is an excellent idea in principle. We must, however, be more innovative in finding and creating opportunities for our citizens to access it. Those who are most in need of affordable, healthy, and nutritious food are those who often do not have access to credit cards and bank accounts which are necessary to place an order from southern companies. Even taking out a money order is quite problematic, Mr. Speaker, when money orders aren't available in your community as happened recently in Resolute Bay.

Mr. Speaker, one idea that has been raised in my constituency is for municipal or government officials to take on the responsibility of assisting community residents who would like to benefit from the Food Mail program by helping them with placing their orders.

Mr. Speaker, as I noted in my motion statement yesterday, problems with airline services to our remote communities places further barriers on accessing benefits from such worthwhile programs as Food Mail.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues' permission to conclude my statement. Thank you Mr. Speak.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Barnabas. The member is asking consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank my colleagues for permitting me to continue.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage the Departments of Community and Government Services, Health and Social Services, and Education to put their heads together and give this idea some consideration. It is up to all of us to work together and help our constituents take advantage of programs such as food mail.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Members' Statements. (interpretation) Member for Nanulik, Mr. Netser.

Member's Statement 288 – 2(3): Coral Harbour Soccer Team Members

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I rose in regard to the soccer, to congratulate the Coral Harbour soccer team. But I apologize, I forgot to mention two individuals' names. So I would like to correct that today.

Mr. Speaker, the soccer team who kept winning last year - we will find out who the individual team members are. From Coral Harbour, first one is Ashley Etuk, Rayla

Amitnaaq, Cayla Kaludjak, Shanny Nakoolak, Whitney Pudlat, Shanny Norman, Charman Angutialuk. Charman and, Shanny I apologize for not mentioning their names yesterday and Olivia Nester and Paul Okalik, just joking. Thank you. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Member for Natilik, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Member's Statement 289 – 2(3): Congratulations to Cousin Who Gave Birth

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to offer my congratulations to my cousin Kim and her husband Fraser. About an hour ago noon hour today our time she gave birth to twins: a boy and a girl. Total weight 14 pounds - Max and Stella. I would like to congratulate my cousin and her husband and the family on the arrival of their twins.

At the same time I also want to thank you as Speaker of the House again for dealing with the coverage of the Session. I think 25 more communities, or 24 more communities in Nunavut can now again feel part of our proceedings and for that I'd like to thank you on behalf of my constituents of Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven for allowing this time. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. I also would like to congratulate the couple who just had a new child. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Evyagotailak.

Member's Statement 290 – 2(3): Constituency Concerns from Kugluktuk

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I informed those people in Kugluktuk, my constituents in Kugluktuk Mr. Speaker, I have a concern, there were many concerns that were raised to me and I want to touch on them a bit.

(interpretation ends) I believe that our school should be in the best possible condition, for the well-being of our students and teachers. Also Mr. Speaker I'm glad that the ministers had mentioned that November 12 is the National Housing Day.

The housing shortage continues to be a concern. As Kugluktuk's MLA, I have been supportive of measures to address this issue. I am pleased that Kugluktuk is scheduled to receive 34 new units over the next two years.

The need to keep the Kugluktuk women's shelter open continues to be a major issue. I have raised this with the minister, and will follow up on this issue during our sitting.

The community has concerns about public safety with respect to the Illavut Centre. I have raised this issue with the minister and his officials, and I will continue to do so. Mr. Speaker, the community wants to see a clear commitment from the Government of

Nunavut to move forward on the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project. I will continue to work closely with my Kitikmeot colleagues on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Members' Statements. Member for Uqqurmiut, Mr. Arreak.

Member's Statement 291 – 2(3): Piqqusilirivik School in Clyde River

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to extend my appreciation to the individuals who had announced the Piqqusilirivik Cultural School, and also would like to thank the individuals who consulted the communities who were interested in the Piqqusilirivik School, and Clyde River was one of the interested communities.

There were other consultants like the Premier, and Minister Tapardjuk were not able to make it to my community, but we apologize for that. But after we heard that this Piqqusilirivik School would be located in my community...it had helped the community to develop.

They are more positive now, and they are really appreciative of that. So on behalf of my community, I would like to thank the people who voted my community to be the location of the Piqqusilirivik Cultural School. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 292 – 2(3): 30-Year Anniversary of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform the House about the celebrations underway this week in the Kitikmeot to mark the 30th anniversary of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

Mr. Speaker, 30 years ago, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association was created to represent the political, social, and cultural interests of the Inuit in the Kitikmeot. The association's most important challenge during its first 17 years was to help negotiate the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement with the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, the early years were difficult, and representatives of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association must have often wondered if they would ever conclude the land claims negotiations and be empowered to fully represent their constituents across the Kitikmeot.

Mr. Speaker, when the final agreement was signed in 1993 in Kugluktuk, it signaled the start of a new era in the Kitikmeot. The Kitikmeot Inuit Association and its affiliate organizations, the Kitikmeot Corporation and the Kitikmeot Economic Development Commission, were empowered with mandates to improve the lives of the Inuit in the Kitikmeot.

Mr. Speaker, the last 13 years has seen the Kitikmeot Inuit Association mature into a dynamic and well-respected organization. The association and its affiliates work very hard to ensure that Inuit rights and obligations are honoured in agreements with governments, resource companies, and businesses. They are close to the people and can deal quickly with their concerns and issues.

Mr. Speaker, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association has accomplished a lot in three decades. During the celebrations, many of the individuals who helped to build the Kitikmeot Inuit Association into the organization that it is today will be recognized and honoured. Many of those individuals made personal sacrifices above and beyond the call of duty, but without them, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association would not be where it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members of the Legislative Assembly to join me in congratulating the Kitikmeot Inuit Association on their achievements to date and to wish them all the best in their next 30 years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 293 – 2(3): Pond Inlet Youth Basketball

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate the Pond Inlet youth, who had come to Iqaluit to play basketball. They had won the silver medal.

The youth when they travel to other communities either to train or for sports within the communities it is very beneficial to the youth so we need to support that program. And also we would like to thank Iqalumiut on behalf of our youth in Pond Inlet. The youth would like to thank Iqaluit residents who had provided billets and welcomed the youth that came here to play over the weekend. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Member for Iqaluit East, Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 294 – 2(3): Akausisarvik Haunted House Fund Raising

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Akausisarvik is Nunavut's only residential facility for people with mental illness. This year the clients of Akausisarvik organized their second annual Halloween Haunted House; a seasonal treat for the children of Iqaluit. There is more to this than first meets the eye, however. The Haunted House is a wonderful opportunity for the clients to contribute to the community in a creative and fun way.

All too often our society tries to avoid people with mental illness. The Haunted House took months of work. The clients created props and planned the activities. It is definitely a hands-on, therapeutic activity; one which puts a smile on their faces as well as the children who participate.

In holding the Haunted House the clients and staff of Akausisarvik allowed others to understand that people with mental illness are still a viable part of our community and that they are able to give back to the public in a very, very positive way.

Mr. Speaker, how positive? Well, this year the Haunted House collected almost 700 pounds of non-perishable goods for donations to the local food bank, and the Akausisarvik clients regularly volunteer their time at the local soup kitchen, at litter clean-ups, and in other community efforts.

Mr. Speaker, the Akausisarvik staff are to be commended for making the residents such an active part of Iqaluit. Their approach helps not just their clients but also the public recognize the many strengths that people with mental illness have when given the right support and recognition.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 18 staff and volunteers, as well as the residents of the facility and the people of Iqaluit for making this event a success and for assisting those in our community who are in need. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Members' Statements. (interpretation) One of the hugest constituencies, Mr. Akesuk.

Member's Statement 295 – 2(3): Cape Dorset Soccer Team

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Within this month the Cape Dorset students came here to play soccer. The soccer team came and all of the team won medals. Under 13 girls won the gold. Under 13 boys won the silver medal, and the ages of 15 and under; the girls also won silver. Also boys 15 and under won the gold medal. One of my sons was a team member and I was very proud of that. They beat the Iqaluit team. Also under 17 girls won the silver medal.

I would like to congratulate the coaches and also the people who provide the funding for our soccer team, and I would like to thank them and I would like to encourage you to support the soccer teams in Cape Dorset because they are really good soccer players. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akasuk. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit Center, Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 296 – 2(3): National Child Day

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to show my appreciation to the children of our communities. I would also like to recognize and acknowledge the many devoted parents, educators, child care workers, and advocates who focus their time and energy on raising and caring for children to the best of their abilities.

This past Monday, while most of my colleagues here were travelling here for this session, members of Iqaluit's Child Care Centers, big and little, gathered together with others to proudly march in recognition of National Child Day. Well over 100 people, tall and short, marched from the Arnaitok Arena to the Cadet Hall to raise awareness of the importance of children and to acknowledge their rights. I would like to thank those individuals who organized this event for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we show appreciation for our children, and all the children in our communities. Showing our appreciation means more than a smile and a pat on the head. It means that we must consider the world that we create for our children as we make important economic, social, and political decisions. It means that they must be kept in mind as policies and programs are developed and expenditures approved. Mr. Speaker, we often talk of our potential for development in areas such as the mining industry, tourism, fishing and sealing, but when you really think of it, our most precious resource, and I am sure that all of you will agree with me, that our children are our most valuable resource for the future.

It is up to all of us to ensure that our decisions are taken with the best interests of our children as primary consideration, not just one day a year, but every day. I would like to ask all members to join me in showing our appreciation for the child care workers across the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 297 – 2(3): Happy Birthday Wishes

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the fall session, I think it was just about at this time of the year, but a little late. In regard to the culture... we usually are named after our ancestors, one of our relatives, or our friends, and Rachel,

who calls me her husband because of Tapardjuk...is 92 years old today, will be 92 years old today on November 17.

I think we have to appreciate and acknowledge the people who have given their tremendous support and tremendous help, but it's our turn to help them when they are this old. She is the oldest member of our community and according to our custom and because of my name, I call her my wife, and maybe I should call her my old wife. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. We would like to congratulate her on her birthday, and I would also like to wish happy birthday to all the people of Nunavut who are celebrating this day today.

Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Orders of the Day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 336 – 2(3): Recruitment of Nurses

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

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure the minister will recall our many, many discussions in this House about the recruitment of nurses. I believe it is still on contract with Trillium Consulting as the recruitment company that has been paid by the government to recruit nurses to work in Nunavut.

It is my understanding that they've recruited over 40 international nurses to date, and as revealed last summer, they have been paid in advance for future recruitment of international nurses. Yesterday Health Canada announced a total of \$305,859 will be provided specifically to Nunavut for an orientation and bridging for internationally educated nurses in Nunavut.

I would like the minister to provide some clarification on what specifically this funding is going to be used for. 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 don't have a copy of the Health Canada announcement to specify what those categories are. If my staff are listening, they should be pulling that press release because I don't have a copy of the Health Canada

federal announcement before me. So I apologize to the member for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I know it has been brought up in this House before that this government has been paying Trillium Consulting a sum of \$13,000 for the recruitment of every single international nurse. Does this fee cover any orientation and bridging programs for these individuals? 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. As I said earlier I do not have a copy of the federal government announcement before me to see if that covers orientation, but I can speak to the contract that we do have with Trillium. The contract back in May 2004 was signed shortly after the elections to address the major shortage of nursing within Nunavut.

The time we signed the contract with Trillium I believe we had a vacancy of 49 percent of our nurses in Nunavut. At that time when we signed the contract, it was to provide for international nurses to be hired to fill the positions that were vacant in Nunavut. The contract with Trillium provided the recruitment as well as the orientation of the new hires.

So the contract conditions as is remains, no other incremental funding internally or from the federal government have been added to that Trillium contract. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I understand the minister correctly, part of the contract that this government has in place with Trillium Consulting includes that orientation program for these international nurses.

Maybe she could outline exactly what type of orientation, what are we paying for in that \$13,000 per nurse for this consulting company? Exactly what, as far as orientation-wise goes, and what are the obligations in that aspect, that the contractor has with the government that would be different than what seems to be coming from the federal government now? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The orientation of our international nurses covers a number of areas similar to the orientation also provided through the Department of Human Resources; orientation to Nunavut, the environment, the

communities, orientation to the department in terms of our programs, our policies, and how we function in each community; cultural orientation as well.

So there are a number of programs that are offered to the new recruits before they start work in Nunavut. At the same time, the individuals are also given an opportunity to study for their registered nurse's exam as part of that overall orientation.

Again, I will say that the contract with Trillium, funding has not changed with this announcement that he makes reference to. So I would just like to clarify that for the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am a little concerned that we're not going to use this funding to do another orientation for these nurses when we've already paid for an orientation for them.

My question to the minister is; the federal government has come out with this announcement yesterday, of a little over \$305,000 over the next two years. She's indicated that she is not aware of this.

Has her, or her senior officials had any input into negotiating with the federal government, Department of Health, that we need this kind of funding. Did they just pull this out of the hat? Surely, there must have been some kind of request coming from her department, asking for funding like this in order for it to be provided by the federal government.

So if I could just get the explanation from the minister as to what type of input they had, and what argument they put to the federal government to secure this funding. 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 think I need to clarify. I didn't say that we were not going to be providing orientation to our staff.

All I'm saying was that the orientation...you asked the question earlier: what type of orientation did we provide? I explained the orientation we do provide. The federal funding you're making reference to, I don't know the information about the federal programs.

I can research that and provide that information to this House. As far as I know, my staff has not been directly involved in this discussion, this new announcement. As of yesterday, it's news to me. So I will look into it and provide further information to the member.

There are two different things; the federal announcement, and the Trillium contract. I can't speak to the federal government initiative. I can speak to the initiatives that we have undertaken under the Trillium Program, and that was to hire nurses and provide orientation to the nurses to fill in the vacant positions in Nunavut and so on.

I can speak to that, but I cannot speak to third party information because I'm not aware of that, but I will get the information for the member and share it with the Members of the House what it is intended for, and how we will benefit from that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. I just remind members to either direct your questions or responses through the Speaker please.

(interpretation) Oral Questions. Mr. Mapsalak.

Question 337 – 2(3): Recruiting Nurses for Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk

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

I recall not too long ago when the minister went to see the nurses that were interested in working in Nunavut, and there was one nurse who was slated to go to Repulse Bay, but we never saw this nurse up to today.

I think there are three nurses slated for Repulse Bay now. And there's forced growth in our community and also in Kugaaruk. I have also realized that it seems like every week we see a new nurse. There are nurses who are going to Repulse Bay on a rotating basis, coming and going every week.

I would like to ask the minister if the third position will be filled shortly. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department continues to try and recruit nurses, indeterminate nurses in every community. We were under a lot of strain back in 2004. I had mentioned earlier a 48 percent vacancy rate in Nunavut overall. We're experiencing a national shortage of nurses, so there are number of initiatives underway to try and fill the vacant positions with the ultimate goal of providing more services in the community.

Some of the things we have done are our international recruitment, training of our own nurses in Nunavut and so on. Right now in Kivalliq we have a vacancy of 22 positions in nurses. So we are continuing to fill those through agency nurses, through international nurses or through our own hires through the Nunavut Arctic College program.

Using that as an example, the Nunavut Arctic College students that have graduated from the program are being offered positions throughout Nunavut and for the Kivalliq, two or three in Kivalliq to date. I want to reassure the member we continue to address that, ultimately we would like to have all the positions filled, but we're not there yet at this point in time. Efforts are continuous. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm aware that transportation is very expensive up here and I think I asked this question first, but I would like to ask again: how long will we have to wait for that third nurse to be based in our community? Do you have an idea of when or how long we're going to have to wait for that position filled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can get the information from the Executive Director for the Kivalliq when they plan to fill that position, whether there are vacancies as well. I can get that information for the member.

Overall, I think it has to be noted, that the challenges of recruiting nurses are still a challenge for us. There is national shortage and we are experiencing challenges of recruiting and filling all the positions at one given time, so the effort for recruiting nurses is continuous, but we are trying to address it through different means.

Within our own, we are trying train our Nunavut people to be nurses in Nunavut, we are hiring through casual, we are hiring through Canada, international, and so on.

But I will get information for the member from the regional staff when they expect to have positions filled in Repulse Bay. Thank you. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Question 338 – 2(3): Strategic Investments for Nunavut

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance and it concerns his economic statement update yesterday.

Yesterday the minister mentioned in his update that the Prime Minister made a pledge to help Nunavut achieve a dream. My question for the Minister of Finance: in view of the federal government's recent cuts to literacy, tobacco education, Status of Women funding; what did the Prime Minister pledge that would make Nunavut stronger, more prosperous and liberated? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister for Finance, Minister Simailak. I'm sorry, the Premier, Mr. Paul Okalik will respond to that question.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I could respond to that question because I have had some meetings with the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has not said no to helping Nunavummiut in regard to literacy programs. I have talked to the Prime Minister about self-sufficiency here in Nunavut. I have also talked to him about the ports and other infrastructure to go to the Nunavut communities.

So I have discussed those types of things with the Prime Minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for answering that question.

My second question, I guess, it's for the Minister of Finance again. He mentioned that in the short term that Nunavut will require continued strategic investments from the federal government and his officials have been talking to the federal government.

So my question for the Minister of Finance, what specific strategic investments has the Government of Nunavut told the federal government that we require in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My staff are the ones that are in talks with the finance people in Ottawa in regard to mostly power and fuel costs or, excuse me, in regard to the high cost of fuel, as well as housing and everything about the rising costs here in Nunavut, especially when we are ordering fuel in the summer time. It is very costly.

Those are the types of things that we talked about, such as education, and health, and other items that cost money. Those are the types of negotiations that my staff are having with the staff of the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that information.

Mr. Speaker, recent announcements by the Government of Nunavut about a cultural school, heritage center, and trade school all require massive amounts of capital funds and

subsequent annual O&M. These would be considered old capital projects, the minister yesterday had mentioned prioritization for new capital projects.

I know the heritage center is probably going to cost anywhere between \$50 million and \$80 million to construct, trade school \$16 million, culture school \$10 million over the next two, or three, or four years.

A question for the minister, would the government consider putting any of these major capital projects on hold until the Government of Nunavut finds funds to construct and operate them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The cultural school and the trade school, we have already received some money to build the trade school and cultural school under strategy planning. Just before the building of the trades school and the cultural school, we are also looking at the operations and maintenance money. We're still in talks about getting some operations and maintenance money for those. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that information.

And the minister touches again on the housing situation in Nunavut; the Nunavut Housing Trust not being included in the 2007-08 Capital Estimates. However, we know that over the next three years 725 houses will be constructed in Nunavut.

Based on previous information I believe the operations and maintenance for those houses was \$18,000 per house annually for a total cost estimated about \$13 million.

My question for the minister: when these houses are constructed where does the Government of Nunavut intend to find the additional annual \$13 million operations and maintenance to operate these houses? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. The Minister for Finance, Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have heard from the Minister of Housing that there are options that they have in place and where the money will be coming from for the operations and maintenance part of those houses that are going to be built. We have not heard what is going to be happening, where the operations and maintenance money is going to be coming from. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Barnabas.

Question 339 – 2(3): Accessing Food Mail Program

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education, who is responsible for the Income Support Program.

Earlier today I spoke of the difficulty that many Nunavummiut have in accessing the Food Mail Program. A lot of people who are in need of such programs are income support clients.

I would like to ask the minister what steps his department has taken to ensure that those most in need, such as income support clients, are able to take advantage of the cost-saving programs for nutritious foods such as the Food Mail Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister of Education and Income Support, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was a good question and I didn't write it.

Mr. Speaker, the member raised a very strong point and that is at any given time between 35 and 47 percent of Nunavummiut can and will be on income support. This government, over the last two years, for the first time in several years actually increased the amount of money available under that Income Support Program and that helps give access to income support clients, and if they chose to do so, to help them in the purchase of food mail products.

Two ways that this can happen. First case: when stores bring in food under the Food Mail Program it is subsidized at source, meaning the prices are lower because the coverage of the Food Mail Subsidy kicks in from the federal government. At the local level, if an income support client was to order a food order from a place down south and have it brought in on a food mail shipment, there may be an opportunity with the income support worker to have a portion of the income support payment made to that food supplier. Indeed, in this case, if the majority of items being brought in were actually food.

We don't want to be in the position where we're subsidizing pop, or what have you; I guess that would be the clarification point on the question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't know how the stores operate the Food Mail Program. They can order items that are not basics, and Inuit are paying for the Food Mail Program.

Also, income support recipients, when they get their welfare cheques, some of them are given vouchers, especially for the Northern Store. When they use their welfare cheque,

they are charged on top of that because the money that is given to the welfare recipient a portion is taken off so, this kind of system is not good.

(interpretation ends) It has been suggested that municipal or government workers could assist people in the community to order nutritious food by food mail. Would the minister agree that income support workers are in the ideal position to be able to help people in this regard? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister of Education and Income Support, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The role of the income support worker is to help out a given family in our communities under the program of income support, which is a program of last resort.

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, the program has increased 15 percent over the last two years, 2004-05. I do agree with the member that the income support worker would be in a position to help out the family in that case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have to rectify these kinds of problems to make sure that we support the income recipients. They are human beings just like us.

They are the people that don't have Visas and they don't have bank accounts, especially in the smaller communities; there are no banks, or financial facilities, and there are no facilities available.

(interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to reviewing this issue, especially with income support clients in mind, and work with his colleagues in the Department of Community and Government Services and Health and Social Services to come up with solutions to address this issue? If so, will he report back to the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Minister for Education and Income Support, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the member has made a good observation and a good point.

Following on the end of the session today I will contact the department under our income support. Maybe there is an opportunity here to try to do a test pilot program in one of the member's three communities of Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, or Grise Fiord, to see if there is an opportunity under our Income Support Program if we can help individual clients if

they're ordering food mail for example, and then issue cheques and see how that works under a test pilot project.

So that is something that I would be interested in doing. At the end of the session today I will review the issue with the member and then we'll have some contact with the department and see where we go from there.

I would like to thank the member for his good questions and good solutions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqurmiut, Mr. Arreak.

Question 340 – 2(3): Federal Correctional Facility in Nunavut

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Justice.

(interpretation ends) As the minister will recall, I posed a question to him earlier this year on the issue of rehabilitation and healing programs offered in territorial correctional facilities. Recently concerns have been raised in the communities with respect to the issue of the release of potentially dangerous offenders from federal custody.

I would like to ask the minister to inform this House about what discussions he has had with his federal counterpart on the need to have adequate federal correctional facilities and resources in the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Minister responsible for Justice, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a concern held by all Nunavut residents, and we have been lobbying the federal government to get a federal correctional institution in Nunavut. That way we could provide better programs.

Also, I wrote to the new federal minister in this regard. I recommended that we work together to get a federal correctional facility here as it would be more beneficial to inmates coming in from Nunavut.

We are now lobbying the federal government but have not yet had a response. In the earlier years with the previous Liberal Government, they were unable to agree to our suggestions.

The Conservative Government is paying close attention to the issue of federal facilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the minister.

Last year one of my colleagues asked a detailed written question to the minister concerning rehabilitation programs for offenders in territorial custody. Can the minister tell us today which programs are working well to rehabilitate and heal our offenders, and which programs are not working well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Before we proceed, I would like to welcome Mr. Kattuk to the Assembly.

Minister responsible for Justice, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize. I did not quite understand his question. Is his question in regard to the federal or Nunavut Government programs? Which programs are you talking about?

I would also like to welcome Mr. Kattuk to the Assembly, too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Arreak, could you please clarify your question?

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to welcome Mr. Kattuk as well. I'm so glad that you came in.

(interpretation ends) Last year, one of my colleagues asked a detailed written question to the minister concerning rehabilitation programs for offenders in territorial custody. Can the minister tell us today which programs are working well to rehabilitate and heal our offenders, and which programs are not working well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Minister responsible for Justice, Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, some of these questions were answered in my responses. The ones that are working well are the outpost camp programs in the communities.

That has been one of the strongest programs and it really supports and helps the elders when they go and counsel the inmates. We know for sure that these are very positive, especially our elder from Rankin Inlet. Mariano Aupilarjuk was recognized and acknowledged for providing counselling services to inmates.

We know that he is very supportive of that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister also.

We are all aware of the overcrowding situation at the Baffin Correctional Centre. Does the minister plan to build a new facility to replace BCC, and if so, in which community will it be located, and when will it be built? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During this session review I will identify what our plans are for the facility. The BCC facility has been overcrowded and we are now looking at ways to address it. The officials and the staff are now planning for a review. We will identify when the timeline is to complete that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Your final supplementary, Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister. As we had heard in the past, we heard about the petition and that the minister had signed the petition against the federal inmate that was released here. We had campaigned to help Nunavummiut who require assistance. Is the government just going to wait for the federal government to get funding, or is the GN prepared to come up with the funding without the federal government coming up with the funding for this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Minister responsible for Justice, Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. That's why I had tried to give the detailed information to the federal government about the inmates that are in federal institutions. These inmates when they are in federal institutions should be provided with some kind of programs and support.

When they just release a federal inmate to Nunavut they should provide more support. We were not happy about that; not just in Iqaluit, it could happen anywhere in Nunavut communities. We don't want any dangerous offenders to be released to any of the communities.

This situation has to be rectified. That's why I had signed the petition. I will be lobbying the federal government that this does not occur anywhere in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 341 – 2(3): Funding for the Nursing Program

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. In her response she stated that we have a 46 percent shortage of nurses in Nunavut. We need nurses and doctors that come from our region.

My question is regarding the Nursing Training Programs; the funding for their housing and for their food; for the students taking on the Arsarniq, are they equivalent to the law training program that occurred? Thank you.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hope I understand the member's question clearly. From what I understand he is asking what allowance has been given to nurses based on training. Is that correct? If he can clarify that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. I believe there is a request for clarification of your question, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I am trying to say is the Akitsiraq Law School. There were Akitsiraq Law School students who were given funding, an allowance, and a housing allowance. For the Nursing Program, are they treated equally and provided the same allowance? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for clarifying his question. The program that we have for the nursing students is part of the Nunavut Arctic College Program. So the funding provided to the students that are in that program is part of the student financial assistance. The individuals in the training program are receiving student financial assistance and are not on salary. As students of the Nunavut Arctic College they also reside in student residences again offered by the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recognizing that, or acknowledging that, the importance of needs for home trained nurses, would she consider reviewing the program or redoing the program so that it becomes more attractive for potential students, to enroll

in the Nursing Program that is similar to, for example, the Akitsiraq Law School Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently we have about 29 students participating in that program, we graduated nine so far and those individuals have been offered jobs within the Government of Nunavut.

So we are starting to see a change in our recruitment of our own home grown nurses, if you want to call it that. I think for clarification, the program itself is in partnership with Dalhousie University. It meets national standards. I think the member, if he can clarify, is looking to see how we actually provide allowances to the students, and to review that part of the program itself, and not the actual curriculum. If that is the case I would commit to reviewing that further. I would also like to state to the House and to the member we are looking at an overall recruitment human resource strategy for the Department of Health, and nursing is one piece of that.

There are a number of programs that we have been delivering throughout Nunavut to try and address the shortage that we have in the health care field, not just in the nursing program. One example is the midwifery. We graduated two for the first time this year. We have the social work program, the mental health program, the nursing program. There are a lot of programs in Nunavut right now geared towards professions in the health care, and nurses is one of them and we are again looking at developing a stronger recruitment strategy of those individuals in the program.

And I will commit to reviewing the member's recommendation to see if we can improve the allowances for students that are in the nursing program, in anticipation of trying to recruit more Nunavummiut to take those training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My supplementary probably will be appreciated by the Minister of Education. We all, we knew for quite some time now that not all education in each community is universal in quality. We always knew that. We admit that. For that reason, I think we also recognize that nursing entrance exams are not passed sometimes by some students from some particular high schools in some particular communities.

Would the minister consider creating an upgrading program specifically geared for potential nursing students, similar to that of Nunavut Sivuniksavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the individuals that have graduated through the Nunavut Arctic College Nursing Program in partnership with Dalhousie, I'm very proud to announce that the individuals coming out of those programs are also meeting the national standards, passing the registered nurses exam to practice nursing in Nunavut.

So, at the tail end, the individuals are succeeding in completing the national exam that every other Canadian writes before they can practice nursing.

How did we get there? As part of our Recruitment Strategy of trying to attract more Nunavummiut into the nursing program, we also established an access year for anyone going into the nursing program to take one year of upgrading in various areas before they enter the training program we have with Nunavut Arctic College in partnership with Dalhousie.

If they need that access year, that option is available to applicants to that program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Madame Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Preparation for the entrance exam for a potential nursing student, are they given allowances similar to what they would get if they were taking the nursing course? Thank you.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The access year program was designed as part of the overall nursing program, and the individuals in that access year, from what I understand, are under the Student Financial Assistance Program.

As soon as they get into the access year the Student Financial Assistance process kicks in for the duration of the program is what I understand from my colleague over here. The other information, for students that are in the nursing program, we also had established the scholarship for nurses, individuals that are in the nursing program, on an annual basis.

So scholarships are awarded. That was established during the year the Queen had visited Nunavut, and it's to individuals that are beneficiaries that are high academic achievers. It is given to them in addition to their allowance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 342 – 2(3): International and Nunavummiut Nurses

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While we're on the topic of nurses, I'll keep going.

My question is for the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. I know we heard yesterday that the Department of Health has gone over budget, and part of it is because of agency nurses. We've heard that there are international nurses that have not passed their certification to work in Nunavut but are still on payroll.

The minister indicated earlier that there were nine graduates from our own nursing program. And, on June 15, she had indicated that there were five that graduated last spring.

My question is; we're going the extra mile for paying extra, and looking after international agency nurses, where they get everything paid for. International nurses we are being very accommodating for, but our own home-grown nurses, Mr. Speaker, I understand if there were nine graduated. I know last June the minister indicated that they'd be working starting in September.

I know of a couple of instances...and I guess my question for the minister is why when we had a couple of these graduates one had to go to Alberta to get a job. She may be back here now but she ended up having to go to Alberta to get work. Another one up until recently, a couple or two or three weeks ago was working at a local restaurant because she didn't get on with the government.

So my question to the minister is we're going all the extra mile to extra take care of the non-resident nurses; international and agency ones, but we're not going the extra mile to make sure that our own home grown nurses are snapped up and given positions and looked after as soon as they graduate. 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. The Nunavut Arctic College Nursing Program has been in place for not very long. To date, we have nine graduates out of that program and those individuals that are graduating out of the program before they can practice nursing, like any other Canadian, must write their registered exam.

For some of the individuals we have directly appointed them into positions; there are some in the Kivalliq; I believe there's one in Pond Inlet; a couple in the Kivalliq, as well as here. We've also designed mentorship programs for the first six months of the graduates that have completed their Nursing Program; that have written to work in the hospitals and the health centres.

We are continuing to provide support to those individuals in our communities. We recognize there is a shortage of nurses. We have to approach the recruitment of our nurses at different fronts. One is through our own training; one is through international recruitment; one is recruiting within Canada; and sometimes we have had to go through the agency nurses because at the end of the day we need to make sure that service is being delivered at the community level.

So those are the efforts we are doing as part of our recruitment in Nunavut. We continue to provide support to our own graduates. The individual that moved to Alberta; that was a family choice. From what I understand, the individual had been employed at the time when she made the choice to move to Alberta.

The people that are being trained in Nunavut; I think that demonstrates they are coming out with quality education and are meeting other standards of other jurisdictions to qualify for jobs in other jurisdictions. I think that says a lot for the efforts and initiatives that we have undertaken in our own territory to train our nurses.

So I'm very proud of that and every citizen has the freedom to practice nursing anywhere they choose; in any community they choose once they have that registered nurses exam completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the minister even indicated in the past that some of these international nurses have failed that nursing exam numerous times in an attempt to be able to work here. They are still on payroll; they're still working and they are being shadowed by another nurse.

So my question is; some of these graduates of our own home-grown Nursing Program; they shouldn't even have to wait. Last June she announced the graduation of five of them; five of them should have been working in the hospitals just like that.

My question to the minister is: will they look at doing that; guaranteeing employment upon graduation for these nurses to work within our healthcare system where we desperately need them? 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 think we need to clarify. The international recruitment efforts, in order to enter Canada, we had also to meet immigration laws.

We had to guarantee employment for immigrants coming into Canada. Once they got to Canada, the whole process of employment started to meet the immigration law. The

individuals that came into Canada to work in Canada as nurses could not process until they passed the registered nurses exam.

They can work in the health centres with limited responsibilities but could not practice independently in the nursing health centres. So there is a bit of difference in that when you hire out of a recruitment within Canada, the same process applies, but for the particular recruitment efforts with international nurses it was a bit different because we needed to meet the criteria of entering into Canada.

So I think we need to keep that in mind. The individuals in the communities, or in our centres, they all have to pass the registered nurses exam to practice in every health centre, and no one in the health centre can practice independently without that confirmation, or without being registered.

If we were to put people immediately into jobs without the support of others, we would put patients at risk, and we're not prepared to do that, which is why we have mentorship. We also have people working behind staff that have not completed the registered nurse's exam for those reasons. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to clarify first, I understand exactly what she's saying, and I wasn't in any way saying that they should be put in a position to work by themselves, practicing as nurses.

But she just admitted there are international nurses that are working in our health system that can't work as nurses because they haven't passed the exam. They are still working behind somebody as she had indicated or in a mentorship program with someone until they pass that exam.

It's the same thing with our graduates Mr. Speaker. When they graduate they don't write their exam as soon as they graduate. They graduated last June, but I think their RN exam was last month, in October.

So, all that time, like I said, I know of one person that graduated last spring who was working in a restaurant because she couldn't get a job with the Department of Health. And, the only difference between her and someone that is working in the health centre as a nurse is that RN exam. There is no reason why any of those individuals that graduate from the nursing program shouldn't be automatically stuck into our health care system working with another nurse or behind another nurse as the minister states, or in a mentorship program.

They shouldn't have to be out serving tables, or working in a restaurant. They just put in a number of years of their time to be able to help and serve Nunavummiut. And they said you've got to wait until you pass your exam.

We're not even accepting that for other nurses, like with the international nurses. I think we should at least be treating our homegrown nurses with the same or better standard than we do with the nurses that come from elsewhere. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

So the question then to the minister is: why is that not happening? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I think I need to clarify; the international nurses are not practising until they pass the registered exam. To enter Canada we had to put them into positions. That was the immigration requirement that they could not practise until they had passed the exam.

So, to enter Canada, we had to identify 20, 30 positions. We also had to identify what communities those positions were going to and so on. That is what we needed to do to fulfill immigration requirements, to address our major staffing shortage in nursing. The individuals coming in from all programs that are graduating, we have just recently announced a mentorship program to those graduates that are working at the hospital here.

We are providing support services to orient our staff. I also mentioned earlier that we are going the extra mile to tap into the programs that are being offered through Nunavut Arctic College and to be speaking to the individual students that are taking the programs now, so that when they're done we can offer them jobs at the tail end.

So there are two processes in place: the human resource strategy for hiring, but I go back again to our nursing program, the immigration requirement we needed to meet to address our shortage, the nursing shortage. The hiring of our own nurses, we are direct appointing those individuals as well into positions in our community. Again they have to pass the registered nurses exams, and if they require mentorship, we are also putting those in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Either I am not making myself clear enough but, and I understand exactly what the minister is saying. I am not saying take these graduates and stick them into work as nurses, until they get their RN certification.

In one case we're already doing that with international nurses, we're letting them work within the system but not practice as a nurse but they are still getting paid and working in the system.

My question is: I guess if we're doing that to international nurses, why do nurses that graduate here, have to wait six month before they can get a job? If they're not direct

appointed, are they all being direct appointed right after they graduate and they should automatically enter into the mentorship program?

Once they graduate they should automatically, if they choose, to go into a mentorship program and be working within our system doing what they've been trained for in the mentorship program until they've passed their certification nationally.

Would the minister commit to looking at doing that so that our graduates will not have to worry about how they're going to make ends meet after they graduate. They will automatically be going into a Mentorship Program, if that's what it is, so that they're automatically employed by the GN; by the Department of Health, after they graduate from this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The nurses that are graduating from the Nursing Program here are being direct appointed to the jobs in various communities. The conditions that we have to meet to do that is that they have to have passed the registered nurses exam. It is a bit different than the international process. If we hire from Canada, the procedures that we are following with our own nurses would be applied. The difference between those two processes is that in order to enter Canada we needed to put them in the positions first.

In Canada, if we're recruiting any job through the Department of Health, we would have to ensure that they pass the RN exam first. So there is a bit of a difference that way. So the individuals graduating and successfully passing the exams in Nunavut are being direct appointed to positions and we will continue to do that, and the individuals of course also have to make their own personal choices, whether they're want the jobs in Nunavut or not or go else where. So those options are available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister and Members. Question Period is now over. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 159 – 2(3): Kitikmeot Inuit Association Resolutions

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table today a package of resolutions that were presented at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. I encourage all members to review these closely, and I encourage the government to note the KIA's concerns with respect to such critical issues as the status of the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Picco.

Tabled Document 160 – 2(3): Correspondence to Stockwell Day

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I tabled a document containing over 1,000 signatures concerning the issue about protecting our children here in Iqaluit.

I committed at the time Mr. Speaker, that I would table correspondence with myself and the Honourable Stockwell Day, the Minister for Corrections Services of Canada. Mr. Speaker, I am tabling that document today. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tootoo.

Tabled Document 161 – 2(3): Press Release (Health Canada): Canada's New Government Invests in Initiatives to Increase Internationally Educated Health Professionals

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a copy of a news release that was issued by Health Canada yesterday for the benefit of the Minister of Health and her officials.

It's a press release that indicates that they are providing \$305,859 specifically for Nunavut for bridging programs and orientation for international nurses. This will save her officials from looking around for it. They'll know where to find it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Can we have a copy of that? Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Premier.

Tabled Document 162 – 2(3): Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act – 2005-06 GN Annual Report on the Administration of the Act

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document: the Annual Report on the Administration of the Government of Nunavut Access to Information and Privacy Act, April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. 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. Simailak.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for first reading of Bill 26, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2007-08*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 16(1) so that the bill could be read for the first time today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Minister.

Bill 26 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2007-08 – First Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 26, *Appropriation (Capital) Act 2007-08*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, please indicate. Opposed. Thank you. The motion is carried. Bill 26 has had its first reading.

(interpretation ends) Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. The Minister of Finance, Mr. Simailak.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 26 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2007-08 – Second Reading

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 26, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2007-08*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Government of Nunavut to make capital expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: 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. Bill 26 has had second reading and accordingly the bill stands referred to a committee.

Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 26 with Mr. Arreak in the Chair.

Members before we proceed, we will break now; however I ask that all Members return to the House by 4:30 for the beginning of the Committee of the Whole. All members have been invited to attend a ceremony to witness the swearing in of Susan Enuaraq, a graduate of the Akitsiraq Law School, to the Bar of Nunavut. Thank you.

>>Applause

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:18 and Committee resumed at 16:52*

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

Chairman (Mr. Arreak)(interpretation): Thank you for coming back. (interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bill 26. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Evyagotailak.

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to commence the review of Bill 26, the capital estimates for 2007-08, starting with the Department of Justice. If time permits, we will then proceed with the review of the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Are we in agreement that we deal with the capital estimates for the Department of Justice?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Now, I would like to ask Minister Okalik from the Department of Justice to make his opening remarks. Mr. Okalik.

Bill 26 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2007-08 – Review in Committee – Justice

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear today. I would also like to thank my colleagues for being able to attend the celebrations. Thank you.

I am pleased to appear before the committee to present the Department of Justice's 2007-08 Capital Budget. Currently, the Baffin Correctional Centre is well above capacity, making it more difficult to rehabilitate offenders, resulting in significant costs to house inmates outside Nunavut.

The existing number of correctional spaces in Nunavut does not meet the current need and is not able to handle future growth. This year we have had as many as 40 offenders at a time being held in the Northwest Territories and Ontario.

While a longer-term solution is proposed by the department's seven-year capital plan, we also need to address current needs.

In August, the department opened a building for use as a women's correctional facility in order to accommodate female inmates returning from other institutions. This facility is a

trailer, which has been adapted for this purpose. Additional renovations to improve its stability are currently in progress.

The Kugluktuk Healing Facility has been in operation for a year now and work is currently being completed on the sprinkler system. The facility is designed to serve offenders from the Kitikmeot area of Nunavut and will eventually be able to accommodate between 16 and 20 territorial inmates that were previously housed either in the overcrowded Baffin Correction Centre in Iqaluit, or facilities outside of Nunavut.

This facility was faced with some staffing issues but we are confident that this is behind us now and programs are progressing well. Given the dire overcrowding situation, the department's focus over the coming years will be on the construction of a larger correctional centre to alleviate this ongoing problem.

Following these opening comments I will be pleased to respond to questions on matters related to the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Okalik. Mr. Okalik, are you going to bring your officials to the witness table?

Do the members agree that the witnesses could be brought to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, could you escort the officials.

Thank you. Premier Okalik, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure that you know the individual to my right, Deputy Minister Marcus Weber, and also to my left, Ted Dingle, he works for the Department of Justice on capital estimates.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister, welcome. (interpretation ends) Does the Chair of the committee have comments? Mr. Mapsalak, please proceed.

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* has reviewed the proposed capital estimates of the Department of Justice for the 2007-08 fiscal year, and I am pleased to provide you with the Committee's comments.

Mr. Chairman, the committee notes that the department's proposed 2007-08 capital budget of \$1.9 million is approximately 63 percent lower than its 2006-07 budget, primarily as a result of the completion of the new Justice Centre facility in Iqaluit.

Over the next five years, the department plans to spend over \$47 million on a new correctional facility in Nunavut. The minister has indicated that the most urgently needed facility is a replacement for the Baffin Correctional Centre due to the current severe overcrowding in the facility.

The standing committee has been informed that the new correctional centre to replace Baffin Correctional Centre is to be located in Rankin Inlet. It is not entirely clear, however, as to what long-term plans the department has for the current Baffin Correctional Centre infrastructure, or what the long-term operations and maintenance costs and staffing requirements of using it for a remand facility or other purpose would be.

The department is also continuing to plan for a new men's healing facility to be located in the Kivalliq region. The department's experience with the recently-opened Illavut facility in Kugluktuk will likely assist in planning for this project.

Mr. Chairman, members urge the department to be fully transparent in explaining to the House and the public its criteria for community selection for the placement of such facilities.

Members would also wish to see the government give full consideration to local training and employment opportunities in its selection process while ensuring a high quality of staffing in these facilities. Members stress the need for the department to communicate clearly with the communities hosting such facilities, especially with respect to public safety concerns.

Mr. Chairman, in its capital plan that was presented last year, the department projected future years' funding for a new Women's Correctional Facility. The lack of such a facility had been a concern. During the minister's recent appearance, the committee was informed that the department recently took steps to address the situation by adapting a trailer next to the Baffin Correctional Centre facility.

As a result, the minister has indicated that they no longer have plans to build a new women's facility. The committee expects the department to monitor this situation with care.

Mr. Chairman, in November of 2005, a member posed a detailed written question in the Legislative Assembly concerning the rates at which different categories of offenders in territorial custody re-offend. The committee appreciated the government's detailed response, which revealed some disturbing information.

The committee notes that the department plans to spend tens of millions of dollars to construct a number of new correctional facilities across Nunavut over the next few years. This strategy must be accompanied by plans to evaluate the success of the rehabilitation and healing programs that are offered by the department.

The standing committee recognizes that while the government will actually spend more in the long term by repatriating offenders currently being held in the Northwest Territories and elsewhere to serve their sentences closer to home, it is to be hoped that these higher operational expenditures will be offset by better programming.

Members remain supportive of on-the-land programs, particularly for young offenders. These programs should be delivered as close as possible to the home communities of the youth.

Mr. Chairman, members look forward to reviewing the first annual report of the Human Rights Tribunal, which is required by law to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly, so that we can begin to evaluate the success of this new body.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recommends that the government table information in this House concerning the final costs of its major capital projects, including information on the Inuit labour content of each project, as well as any bonuses or penalties that have been assessed under the NNI Policy. This information will be of use to all members in evaluating the success of the NNI Policy, and will serve to enhance the transparency of the government's expenditures.

That concludes my opening comments. Individual members may have their own concerns and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Before we proceed, I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have ten 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.

I suggest to members that, where possible, you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates.

Do members have any general comments? There being none. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to just briefly make a general comment in regard to this.

Since I became a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I have been working very hard on behalf of the smaller communities, especially for the communities that don't have any job opportunities. Those are the smaller communities that I represent and I will continue to work hard on behalf of those smaller communities.

I have been asking questions to the Minister of Justice in regard to justice questions and he had responded to me that we have to consider the public safety also. The RCMP and the guards are not the only ones that are safeguarding.

In spite of that, I will continue to work hard on behalf of my constituents. We would like the smaller communities to be considered if you are going to be building healing facilities.

I believe that the smaller communities can take on those responsibilities and I'm sure it can benefit the government, especially if they use the community that is non-decentralized. So therefore, I would suggest that the government consider the non-decentralized communities in the upcoming years when you are establishing those facilities.

So I just wanted to point that out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. (interpretation ends) I have no more members on my list for general comments.

We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates, starting with page E-6. Justice. Details of Capital. Tangible Assets. Total Headquarters Region. \$4 million. Mr. Peterson.

(interpretation) I am sorry, I was giving you too much money; it's \$400,000. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome the minister and his officials to the Committee of the Whole.

Can the minister expand a little bit and provide some details on what the \$400,000 would encompass under the small capital program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those are for various items, for example, we try to take the inmates out to the outpost camps and take them out on the land. It would encompass snowmobiles, vehicles, and especially for the coroner's office, where we have to replace it because of age. It's under small capital in the \$400,000. We have also included computers and compliance with the law. They are all in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I have no other names on my list. Page E-6. (interpretation ends) Justice. Details of Capital. Tangible Assets. Total Headquarters Region. \$400,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Tangible Assets. \$400,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page E-7. Just an information item. E-8. Information item. Turn to page E-9. Justice. Details of Capital. Corrections and Community Justice. Tangible Assets. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is an issue that I've brought up on more than one occasion, and I do get the same response, but I will keep asking that same question until I get the results that I want. I keep referring to the smaller communities and the lack of employment in those communities.

I would like your department to see if it's possible to get some positions placed in the smaller communities. And also for things like healing centres. Also the small communities would like to see those types of facilities and other programs go to the small communities because employment is very limited and the main reason is that they're non-decentralized.

Would the minister be able to consider including the smaller communities when they're looking at the locations of those facilities and other programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're looking at setting up that new correctional centre to be placed in Rankin Inlet because of course we don't want to put anybody in jeopardy. There will have to be additional RCMP members should an emergency arise. If anything happens we would be liable and I don't want to get into that situation while I am the minister. We would like to make sure that the people are safeguarded.

In regard to the healing centre we are currently not dealing with that right now, but of course we will go back to it some time in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the minister for that information. Maybe I misunderstood it but on E-8 that is written as: (interpretation ends) including on the land camps and open custody homes. (interpretation) That's the reason why I brought it up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. I didn't hear a question. We are on page E-9. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I start asking a question I need clarification on this page. It says, "Headquarters Region. Nunavut various correctional centre \$1.5 million" on page E-9 and then over on the Appendix 3, under Justice, it has, on page III-5 it says Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre. Are we talking about the same capital item? Can the minister clarify it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Yes, we are talking about the same thing, and it is becoming quite frustrating going through this every year. So whoever is listening who works on these, please get it right next year. I'm getting tired of this exercise. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for clarifying that. I echo his sentiments; it would be nice if when the capital estimates were printed if they were correct the first time.

This leads me to my next question. Last year the substantiation sheet for this particular project listed Iqaluit as the location, and now we're listing it here as Rankin Inlet. Can the minister clarify for the committee how the decision was arrived at to locate the new facility from Iqaluit to Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was based on the central location of Rankin Inlet, and also, as I said, for security reasons, we require sufficient RCMP presence for backup in the event of an emergency in any facility.

So, Rankin Inlet was the ideal location. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer. Can the minister give us an indication of whether or not there were any consultations with the community of Rankin Inlet with respect to locating a very large correctional facility in their community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They had been inquiring about it for quite some time. I believe at the time when Nunavut was created there were some motions passed with a reflection towards getting a correctional facility in Rankin Inlet.

So this is consistent and we're doing studies right now on the possible location in Rankin Inlet and working with the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. When the Baffin Correctional Centre was originally planned, and constructed, I read the background on it,

it was too small at the time. It was already too small before it was built, and then over the last 20 years or so, it's proven that it was too small, and it's created all kinds of problems for the community of Iqaluit, and the Northwest Territories, and now Nunavut.

With that in mind, can the minister give us some indication of whether or not the new facility will be planned and designed with the next 20 years in mind so that it will be able to accommodate possibly the increased growth of crime in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are contemplating that. We hope that we don't get there, but with that in mind, the design of the facility will be a modular facility so that it will be easier to add on expansions if and when they are required.

So, we have that in mind for the future if we need to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. Can the minister tell us how many beds this facility will have? Or, in other words, how many inmates will this facility accommodate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't finalized those details yet. More studies need to be undertaken but that is happening now.

We're looking possibly at a range between 36 to 48 additional beds at this point, with more possibly...as I said, it will be modular construction design so there may be additions in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Minister. Can the minister tell us what the plans are for the older Baffin Correctional Centre when the new facility opens? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The correctional centre will continue but there may be a focus...like there's a lot of remand inmates at the current facility so there may be an expanded role there. And quite a few of the offenders all come from the Baffin region as well so it will hold primarily Baffin inmates.

So there's a lot of ongoing use of the current facility for future plans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Minister. We're learning as we go along here, that the new health facilities, in Cambridge Bay, in Rankin Inlet, and possibly here in Iqaluit have to be staffed by professional people and a lot of them had to come from outside Nunavut.

One of the problems of getting those facilities fully operational is housing. So my question is; in Rankin Inlet when they open the new facility will there be adequate housing to house the people that will have to work in that facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We're hoping we will hire a lot of local employees and we're working with the College to work on training, future corrections officers, so that we can hire as many local employees as possible. So hopefully it will all be local and so that we don't have to look at housing as much as we do here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister for that information. Will the opportunity be given to the current employees at the Baffin Correctional Centre to transfer to Rankin Inlet, if they wish to work in that facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know what the outcome will be; we'll get there once we all determine that. The primary focus has been to try to hire as many local employees as possible.

The current facility that is in operation now will continue so we're paying a substantial amount now to NWT and Ontario to house inmates. So I'm sure that those savings will be passed on for the operation of the Rankin facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Minister. Can the minister clarify for me again, are you saying that no employees of the Baffin Correctional Centre will lose their jobs as a result of this new facility opening and that they will be given opportunities to transfer, if they are there, to Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said the current facility operation will continue. The focus may change, like there may be more remand inmates, but there will be an ongoing need to have guards in the facility. So that will not change when we open another facility. We're doing that now. We're doing that now in NWT and Ontario, we're paying for those services.

So the current facility will continue, but instead of putting inmates in NWT and Ontario we will be putting them in Rankin Inlet and running those programs for those inmates. That's why we are trying to repatriate some of these inmates so we can treat them with our own programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Minister. Can the minister give us some information on what the current percentage of the Baffin Correctional staff are Inuit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently they are at about 22 percent. By next week they will be about 29 percent. So we are making a significant change in that, and our goal is to have a representative workforce in our department as elsewhere in the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. I believe I read somewhere that the target date for the opening of this new facility will be 2011. A question for the minister, can the minister tell us what plans his department has in place, or will have in place to train a representative work force to work in the Baffin Correctional Centre and in the new facility that opens in Rankin Inlet by that year, 2011. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are currently working with the college as I said earlier, and we are working with our sister territories on how we can get more Inuit trained in Corrections. So that is at a tentative stage because we need to improve our numbers. And in addition, we are hiring a training specialist in this area that can work on this on an ongoing basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer. \$1,500,000 has been budgeted for 2007-08, can the minister give some clarification of what that money, or what exactly that money will be spent on in the next fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are primarily for planning purposes, and we have to identify the site where the facility will be. Once it is identified we have to prepare the ground so that there will be a foundation for the building. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. Can the minister clarify for me, is there going to be an announcement that this facility is going to be located in Rankin Inlet, I ask that question because there was an announcement of the trade school, heritage center, and cultural school in the last year, in various centers. So I am wondering if there will be an announcement about the new correctional facility opening in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's the plan, but we have to have a good idea of the structure, we have an idea of the location, but we have to have detailed plans in place and how it is going to function before we announce.

So that is what we are trying to do with this money for this year, so we could be in a position to announce formally our plan and how it is going to work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. I would like to get an update from the minister on the men's correctional healing lodge that we approved in the capital estimates for Kivalliq in the 2006-07 capital estimates.

I believe we approved \$2,372,000 and it was supposed to be 20 to 24 bed men's correctional healing lodge. I am wondering if the minister can give us some idea of whether a community has been selected for the new men's correctional healing facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In light of the challenges that we've had with Kugluktuk, we decided to refocus our efforts in setting up the correctional centre and focusing on that for now.

In light of our overall fiscal situation as a government we decided to focus our energy on areas that are immediate. So that's why we decided to delay that part for another three or four years, because the focus right now is overcrowding, and we have to address that and plan for it.

But, when time permits, when the correctional facility is out of the way, then we can refocus our energy on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer.

That is surprising, that information. I would have thought that this would have been a priority project for the Department of Justice for the Government of Nunavut. As my colleague Mr. Mapsalak mentioned earlier, these small healing lodges in the smaller communities can often times probably be better for some of our inmates in Nunavut than a large facility.

I guess I'd like to seek some commitment from the minister that this is not an initiative that is going to drop right off the table, that it is an initiative that will be pursued very vigorously by the Government of Nunavut in the coming years to have facilities in the smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. I didn't clearly hear a question but, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said, we're facing a different fiscal situation than where we were a year ago and we've had to refocus our efforts on where we need them the most. And, unfortunately we're very much in need of a facility to repatriate inmates so we can focus programming within the territory. And, for the time being, we have to focus on that now, today.

And, yes, there will be an ongoing need for an additional healing facility, but at this point our focus in our fiscal situation does not permit us to deliver as much as we would like in some situations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. Can the minister explain to the committee, you've mentioned the repatriating inmates from federal facilities to Nunavut. Along with that repatriation comes the responsibility to Nunavut for

Nunavummiut and the inmates that the proper counseling and healing programs will be available to the inmates.

Can you explain to the Committee of the Whole what programs and services will be available to the inmates so that they receive proper counselling and healing so that they can be allowed to go back to their communities if they so wish? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe we are dealing with capital, not operations and maintenance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't realize the minister was getting so testy. He mentioned repatriation and the facilities, so I thought I would take the opportunity to ask the minister to share with the Legislative Assembly and Nunavummiut what his plans are to provide counselling, training, and education to inmates in Nunavut.

I'll ask him again; can he provide that information? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll deal with that when we deal with operations and maintenance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister will probably be dealing with it in Question Period in the coming days, so we won't have to wait that long.

The question on the new justice center, did the new justice center come in under budget, on budget, or over budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): On budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister explain to the committee what the plans are or what happened to the old courthouse facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that Community and Government Services is managing that now, and utilizing it for other purposes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are you finished?

We are on Page E-9. (interpretation ends) Justice. Details of Capital. Corrections and Community Justice. Tangible Assets. Total Headquarters Region. \$1.5 million. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Tangible Assets. \$1.5 million. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page E-10, it is an information item. Go back to Page E-4. Justice. Departmental Summary. Details of Expenditure. Total Capital Expenditure. \$1.9 million. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that the Department of Justice is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Thank you, Minister and your officials, Mr. Weber, and Mr. Dingle. Do you have any closing remarks, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I would like to thank all of you, and have a good evening.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Yes we had a great day.

I would now like to ask Minister Picco, the Department of Education, the Minister of Education, to make his brief opening remarks. Mr. Picco.

Bill 26 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2007-08 – Review in Committee – Education

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to be here today to discuss the proposed 2007-08 Department of Education capital projects budget.

The Department of Education 2007-08 Capital Budget is, again, a strong budget with a proposed expenditure of \$23,395,000 in 2007-08. An additional project budget totaling \$66,024,000 for 2008-09 between 2011-12.

Mr. Chairman, the 2007-08 budget allows the department to undertake nine projects. This plan includes final design leading to the construction of Nunavut's first trades school. The specific program details are currently being refined by Nunavut Arctic College in conjunction with my staff and that of the Community and Government Services. We remain committed, Mr. Chairman, to entering the construction phase in the 2007-08 fiscal year, with a trades training presence in Rankin, as well as Cambridge Bay and Iqaluit, under campus program offerings.

Mr. Chairman, over the past seven years the Department of Education has developed and utilized a comprehensive school facility database which has enabled us to set the priority for each project based on rankings on the current facility's condition, utilization and program requirements. The department continues to gather information from hamlets, District Education Authority's, school operations, Nunavut Arctic College, Community and Government Services as a fundamental part of developing, planning, and managing our portion of our Government of Nunavut Capital Plan.

Mr. Speaker, the department persists in moving forward in a progressive and fiscally responsible manner. This proposed capital plan includes an equitable balance between school and college requirements and therefore will provide Nunavummiut with the best affordable education facilities that this government can offer.

Construction will be ongoing in the communities of Coral Harbour, Gjoa Haven, Iqaluit, and Rankin Inlet during the 2007-08 construction years.

We continue to assess bussing requirements and are adding student transportation replacement and provisions for communities across Nunavut. We have identified a bussing budget that recently supported Sanikiluaq, Kimmirut, and Igloolik and scheduled bus replacements are being developed to service this territory over the next five years.

We have emphasized principles of *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* in our planning and design as well as supporting multi-purpose facilities, partnerships, and student training as fundamental elements in our construction contracts.

The department's capital plan for the next five year cycle will continue to make a great difference in the provision of educational infrastructure here in Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to emphasize that the delivery of the capital programming remains focused on delivering projects and not the budget. With limitations on funding it is imperative that this fundamental management approach delivers the greatest project value to the largest number of communities in the most expedient manner. An example was the recent tendering for Gjoa Haven school renovations. Mr. Chairman, we only received one bid that exceeded the budget by almost \$23 million.

This may seem incredible and we are re-tendering to achieve better value. Our analysis indicates the high bid was not due to a complex or extravagant design, but a current

construction environment where there is a higher demand for trades staff than can easily be filled. We are grappling with these rising costs and trying to meet the budgets, which is also affected by Nunavut's complex construction environments.

Our communities identify many requests for both new facilities and delivering projects quickly. For example, my ministerial colleagues and I are well aware that there was a request to move school projects in Qikiqtarjuaq and Sanikiluaq forward more quickly than the last capital plan. Unfortunately, with limits of total capital funding and the need to be fiscally responsible it is not possible to further fast track capital projects. In the interim steps are being taken to assist schools until projects can be fully delivered. Again, I emphasize that this government is delivering projects as quickly as possible and in a fiscally responsible manner.

As all the members know we must work within the budget framework and there are significant implications to already higher project costs. The additional issues include costs for more staffing; associated housing requirements; building utilities, and ongoing maintenance. All of these issues must be considered when we want to either create new facilities or add existing structures.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to discuss the Department of Education's capital budget for 2007-08 and the subsequent four years. I look forward to the questions from the members, comments, and discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Picco. Does the chairman of the standing committee have comments? Please proceed, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Health and Education, I am pleased to make some opening remarks as we begin deliberations on the 2007-08 Capital Estimates of the Department of Education.

The department's proposed capital budget for next year represents the largest share of the Government of Nunavut's overall capital spending. The Department of Education will account for just over 25 percent of the entire capital budget for 2007-08. The committee fully agrees that this investment in infrastructure is critical to supporting the safe and effective delivery of education services across Nunavut. It is an investment in our future.

The committee has noted, however, that the projected total costs for many capital projects have increased significantly from one year's capital estimates to the next. In five out of eight projects, the projected overall cost estimates have increased from last year's estimates by an average of over \$4 million for each project.

While committee members recognize that this is due to such factors as a 20 to 30 percent rise in the price of construction materials and services, changes in safety codes and such unexpected discoveries during extensive renovations as mould, this trend is troubling.

Another trend appears to be developing with respect to the frequent transfer of significant amounts of funding from one project to another to cover unanticipated cost increases. The committee recognizes that the department's capital planners are faced with the combined pressures of meeting community expectations within a specific time frame and providing completed projects within budget limitations.

Members are supportive of the department's innovative procurement strategies to minimize the costs of materials and encourage efforts to gain the cooperation of the business community in Nunavut in keeping costs as low as possible.

During last year's Committee of the Whole review of the Department of Education's capital budget, a motion was carried recommending that the Inuksuit High School addition project in Qikiqtarjuaq be moved forward in the Government of Nunavut's five-year plan.

The following March, the minister indicated that he would instruct his capital planners to try to move the project up in the capital plan. Members were disappointed to see that this project remains deferred until 2010-11.

The Department of Education faces the difficult challenge of prioritizing its capital investments between school and adult education facility needs. The committee believes that the department's proposed capital budget for 2007-08 demonstrates a good balance in this regard.

Members encourage the department to continue with efforts to address the range of community needs within specific projects. For example, the committee encourages the department to find solutions for establishing dedicated Community Learning Centres for adults, especially in communities such as Grise Fiord and Whale Cove, where facilities are no longer available in part due to growing needs within the kindergarten to grade 12 school system.

With respect to the Nunavut Trades School, the committee has been given to understand that capital planning for trades training is underway in three separate locations; Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay and Iqaluit. The trade school's programs will be conducted under the general governance of the Nunavut Arctic College.

The committee continues to support the department's plans to provide accommodations for students enrolling in post-secondary programs at Nunavut Arctic College. The committee will be closely monitoring the construction progress of the new Arctic College housing units in Iqaluit to ensure that this project will not be delayed due to the transfer of current year project funds to another project.

Committee members urge the minister to monitor the demand for student housing carefully, especially if more individuals are taking advantage of available trades programming. During its review of Nunavut Arctic College, the committee heard from

the public that trades training will be increasingly important for addressing upcoming employment opportunities.

In the past years, the issues of school bussing services for communities have been concerned, while the committee is pleased to see such purchases openly accounted for within the department's capital budget documents, members were surprised to note that new bus purchases are being proposed for the communities of Cape Dorset and Pangnirtung; even though these communities received new busses a relatively short time ago. It is not clear why new busses are once again necessary for these two communities.

Members also question why the five communities identified in last year's capital plan as requiring school busses on a priority basis have been replaced in the current proposed budget by a different five communities. The committee would appreciate a candid clarification on how student transportation arrangements are being prioritized and provided for all Nunavut school communities. It is important that communities and Members of the Legislative Assembly have the clear understanding how student transportation arrangements are organized.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. I am confident that individual members will also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Do members have any general comments? Mr. Peterson.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Is that a motion? Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Yes, that is a motion.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. We have a motion on the floor to report progress, and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Arreak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 26 and the Capital Estimates and would like to report progress. Also Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder to the motion? Mr. Netser. Thank you. There is a motion that 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 for events for tomorrow; at 8:30 in the morning the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* is meeting with and getting a briefing from the Chief Superintendent of the RCMP in the Nanuq Boardroom and all members are invited to attend.

A reminder tomorrow also at 10:30 we have a tour of the Qikiqtani General Hospital by the Minister of Health and Social Services, who is providing transportation.

Orders of the Day for November 23:

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 26

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:57*

