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**Monday, June 4, 2007**

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**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Rankin Inlet North)

*Striking Committee*

**Keith Peterson**

(Cambridge Bay)

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**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk**

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**James Arvaluk**

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Monday, June 4, 2007**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. David Alagalak, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Honourable Levinia Brown, Mr. Tagak Curley, Mr. Joe Allen Evyagotailak, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Honourable 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** (Hon. Peter Kilabuk)(interpretation): Good afternoon. I would like to ask Mr. Curley to lead us in prayer. Mr. Curley.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Good afternoon, Members of the Legislative Assembly and Ministers.

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 066 – 2(4): Gjoa Haven Health Centre**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On May 15 the Gjoa Haven Health Centre suffered water damage as a result of vandals setting off the sprinkler system in the front foyer. The response to this incident by staff, the hamlet, and the community at large is heartwarming and well worth noting in these Chambers.

After the hamlet fire department responded to the alarm, staff arrived at 9:30 p.m. and started to clean up while assessing the damage. The fire crew stayed all night replacing the damaged sprinkler head and reactivating the alarm. The next day, a charter from Cambridge Bay brought in the fire marshall, the building specialists, and an IT specialist to assess and fix what they could. The hamlet helped recruit five extra people to help with clean-up.

Mr. Speaker, the health centre wound up having to close for all but emergencies for three days but it was business as usual by Tuesday, May 22. The staff now calls this adventure an "early spring cleaning," even though it could have been much, much worse.

I would like this House to commend the efforts of the following people to restore the health centre to full function.

Mr. Speaker, the fire fighters are: Fire Chief John Kirnik, Deputy Fire Chief Greg Nahalolik, Captain Otto Ikkutishluk, Sarah Kamimmalik, Joanie Sallerina, Peter Eleehetook, Joanasie Ukuqtunnuaq, Adam Ukuqtunnuaq, and Jenny Kigeak.

I would also like to thank the RCMP Buddy Quant for his contribution.

And the health centre staff: Cary Mosebeck, Sandra Weir, Anna Aaluk, Molly Siutinnuaq, Marcelline Anguttitauruq, Vernoica Komangat, Rebecca Okpik, Rahabi Kamookak, Neevee Tootiak, Mark, Simon Kununak, Hana Nargyak, Treva Ennis, Courtney Beech, Sandy Gunderson, Trisha Quant, and Irma Seelen.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to announce that at this time that as a big thank you goes to the generous spirit of Gjoa Haven residents, the health centre who will be hosting the community feast later this week to thank the individuals who helped with this clean-up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, and Minister of Energy, Minister Picco.

**Minister's Statement 067 – 2(4): Miramar, KIA and the Department of Education: Collaborate!**

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to inform members of an upcoming summer camp for students from the Kitikmeot region being held this summer. This camp has come about through the positive partnership between Miramar Mining Corporation, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and the Department of Education.

The Miramar Mining Corporation is generously sponsoring 32 youth from the Kitikmeot to attend the Kimberlite Career and Technical School in Yellowknife. This is an increase from the 16 students receiving support last year. Mr. Speaker, all students who complete this camp will receive a Career and Technical Studies (CTS) credit for their high school program for learning trades skills. The experience of trade and exposure to different environments will provide confidence to further their education.

Mr. Speaker, this is just yet another example of how Inuit organizations, the private sector, and the Government of Nunavut are working together to provide meaningful growth opportunities for our youth. This type of initiative can ensure that Nunavummiut get the skills that will allow them to more fully participate in the development and the expansion of Nunavut's economy.

Mr. Speaker, we were very encouraged by the success of last year's first camp and know that this summer's will also be a positive experience for all involved. We continue to support and encourage private companies such as Miramar as well as Inuit organizations that seek to sponsor similar programs across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Finance, Minister Simailak.

**Minister's Statement 068– 2(4): Uranium Development Management Plan Principles**

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon.

Building a strong and sustainable economy is the key objective of our government. Fostering a robust mineral exploration and mining industry is a central part of that plan. As we move forward we are ensuring there is a balanced sustainable approach to development that ensures protection of our environment and maximizes opportunities for Nunavummiut.

The Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy identifies the need for the Government of Nunavut to provide clear policy direction to industry, to Nunavummiut, and to our partners in Inuit organizations and the federal government on the development of Nunavut's uranium resources.

To serve as a guide for the development of that policy, and a uranium development management plan, we have established six principles that create a framework for further discussions.

1. The Government of Nunavut regards mining, including uranium mining, as an important source of jobs for Nunavummiut and for revenues to meet the needs of our growing population.
2. The Government of Nunavut recognizes that uranium development places special responsibilities on government because of the nature of uranium and its by-products, the history of its use for both peaceful and non-peaceful purposes, and its potential risks to human health and the environment.
3. Uranium development must have the support of Nunavummiut, especially in communities close to development.
4. The Government of Nunavut will support uranium development in Nunavut provided that the following conditions are satisfied:
  - a. Health and safety standards are issued for workers.
  - b. Environmental standards are assured.
  - c. Nunavummiut must be the major beneficiaries of uranium development.

5. The Government of Nunavut believes that nuclear power will be an important part of meeting global energy needs while limiting greenhouse gas emissions.
6. The Government of Nunavut believes that Canadian Law and international agreements provide assurance that uranium mined in Nunavut will be used for peaceful purposes.

These principles will allow us to move forward and I assure you that Nunavummiut will be consulted during the development of our uranium management plan to ensure that we are fully prepared for the arrival of an era of new mining development in our land. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

#### **Minister's Statement 069 – 2(4): Davis Strait Polar Bear Survey**

**Hon. Patterk Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) With so much of the southern media focusing on how polar bears should be considered an endangered species, I'm pleased, Mr. Speaker, today to be able to give some preliminary results of a survey of the Davis Strait polar bear population. It's a population that gives the appearance of thriving.

The summer will mark the third year that our biologists have worked with Inuit from Igloolik, Pangnirtung, Iqaluit, and Kimmirut. This project is also in partnership with the Baffin HTOs, Quebec, Makivik, Labrador, Greenland, and Parks Canada. The survey will be completed by the fall of this year.

Mr. Speaker, the first two years of the survey have been able to confirm Inuit knowledge that the population has increased significantly since the last survey in the late 1970s. Preliminary numbers show that there are approximately 2,100 bears in this population, up from about 900. However, the study will not be able to comment on the current trend of the Davis Strait polar bears until completion of the third and final year of the mark-recapture sampling this fall. A preliminary analysis and report could be available by winter of 2008.

Still, the initial numbers look very promising and perhaps will give some pause to those wishing to list our polar bears as a threatened species. I will update my colleagues when the final numbers become available. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Minister's Statement 070 – 2(4): Territorial Health Access Fund (THAF)**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Health and Social Services is committed to building healthy communities and promoting self-reliance. Our focus is on maintaining current services in the territory and providing assistance that meets national standards.

We are fortunate to being able to draw on the federal government's Territorial Health Access Fund for strategic investment in our health system. These investments are primarily in training of existing staff, education of potential staff, and enhancing health promotion and illness prevention strategies.

Mr. Speaker, over the past few months, Territorial Health Access Funding has supported training in the following areas:

- Acute Cardiac Life Support
- Emergency Nursing Pediatrics
- Fetal Health Surveillance in Labour

These short-term courses were offered in different locations around Nunavut. Over the next few months they will be training for "Trauma Nursing in a Community Health Centre Setting" which will be offered in the Kitikmeot and Baffin.

Territorial Health Access Funds also supports longer term opportunities, including:

- The Mental Health Worker Training Program, with eight students expected to graduate at the end of this year and a new intake planned for the coming fall
- The Maternal Care and Midwifery Program, which offers a stepped certificate-diploma-degree program
- The Community Therapy Assistance Program, now being development by Nunavut Arctic College, with a January 2008 start
- A Home and Community Care Program, also now in development, with a January 2008 start.

Mr. Speaker, the Territorial Health Access Fund supports a great deal of work going in to the development of a Public Health Strategy for Nunavut. This will have a significant impact on health and health care delivery across the territory.

The Territorial Health Access Fund dates from 2004, when First Ministers agreed to a 10-year plan to strengthen health care. It helps address the unique challenges facing the development and delivery of health services in Nunavut. Nunavut's allocation of the fund is \$21.6 million over five years. It is a welcome support that we are using wisely, to the benefit of all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Arvaluk.

### **Item 3: Members' Statements**

#### **Member's Statement 153 – 2(4): Remembrance of Henry Evaluarjuk**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make these comments in memory of Henry Evaluarjuk. There is a memorial service being held right at this moment for Mr. Evaluarjuk.

A long time ago, when Allan Maktar was a young boy, and before outboard motors came about and we only sailed with sail boats – I believe he passed away when he was in his mid-70s - but there was a time when his father perished in the water when his boat overturned. That is when Mr. Maktar was very young and because the children no longer had anybody to care for them, Henry Evaluarjuk took it upon himself to take care of the children.

My grandmother, Sula Kublu, was Henry Evaloakjuk's sister. He took it upon himself to take care of the children. He would take them out beluga and narwhal hunting, and he provided food for the family and the dog team. He took care of the children.

The people of Pond Inlet know that this individual was known as Kajurjuk, who was a widow. On behalf of Allan Maktar and his descendents, we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Kajurjuk, who gave himself unselfishly to raise the children of another family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Alagalak.

#### **Member's Statement 154 – 2(4): Government Assistance in Replacing Lost Certificates**

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today on behalf of a number of Nunavummiut who are trying to put their affairs in order but are facing difficulties because they don't have the proper paperwork.

Mr. Speaker, as you will know, such things as documents, certificates, and paper proofs of birth, or death, or marriage, are relatively new features in the lives and lifestyle of Inuit.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard from a number of constituents who have had common-law partners for many years that when they decide to do things right and get married; they are

told they have to show a divorce certificate first. For other individuals, it has been 20 or 30 years since they were divorced and over time the documents have been misplaced or lost due to improper storage facilities.

Mr. Speaker, with the current system of government it takes a very long time to get the correct replacement certificates, if at all. For many Inuit, especially for those who have lived through great changes in their lives, going from living off the land to being settled into a house in a hamlet, the storage and handling of important papers and documents is something that had to be learned. Sometimes, Mr. Speaker, we learned the hard way.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the government should be there to assist the population it serves.

The government should not be focusing on red tape and paperwork just to make itself look busy. People who are trying to do the right thing and get their affairs in order should not be punished because they do not have a piece of paper.

Mr. Speaker, I recall that one of the first initiatives of the newly formed Government of Nunavut was to establish the Change of Name Initiative. This process involved Court Services, the Department of Justice, and Vital Statistics all working together to make it easier for Nunavut residents to correct the spelling of their names, the date and place of their birth, and other details that had been incorrectly recorded in the past by the RCMP, the Hudson's Bay managers, and Project Surname for example.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the government to give some consideration to establishing a similar process to assist individuals who have lost or misplaced old documents such as divorce certificates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

#### **Member's Statement 155 – 2(4): Status of the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter**

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to raise the long-standing issue of the status of the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter.

Mr. Speaker, the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter has not been operational for an unacceptably long time. I understand that the government has offered to assist the hamlet to re-establishing this much needed service in the community. But nothing has happened to date. The shelter remains closed.

Mr. Speaker, when the shelter first closed, its employees were left without a job and without being paid for their work.

(interpretation) People in the community who desperately needed a safe place to go had no place to go (interpretation ends) and have nowhere to turn for shelter and safety.

Mr. Speaker, since that time some families have opened their own homes to victims of violence. I would like to commend those individuals for their compassion and their sense of community.

However, Mr. Speaker, I feel that it is the government's responsibility to do whatever it can to ensure that victims of violence and domestic abuse have a safe place to go to.

I urge the Government of Nunavut to make every effort to assist the Hamlet of Kugluktuk, the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter, and any other interested parties such as the YWCA to work together in resolving this situation.

At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will have questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 156 – 2(4): Congratulations to Student Graduates in Qikiqtarjuaq**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Qikiqtarjuaq we went to celebrate the graduates of grade 12 last Friday, on June 1. I would like to thank Minister Picco for attending the graduation ceremony in Qikiqtarjuaq.

I would like to congratulate the grade 12 graduates: Oleena Alookie, Jacopie Qaqqaq, Pasha Kunilusie, Pasha Audlakiak, Linda Kunilusie, and Laisia Kunilusie. Mr. Speaker, these students have graduated grade 12.

On behalf of the members, I would like to congratulate the graduates, and I would also like to encourage young people to complete their schooling and not use alcohol and drugs. It's better to graduate without these negative things in your life and without abusing them. That way, you'll have more opportunity in life and to have a healthier life.

We are very proud of our young people, so I encourage them to live healthy lives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 157 – 2(4): Congratulations to Shawna Sammortok**

**Hon. Patterk Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree with my colleague because drugs and alcohol are not part of a healthy life.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Shawna Sammortok of Chesterfield Inlet who was one of the winners of the 2007 Kivalliq Science Educator Community Students Science Award. This award is given to graduating students who demonstrate efforts and achievements in science subjects, participate in school and regional science fair camps, and are interested in pursuing a post-secondary education.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that Shawna found out this past week that she was accepted to the Nunavut Sivuniksavut Program in Ottawa for this coming September. Recently, she shot her first caribou.

However, it doesn't stop there. Shawna has also been chosen as part of the Cape Farewell group to represent Canada with two other students from Montreal this coming summer on a sailing voyage to Svalbard, Norway, in the Norwegian Arctic, for the purpose of studying climate change in the arctic.

The main focus of the Cape Farewell group is to study climate change with media backup present. Schools throughout Canada and Europe can log on and see what is happening on the trip. The students will travel with well-known scientists, artists, and teachers. The group from Canada will join on the trip with two other students from Germany and seven students from Britain. Shawna will be the only aboriginal Inuk on the trip, and I'm sure, with her obvious enthusiasm for adventure, she will make an excellent ambassador for Nunavut and Canada.

I would like to give a special thanks to Glen Brocklebank the high school teacher in Chesterfield Inlet and his dear wife for all the hard work that they give in the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 158 – 2(4): Inuksuk High School Graduates**

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past weekend we saw one of the largest graduating classes ever from Inuksuk High School here in Iqaluit. Seven of the students will be going on to post-secondary studies here in Nunavut and down south.

As a parent of one of the graduates, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the good work, support, and encouragement shown to the students by the staff and to the 35

graduates, on behalf of your parents, family, and friends, congratulations on your accomplishments. We wish you the very best.

Many of the graduates spoke during the ceremonies. Several mentioned that they were the first in their family to graduate. What an accomplishment.

They also mentioned and thanked their parents for helping them get up in the morning. And as parents that's a major role that we have to play - is to support our children and young people.

Again, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House, parents, and families, congratulations to the 35 graduates from Inuksuk High School. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

#### **Member's Statement 159 – 2(4): Banning of Incandescent Light Bulbs**

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to state to the House that Nunavut has probably the longest period of darkness during a particular time of the year, and it's really unlike any other parts of the provinces where serious greenhouse emissions are occurring.

We expect our government to be introducing a step toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Nunavut, and one of them is to make it illegal to buy a light bulb that we have used for quite a while now. I consider that to be a good publicity stunt that we would be reducing our contribution towards the national average. And when we do compare our national average, it's really very insignificant.

Mr. Speaker, to make the incandescent light bulb illegal in Nunavut is going to have a tremendous impact on our people who have no garages or workshops. There are many more people depending on these flood lights to work on their machines and everything else outside of their places, more so in the high arctic and so on.

So I'm wondering why this government is duplicating the national government's step. They announced the other day, last week I believe, that they will be introducing national standards to make it illegal and ban incandescent lights by 2012.

The minister should not proceed with spending money when the national government is so into the sharing the provinces and contribute towards that.

The minister should actually proceed first in making sure that the new technology he plans to introduce actually works because it will have an impact not only the commercial providers but also people who have no luxury of having a warm place. These new fluorescent lights do not actually work in cold temperatures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 160 – 2(4): Addressing Mental Health**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address an issue that affects all of us, as a community, as a society, and as a territory. That issue is mental health.

Mr. Speaker, mental health is something that affects every part of our daily lives. How we feel inside can make a big difference to our physical health, to the way we interact with other people, to the way we do our jobs, and to the way we deal with life's challenges.

Mr. Speaker, when we feel that our physical health is threatened or vulnerable we have the option of going to our local health centre and being seen by a qualified health professional such as a nurse or a doctor. These professionals are there to help assess and diagnose a problem, an illness, or a disease, and to prescribe a course of action to put us back on the road to good health.

Mr. Speaker, mental health and physical health go hand in hand. One intimately affects the other.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is important that individuals, who feel that their mental health is at risk, have reasonable access to trained and qualified professionals who can help them work towards resolving their problems.

Mr. Speaker, it often seems that we are more open about what can affect our physical health than we are about what affects our mental health.

Even in this House we can openly discuss things like cancer, infectious diseases, disabilities, or diabetes. But we are less comfortable raising issues such as substance abuse, depression, mood disorders, or schizophrenia.

Mr. Speaker, think of how difficult it is for an individual or concerned family member to come forward and seek help for a mental health issue. Staff and resources must be available and accessible in our communities so that there are no additional barriers for individuals to have their mental health problems addressed.

Mr. Speaker, last week a number of groups and individuals met in Cambridge Bay for the *Healing through Sharing* conference to exchange ideas and information relating to the awareness and treatment of mental health issues.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the Department of Health and Social Services in its efforts to improve programs and services for addressing mental health issues in Nunavut.

At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will have questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Kattuk.

### **Member's Statement 161 – 2(4): Sanikiluaq Youth Committee**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I rise to make my statement I would like to send my greetings to this individual who is my birthday buddy in Sanikiluaq.

I rise today to express my gratitude to the Sanikiluaq Youth Committee. This youth committee takes many young people out camping and they take care of these younger people while they are out camping.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my gratitude to the elders who do the instructing, especially Mina Inuktaluk, Sarah Kudluarok, Johnny Tookalook, Johnassie Iqaluk, and Mary Iqaluk. For a few weeks, these elders take care of youth out on the land. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet south and Whale Cove, Ms. Brown.

### **Member's Statement 162 – 2(4): Literacy Council Event in Rankin Inlet**

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to announce the developments from last month, and also in April, there were Hamlet Days and Akallak Days. There were different kinds of activities and they had some dog team races.

What I'd like to say at this time, (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, last month, there was a very exciting event happening with the Peter Gzowski Invitational Golf Tournament, which took place in Rankin Inlet.

Many people from everywhere came to Nunavut from Nunavut and far away places, which brought well-known northern personalities, such as our own Premier from Nunavut, our very own Minister of Education who has a CD, Mayor of Rankin Inlet, Lorne Kusugak, and a story teller, Arvaluk Kusugak.

Celebrities who came to Rankin Inlet were radio personalities such as Sheila Rogers, actor Jonathan Torrens, award-winning author and teacher, Joseph Borden, who wasn't on my team, award-winning magician, Pauny Kaldor, and Mike Stevens, Peter Gzowski's daughter Alison, and some of the well-known Inuit artists, hip-hop and rap artists, Taqalik Partridge from Kuujuaq, and Geronimo Inutiq from Clyde River, also from Iqaluit.

(interpretation) During the golf game, they were way ahead of us. For example, the Minister of Education, they were very slow compared to us, so it was kind of inconvenient, even though we wanted to finish ahead of time, they slowed us down, like Minister Picco. I just want you to know that this is very important for a literacy project within Canada, and they try and fundraise...

**Speaker** (interpretation): Madam Brown, your time is up. You can ask for consent to complete your statement.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): My apologies, and thank you. Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Brown. The member is asking for unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Ms. Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues. I'd like to thank and recognize the people who organized this, Sandy Kusugak and Kim Crockett, and all the staff and volunteers who work for literacy.

This was a very worthwhile cause and one of the people who prepared it was David Clark, who had to prepare the golf course and it was lots of fun. We heard that the money they raised was over \$6,000. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Brown. Members' Statements. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Barnabas.

### **Member's Statement 163 – 2(4): Support for Homeowners**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. I rise today in regard to the homeowners. They don't have too many opportunities, for example, they are not recognized by the banks when they want to borrow money because the unit they live in doesn't have market. They can't move to social housing.

Once the homeowners move, there is no assistance for maintenance or operations, so they spend a lot more. For that reason, they can't move to another unit, and this is not acceptable.

Maybe at the appropriate time I will be raising those questions to the Minister of Housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery**

**Speaker** (interpretation): My colleagues, (interpretation ends) I am pleased to draw the members' attention to the presence in the Gallery of the visiting Parliamentary Interns from the House of Commons. These young Canadians are participants in a prestigious national program. They are in Iqaluit this week for their study tour. The participants are:

1. Lindsay Aagaard, from Newmarket, Ontario
2. Jason Bisanz, from Edmonton, Alberta
3. Erin Crandall, from Moncton, New Brunswick
4. David Rancourt, from Sherbrooke, Quebec
5. Laura Smith, from Chatham, Ontario; and
6. Daniel Sampson, from Saint-George-de-Beauce, Quebec.

Welcome to the Gallery.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you. (interpretation) Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit East, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure today to introduce to the Gallery one of the candidates in the upcoming federal election, as well as no stranger to this House, a former employee of the Assembly, Mr. Kirt Ejesiak. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome to the Gallery. Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

**Question 196 – 2(4): Benefits of Banning Incandescent Light Bulbs**

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Energy. Earlier I stated that the plans that he asked to reduce greenhouse emissions include the banning the long serving incandescent lights from Qulliq Technologies to our current light bulbs.

I wonder if the minister can speak to the House exactly what benefits did the minister have, in terms of percentage of the tonnage that would be reduced per year, because according to the federal estimate there will be about 6,000,000 tonnage per year of reduction with the banning of the incandescent lights.

Does the minister have any figures to support his case to ban such useful incandescent lights? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Energy, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're looking forward to later today, to do the second reading of the bill. I would suggest to the member that I think I've already stated in the House that the federal government has come forward with a figure of 6,000,000 tonnes; I believe the member is correct.

We believe in Nunavut, based on greenhouse gas emissions by moving forward we can eliminate up to 1,300 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it's important that Nunavut communities know exactly what benefits that we're seeing and also the negative side of this is tremendous I think because the proven technology for the fluorescent lights has not been proven yet in this part of the world.

We are serving the people up here. It is important the minister issue a number of reasons and a case to ban such practice, which the federal government is ultimately going to have a new regulation to ban them, so why duplicate the federal initiative? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Energy, Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't want to get into a debate with the member on a proposed legislation that hasn't come before the House on second reading. But, what I would say, very quickly, is that some of the statements that the member has said are partly incorrect and those are several.

Hundreds of households have been using the compact fluorescent light bulbs for the last several years in Nunavut. I know many of the members have them in their houses.

The member, in his statement, said that we were trying to ban lights being used outdoors and so on, and that's not the case. In regulations, we've already said I believe publicly, that people using trouble lamp lights, water lights, other types of incandescent lights will still be allowed.

If we wait for the federal government to pass their legislation - they've only announced their legislation, they haven't passed it. So if we wait for them to do it in 2012, as Nunavummiut, we see global warming and climate change happening, we want to do something here locally in Nunavut.

Just because the federal government has announced something, it doesn't mean they're actually going to pass it. As we know, there may be a federal election this fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. Surely the minister has some idea of exactly what the benefits are, but he has failed to introduce any figures of exactly how much it would cost to administer the new programs. He has already made it known through the press that he has planned to ban, and make it illegal to have incandescent lights.

Even if the hunter or outdoorsman is using incandescent lights, will it be illegal for the particular supplier to have to sell these incandescent lights upon the effect of the legislation coming into force? Will it be so, even if the hunter is able to use it, it doesn't mean the supplier will have a legal reason to sell a product, is that so? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Energy, Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Mr. Speaker, for the record again, the member is incorrect. We have never said, in any type of format, that it would be illegal to have the light bulbs.

What we have suggested is what the member has said at the end that we're looking at the banning the sale of incandescent bulbs. However, in the regulations of the bill, there will be all kinds of specific uses but you would still have them: outside water lights, for example; in cold porches, for example; trouble lights, for example; in garages, sewing machines, refrigerators, stoves, and so on, Mr. Speaker.

So the member is correct in when he's saying that we're looking at banning the sale of the incandescent bulbs. There will be a timeframe and guidelines within the regulations of the Act at that time.

Again, we have had some public consultation hearings. The majority of the comments we have heard back have been very positive. We've also heard from other jurisdictions in the country on how they're going to move forward. As we said earlier, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Australia, and Canada have all come out and said they're doing the same thing. Nunavut

is a little bit on the leading edge here. We believe there's an opportunity. So again, when we bring the bill forward we will have an opportunity to debate it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister may try to convince Nunavummiut that we're at the leading edge but we're not at the leading edge when it comes to research.

There is no proven technology. These fluorescent light bulbs work in warm places at room temperature like this room or households throughout Nunavut but they don't actually work outside in temperatures below zero. So for that reason, will the minister undertake to do a proper, leading-edge research in technology and table that report by this fall? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Energy, Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Mr. Speaker, again, I want to make sure that everyone in Nunavut understands what the member is saying. It's incorrect. When we say we're banning the incandescent light bulb, we're talking about the old light bulb that we see outside and so on.

However, Mr. Speaker, we've talked about inside houses using the compact fluorescent light bulb, and we also have LED lights, which won't be banned. So, for example, in every community that I've been in over the last several years, people are using LED Christmas lights that are outside at -40. Those lights are used everywhere, Mr. Speaker. We note that those lights will be used. Around the building and outside here in the Legislature during Christmas time - LED lights. So it's not just one kind of light bulb, Mr. Curley.

So hopefully, the members and public at large will understand that there is no need to be in a type of a scare mode or what have you. LED lights have been used throughout Nunavut and in cold climates not just in Nunavut, and we would be looking at the CFLs mostly in peoples' houses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions Member for Akulliq, Mr. Mapsalak.

#### **Question 197 – 2(4): Assistance for Widowers**

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

I've been asked more than once by my constituents for the widows and widowers in my community to illness. They had lost elders for those that had homeowners and the spouse

was working, and then they passed away. They get stuck in a situation where they're not able to pay. Some of them have passed away when they're less than 60 years old. Is there assistance to those widows and widowers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we work with the widows and widowers on how we could assist them properly when their spouses pass away. And we would work with those people that you are talking about so that they are comfortable while they are alone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm talking about the younger generation when they lose their spouses and their spouse was not working. So this is who I'm talking about. Are you talking about those people? Is there assistance for those widowers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are able to help those, even if they are 18 years old and if they have their own home; we would assist them as well. We deal with them case-by-case and we do assist them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. There are many that listen and many have been in those cases.

Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to the Minister of Housing. For those who are in situations like that, some of them are totally lost and are not able to get assistance in their communities, even through the housing associations in their communities.

Would they be able to assist those kinds of people? Would you put those in your policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, I'm saying, again, that we would be working with them, and our people would help them as to how we could further assist them once they get to be alone.



We are open to help those people who have their own homes and we are trying to help them with everything we have, for those who have their own homes and as to how best we can assist them

These are pretty hard to deal with at times and we are trying to show them that they are available to assist them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe the minister could identify where they would go for assistance if they are in that situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For those that are homeowners in the communities, they would come to the regional housing association offices. The Housing Corporation is in Arviat for your region so that they could contact them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 198 – 2(4): Status of the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter**

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Earlier today I raised the issue of continuous closure of the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter. In March, the minister indicated that discussions on this specific issue that were ongoing between her department officials and the hamlet. Can the minister provide an update on the status of those decisions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot provide an update on the decisions because there have been no decisions made.

The challenge that we have had in dealing with the women's shelters' situations in Nunavut is that there is just not enough funding to accommodate or try and address all the needs that have been identified by various communities to open the facilities in Nunavut

The women's shelter situation in Kugluktuk was operated by a society, not the government. The society decided to close because of challenges they had in staffing and so on.

The hamlet has put forth a proposal to operate a facility, but it is four or five times higher than the budget that we had identified. That has been a challenge for us. I think everyone here knows that this year's budget was basically zero-based budget. So it has been difficult to accommodate the request at the community level.

But in the interim, the victims of violence in the community are sent to either Yellowknife or Cambridge Bay for the facility when the service is required by the victims of abuse. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister. I heard in a recent news report that delegations from the Iqaluit woman's shelter will be attending the national YWCA conference to address issues related to violence against aboriginal women.

Can the minister clarify to this House whether any of her department staff will be attending this important conference? If not, why not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My department has been involved with many different files around violence against women. First, we are trying to support the woman's shelter in Iqaluit and working with YWCA. We are in contact with them.

At the same time, I will be hosting a conference in three weeks in Iqaluit on Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers Meeting on the Status of Women. One of the subjects on that is going to be on violence against women. This coming month, we are participating in a conference at a national level, the Aboriginal Women's Summit.

There are a number of fronts that we're involved in, not just the YWCA discussion but a number of conferences throughout Nunavut as well as outside of Nunavut to try and address violence against women. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aglukkaq. Your second supplementary, Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. Last December the Premier tabled the Final Report of the Symposium on Violence Against Women that was

held here in Iqaluit. In March the minister indicated that her department would be working on an important plan to address the recommendations from that report.

Can the minister provide an update on the status of that implementation plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some of the recommendations from that report have been dealt with. For instance, we introduced the *Family Abuse Prevention Act* last sitting. The implementation plans are still being coordinated through the department and will be released some time this summer or this fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. The former employees of the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter are concerned. Can the minister give me some good news that I can take home to let those individuals in the community know when the Kugluktuk Crisis Shelter may, once again, be opening its doors? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess the good news for Nunavut would be that there would be no violence in Nunavut. In terms of situations related to opening a shelter, I have nothing to report at this point in time. I can look to see where my staff are in terms of their discussions.

At this point in time I have nothing new to report other than that. We have been trying to continue that service in Nunavut to the victims of violence through the current shelters that we have in place within the territory and in Yellowknife. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat, Mr. Alagalak.

#### **Question 199 – 2(4): Programs and Services for Disabled People**

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Disabled People.

Mr. Speaker, last year in December I made a statement to the Minister of Health and Social Services at the House and I heard that they were going to start working on these issues for wheelchairs for the disabled people that have batteries.

I brought them up at the last House sitting. The batteries get low very quickly and very hard to push, and the wheels are too small, especially when there are puddles around on the roads. This is happening again this spring. Are there any plans as of our last House sitting in this House?

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Wednesday I'll be tabling a booklet that consolidates all the programs and services that are available to people with disability in the territory; programs that are offered from Nunavut Government, the federal government, and community-based initiatives; and what services are available to people with disability, as the member describes. That booklet will be tabled this week.

In terms of the specific individual situations, I can try to respond to that, but what we do provide is that we try and provide rehabilitation services and support programs to people that are disabled; whether it is through hearing aids, or wheelchairs, and so on.

So those programs and services are available to individuals that require that service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What she spoke about, the booklet that is going to be tabled in the House, is it from the Nunavut Government, or from other agencies in Canada, or elsewhere? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The booklet that we produced was in partnership with all levels of government. What we tried to do there was consolidate in one information booklet all the services and programs that are available to people with disabilities.

So it was in partnership with the federal government, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Government of Nunavut, as well as the communities in trying to consolidate that so that it is easier for people with disabilities to access the services of the various levels of government that offer programs for people with disabilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister state that... the issues with batteries in wheelchairs and the wheels being too thin to go through Nunavut

roads because of the sandy roads and stuff; will the minister be providing an alternative for those problems that they have in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has been some progress in trying to do more research around that in Nunavut through work with people with disabilities. In fact they are meeting in Rankin Inlet next week. We've also been working with the Rick Hanson Foundation to try and do more research on spinal cord injuries in the north. In fact, I believe he is arriving tomorrow.

We'll be doing an announcement with him as well as the Premier on what we're trying to do in the north to research further some of those challenges. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to hear that there will be a meeting in Rankin Inlet. I wonder if the members can be provided with the minutes of that meeting and the recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister for Health and Social Services, Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I would be prepared to share that information. I have staff that will be there, as well as staff from various other departments. I would be pleased to report that once I have it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 200 – 2(4): Addressing Mental Health**

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

Earlier I spoke about the importance of addressing mental health issues, as well as physical health issues. Can the Minister of Health provide some information on what resources or personnel are available to Nunavut residents to help them address their mental health issues? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently, we have some programs available in the community through the health centres, social workers, and mental health workers; there are also addictions counsellors in hamlet offices.

At the same time the department had undertaken a training program in Nunavut to train mental health workers for positions in various communities. Presently, we have the director of mental health competition out to start dealing with some of those issues.

At the same time, the Government of Nunavut tabled, in 2003, I believe, a Mental Health Strategy. We continue to try and implement the recommendations coming out of that report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that update. Just as a person with complicated physical illness needs to see a specialist, so do people with complicated severe mental health problems need to see a specialist such as a psychiatrist.

I remember a few years I met a psychiatrist, not for myself, I met a psychiatrist in the airport in Cambridge Bay who had come up from a university. He had been there two days and he saw 35 people. He only came up every three or four months.

My question for the minister: can the minister update this House on how often psychiatric services are provided to Nunavut communities?

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Most communities receive specialist visit from out of territories, such as the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital. In the instance of Cambridge Bay, they receive a visit; a psychologist travels to Cambridge Bay every three months and stays for approximately a week.

It depends on the workloads and caseloads by community, so it would vary by needs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. The minister indicated that the director of mental health in Nunavut position is out for competition. I recall earlier this year in March when I asked the minister about that position, it was vacant then. I think it's a very important position.

My question for the minister: can the minister provide an update on when she anticipates filling the position of director of mental health and what steps are currently being taken to administer the department's territorial initiatives of mental health, if that position is all vacant? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The director of mental health position has been vacant for some time. We've had a difficult time filling it. We've just recently relocated that position to Cambridge Bay and the ad is out now. It's not closed yet.

I hope to have the position filled, and once that position is filled, we will be able to do more coordinating and planning around mental health. But as it is right now we've had a difficult time recruiting for that position and hope to have it sometime this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. I hope the recruitment process isn't hampered by the high cost of GN staff housing.

I'm concerned that poor mental health is a much greater issue in Nunavut than we have acknowledged to date; it has been driven deeper and deeper by related issues such as addiction and abuse. We've talked about that often in this House and there seems to be no end to it.

My question for the minister: will the minister commit to making mental health issues one of her top priorities from now on? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mental health is a priority at the government and this year we'd like to focus on developing an Addiction Strategy for the north, in addition for the recommendations that were presented in the 2002 Mental Health Strategy.

At the same time many of the initiatives that we're undertaking, such as Inuuqatigiitsiarniq Symposium, many of those tie into mental health as well, victims of violence tie into mental health as well. So there are a number of initiatives that we try and address.

At the same time we're looking at the Public Health Strategy and developing strategies in the community level in keeping people healthy, and that's all tied in. The key for us right

now is to get the director in place to put the full attention it requires to develop a stronger strategy for the north. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Kattuk.

### **Question 201 – 2(4): Obtaining Drivers' Licences**

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

I worked with the minister and I really respect him, but the people who try to get their drivers' licences do not get their licence right away. It takes them a long time. Sometimes it's about eight, six, or ten months.

Those individuals did not get their drivers license until ten months later, and the minister is aware of that. I worked with him about the delay in drivers' licences. Perhaps if the communities can do it the other way around whereby there is a place to get drivers' licences right in the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker...

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry, it is unfortunate these kinds of things take a long time because the paperwork is going back and forth from the community. If they're not completed, then they send it back to that community.

That is the reason for the delay to get drivers' licenses for individuals in Nunavut. That's what we're dealing with all the time. We're training people in the communities to do those sorts of work. We also have to have more stringent rules in Canada in regard to driver's license issuing because the licenses have to be compatible with the rest of Canada, and they have a strict rule whereby they have to all be the same.

I know that there are problems that have to be solved in regard to this but we're working on it right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think there's a problem with the mailing system. For example, when people are trying to get a license, they send out their application and before they receive their license, they have to use their old license.

Do I understand from the minister that... Perhaps if I ask another question.



People applying for licenses, will they be able to get some assistance in their own community in acquiring licenses? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister responsible for Transportation, Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have made an application to get my own license. We have to provide the old license when applying for a new one. I will try to get the information as to the procedure and I will get back to the member.

What we have done is that the application for a new license has to be shipped to Rankin Inlet, Iqaluit, or Gjoa Haven. They have to make sure that the application is complete and they have to make sure that the rules are followed in trying to acquire a license. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To make it clear to the minister, if I send a picture along with my application for a driver's license, do they use the same picture from the previous license? Is that why you have to send the old driver's license along with the application, and is that why it takes about ten months? Will the minister undertake to expedite the process so that people can get their licenses sooner? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister responsible for Transportation, Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have heard from many people in Nunavut that when they're trying to get their license, it takes about ten months, although some of them don't take that long. We have heard that so many times so we have to do something about it.

Because this is the responsibility with the community of Gjoa Haven, we feel that this has to be resolved to make it a little bit faster for people to get their driver's licence. That's what we are trying to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once the minister resolves the problem, can he inform the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will let the members know as soon as we have done something about the problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 202 – 2(4): Educating Health Professionals**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services.

I was looking over her Minister's Statement today and I noticed something there. It was talking about the Territorial Health Access Fund. One of the things that it has in there is that these investments are primarily in training existing staff and education of potential staff.

It is my understanding that the department has their own HR Division that does all the recruitment of nurses and stuff like that. So would it be this division that would get people more educated before they hire 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. There is a coordinator for this program that works out of the Cambridge Bay office under the ADM of Operations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know every community across the territory is going to see the reliance that we have on international nurses or international agency nurses.

Does the Human Resource Division in the Department of Health provide the minister with regular updates on how many people apply for jobs, how many interviews they have had, how many offers they have had, and that type of information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not asked for that level of detail. What I have asked for was a percentage of vacancy rates for nurses, and so on, but not to the level of the detail that the member has described. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given the dire need of nurses, I would assume that any qualified that applied for a job in Nunavut would be snapped up like that.

I am just wondering if the minister could get that information from her HR Division and provide it to us. I guess my second supplementary is: will the minister commit to providing that information to the members? 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 can commit to providing that information to the member and this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I am looking at this area is it was brought to my attention by a friend of mine who is a friend of an emergency room nurse that applied for a position here in Nunavut.

It took the Department of Health quite some time to get back to that individual and when they did finally get back to that individual, they set up an interview with that person, and then when the time came for the interview, they did not call.

So I am just wondering if the minister could ask if there are any cases that they are aware of that they did not call the people they had set up interviews for and provide that information to us as well. 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. If the member can provide me with the name of that individual that was not called and I will follow up. I will also ask how many competitions that we've had so far where individuals were called. But, in that particular situation and that person, I would need the name of that person that was not called to follow up and report back. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Question 203 – 2(4): Status of the Review of the Fuel Tax Rebate Program**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Hearing my colleague asking questions, we should have hiring agencies and not agency nurses. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance, who is responsible for the GN's Fuel Tax Rebate Program.

In the government's official response to a petition that I presented in the House, the minister indicated, and I will quote to be perfectly clear, "I have directed my officials in the Department of Finance to review the program and make the necessary changes to address the concerns. For example, we are suggesting an expansion of the program to allow all hunters and harvesters to access the program, regardless of whether or not they are employed or classified as a commercial hunter. As well, we are making the forms simpler and easier to complete."

When I asked the minister about this issue in March, he told the House that the changes were in progress. Can the minister tell the House today exactly when he will table the details of the revised Fuel Tax Rebate Program to reflect these changes? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been dealing with it on an ongoing basis. Our department has been working closely with the communities in regard to the Fuel Tax Rebate Program. We are working closely with the communities to make sure that we get the people who are eligible for this program with the hamlet councils.

The forms are almost complete at this point and we will have one more meeting prior to the completion of making those changes. We're not in a rush to change them; we just want to make sure that everyone who is eligible to get a rebate through this program has full access and will get one. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister originally indicated that the government's first annual report on the Fuel Tax Rebate Program would be tabled some time in March. We are still waiting for it. When will the report be tabled? Thank you.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (intepretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We work closely with EIA and Nunavummiut. We had sent a copy to all of the Members of the Legislative

Assembly, the hunters and trappers organizations, and the hamlet councils to make sure that those reports are easily accessed.

At this time we are still working on the changes required and also working on completing the forms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate to us today how many hunters have actually been able to take advantage of the program to date and how much the government has spent to date on Fuel Tax Rebates for mining companies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. If you understood the question, Minister of Finance, Mr. Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to how many hunters took advantage of the program to date and how much the government has spent to date on Fuel Tax Rebates for mining companies, I am willing to commit to the member that I will get all the numbers figured out and given to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will wait anxiously for those details.

My final question is: in the minister's view, has this program been a success, and if so, how is it going to be evaluated? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. I will leave it up to the minister to respond to this question.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ever since our meeting in March, the department and I have been working very closely in making the changes; I think it was about two or three weeks ago that we had our last meeting.

At that last meeting I gave direction to fine-tune the report and the forms, and I'm sure it will be beneficial to all of Nunavut.

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

**Question 204 – 2(4): Government of Nunavut Hiring Policies and Procedures**

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Human Resources.

I believe that it is important for our government to have fair and open hiring policies. It is important that we have rules in place to ensure that the people who are making the hiring decisions are not in conflict of interest in situations where an immediate relative is applying for a job.

Can the minister tell this House today how the Department of Human Resources makes sure that all Government of Nunavut jobs competitions are fair and open? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister responsible for Human Resources, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I understood your question correctly, the Department of Human Resources, of course, has a policy that they have to adhere to as all other departments do.

If a department wants to set up a position, it is up to the Department of Human Resources to help that department that is going to be opening up a job competition. They also have policies that they have to adhere to where we apply the priority hiring.

With the various government departments: we just follow through with what they want and we give them advice and support on the applications, who should be interviewed, and so on. We follow all the rules, procedures, policies, and so on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. The rules should be followed in a lot of communities. In the smaller communities, everyone is family. However, it is more important to make sure that nepotism is not allowed in our government's hiring practices.

When job competitions are being held, how does the department make sure that the employees are not interviewing their own relatives and making hiring decisions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister responsible for Human Resources, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Each department identifies who will be interviewing while they're interviewing an applicant, and also each

department gets an interview person. Also, there is one interviewer from our department. When they are interviewing an applicant, they look at the merit of the individual's experience.

We look more at the individual's merit rather than individuals' relative. That's how we operate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. According to the Government of Nunavut's most recent Public Service Annual Report and other information from the minister, the Cabinet approved 66 direct appointments in 2005-06 and 107 direct appointments in 2006-07. Why has the number of direct appointments increased so much in the last year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister responsible for Human Resources, Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Directly appointed employees starting from April 1, 2006 to 2007; there were 107 direct appointments and out of all of these 107, only one individual was a non-beneficiary. There were 106 beneficiaries. That's how it's easier to staff a position when there are Nunavut beneficiaries applying, like direct appointments requested by the departments.

After the department requests for direct appointments, if a department wants to hire under direct appointment, the Department of Human Resources reviews the department's request to make sure it follows all the guidelines prior to it being given to the Cabinet level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. My last question: how does the Department of Human Resources make sure that the direct appointment is fair and open? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Minister of Human Resources, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Human Resources staff always review the departments' request, especially for direct appointments. That's why the Department of Human Resources has to review it to make sure that they abide by the rules that you just asked a question on, to make sure that they're fair and open, and to make sure that the process is open. That's why the Department of Human Resources reviews the requests for direct appointments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 205 – 2(4): Investigation of Recent Death in Rankin Inlet**

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

As the minister is aware, a recent death in the Rankin Inlet Health Centre has caused questions to be asked with respect to the timelines and quality of care that the deceased received. The family is asking why the deceased was waiting for more than two hours in the waiting room before he collapsed, although he had seen some nurses.

My first question to the minister is this: has she ordered an internal investigation into this incident? If so, when will she receive its findings, and if not, why not?

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The way the individual presented the facts, they're not entirely accurate, but I cannot speak to that particular file.

At the same time, pursuant to Rule 23(g) (ii), I cannot respond to that question in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Members, I wish to advise you that I will stop the clock at this time until we check the Rulebook on that particular situation. Just wait a second, please.

(interpretation) [I apologize, Members. During this Question Period the minister has chosen to go with the options given to her under the Rulebook, which is not go on to the question, and time for Question Period has passed.] Thank you. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley**: My Point of Order is that I had a number of follow up questions to my earlier follow up question, and I'm not sure how the translation came out, but I certainly have a Written Question and I'm sure they were accurate. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. [Yes, according to the Rules, she used 23(g) (ii) and they're in there. If you wanted another opportunity to ask your questions, you may do so through another avenue, but the Question Period is over now.] Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the English Channel I just heard you speaking in Inuktitut, so I didn't hear anything that you said. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation ends) If you did not get my comments on my last comments, the minister has chosen to go with the options given to her under the Rulebook, which is not gone to the question, and the time log has passed for Question Period. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had a number of follow up questions and my time certainly did not expire when I did, but they did expire only when you were conferring with your officials. So my question is: why I am prevented from my follow-up question? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. As I indicated earlier, the minister has chosen not to respond to your questions as this time, which does not allow you to proceed with these supplementary questions on that particular matter.

The Question Period time has lapsed. As a result, we will proceed to agenda Item 7. Written Questions. (interpretation) Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

### **Item 7: Written Questions\***

#### **Written Question 007 – 2(4): Victims of Violence in Nunavut**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a Written Question for the Minister of Health and Social Services on the issue of victims of violence in Nunavut. The question is quite detailed and I ask that it would be entered into the record as read. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Please bring the Written Question forward.

Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Minister responsible for Human Resources and Culture, Language, Elders, and Youth, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like unanimous consent from members to go back to Item 4. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Minister Tapardjuk.

### **Revert to Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions**

#### **Return to Oral Question 175 – 2(4): Informing Union on Transfer of Positions**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

\*See appendix for full text of Written Question 007 – 2(4): Victims of Violence in Nunavut.

On May 30, Member Hunter Tootoo had asked a question to the Department of Human Resources. The question was when the department wanted to make the changes.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond on February 28, the Human Resources heard about this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We returned to Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. 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 Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notice of Motions. Item 15. Notice of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Education and Energy, Minister Picco.

### **Item 18: Second Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 13 – Nunavut Energy Efficiency Act – Second Reading**

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 13, *Nunavut Energy Efficiency Act*, be read for the second time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. To the motion. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to at least make a principle statement on the bill. I believe that we are rushing into this, what I call, aside from light bulb legislation, is a publicity legislation to try and kick start something that we really don't have any resources to do, in view of the fact that we also have an expected \$14 million deficit this year.

We are actually not sure exactly who is going to be the implementing agency to make sure who will police the light bulb legislation. Why and how we are going to see the new technologies, or the efficiency, when you cannot have the actual supplier carry this particular light bulb, which has served Nunavummiut quite well.

For that reason, the minister has not tabled any acknowledgment, or report as to how, aside from the good temperature like this, that the fluorescent light bulb will do, or how well it works as the replacement for the incandescent light bulbs, or how it will actually perform in the cold weather. It may be very funny for the minister because he does not really depend on hunting and probably has a very good garage, and so on.

There are hunters out there that depend on it but, surely, they're going to have to have a much longer period than four years to ban completely the light bulb that is operating. The

suppliers will be limited, no doubt. The suppliers will not be willing to bring in this incandescent light bulb once the legislation is passed and so on.

For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I think it's untimely. The federal government has a direct plan to introduce legislation to that effect. It would be well that we do not proceed with this legislation and vote against it. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) To the principle of the bill. (interpretation) Member for Tununiq, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't object to the intent of the bill, but we just don't know if we're going to be able to proceed because in our communities they don't light up in the porches because it's too cold. We have to change the light bulbs in the porches.

Why are we in a rush to go ahead with the bill because usually the government wants to make sure whether those will be effective or not. Maybe do two to five houses in Nunavut. The Pond Inlet Arena was tested in the 1970s and now they finally know it's not adequate after 30 years.

For that reason, we don't seem to have enough information whether this will be positive or not. So I will not be supporting this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. (interpretation ends) To the principle of the bill. (interpretation) Member for Iqaluit East, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very quickly, to the principle of the bill, there has been a lot of misinformation being said here today. There has been.

For example, to the principle of the bill, I don't have a garage, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say very quickly that LED lights are out there right now. When we're talking about banning the incandescent light bulb, we're talking about technology that's 100 years old. We're not in a rush to do that.

This bill, when it receives second reading, if it receives second reading, goes to the standing committee. The standing committee will take that like every piece of legislation and go out and do public hearings and hear from all Nunavummiut. That's the prerogative that provides the check and balance for the legislation.

If there are items that aren't available right now, they will become available during the committee hearings. The committee then has the opportunity to report the bill back and then we vote on the bill. That provides the opportunity.

Right now, we've only gotten to the point of doing the second reading of the bill. So there's a lot of information to come forward. There has been some concern raised about cold weather.

There are compact fluorescent light bulbs, or CFLs, that work in the cold. That technology has already been tested and used in Alaska; it has been used in Greenland; it has been used in many other places, so some of the fear mongering that has been said is not correct.

The principle of the bill, Mr. Speaker, very quickly, is that after, and if the bill receives the second reading, then we will be able to have a proper debate and we'll have the opportunity to talk to all Nunavummiut, then the standing committee will be able to report back and say yes, this is a good bill, or no, it's not a good bill, or maybe you should change your timeline.

That's the principle of the bill. That's the democratic process that we're allowed to do in this House to give people an opportunity to speak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Picco. (interpretation ends) To the principle of the bill. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to support the principle of the bill.

Those light bulbs are more efficient and they don't use as much fuel. We can't control the price of fuel but we can certainly control the amount of oil we use. If we use less fuel, it would be cheaper. That's why I support the principle because we spend a lot of money on that.

That's one of the things that businesses find; the fuel is very expensive. So I support the bill. It was already mentioned on how it can also assist. There are different things that are being used and they can work just as well in cold weather.

So I will support this and I will be very happy if my colleagues can look to the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Premier. To the principle of the bill. Member for Arviat, Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly to the principle of the bill; the fluorescent lights are about 13 watts and they give enough light, but once it's cold, because it doesn't go on right away, it doesn't give off that much light, and then it uses more power.

It doesn't seem to be equal because it takes a long time for it to turn on. When that is the case, does it use more power? Do fluorescent lights use more power when you first turn the switch on? What I would like to see is how much power or voltage it uses when it's first turned on in cold weather.

I would be ashamed as an MLA if we went the wrong route and without adequate studies on how efficient those light bulbs are. They forecast 13 volts but they have to use a lot of power to turn it on because there are different strengths and sometimes they even get hot.

I would like it to be referred to the committee, but at this time we should do more studies so that we can give it more consideration after that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. To the principle of the bill. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to be supporting this bill, I think more out of intrigue than anything else. The principle of the bill at second reading is usually the opportunity that the sponsoring minister has seized the opportunity to use up to the 20 minutes that their allowed to explain to all members and listening public why this is a good bill. That didn't happen. So I'm curious to that.

I also would like to put a finger on, as far as the principle bill, the process that the minister talked about, the democratic process, is not the principle of bills in the democratic process that we should know.

The result of the conflicting information that we're hearing, I chair that standing committee and I'll make sure that we're very thorough in doing our jobs to make sure that everything does get looked at. I think if there is an opportunity for us, as leaders, to look at ways to try and do the one thing that is having the biggest effect on our territory, and that's global warming, to reduce that.

We have an obligation to look at it. From that point, I'm surprised that we didn't hear those kinds of comments coming from the minister today. I guess we'll have to do our homework ourselves and look at it, and I look very much forward to do that.

If we have an opportunity, and we can, reduce greenhouse gasses, we can reduce power consumption, we can reduce fuel, we can reduce the cost the individuals paying their power bills. I think we have an obligation to do that and I will be doing that, and I will be supporting this bill. If those things are there, which we will find out after the process is followed; I'll make my decision up then. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation ends) To the principle of the bill. (interpretation) Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The bill has had its second reading and will be referred to standing committee.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 10, Bill 11, and Tabled Document 49 – 2(4) with Mr. Arreak in the Chair.

Before we proceed to Committee of the Whole we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:34 and Committee resumed at 16:00*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Arreak)(interpretation): Thank you for coming back. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bill 10, Bill 11, and Tabled Document 49 – 2(4). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of Bill 10 and supporting documents, followed by Bill 11 and its supporting documents. If time permits, we will commence our discussion on Tabled Document 49 – 2(4). Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Are we in agreement that we continue with Bill 10, and if time allows, we will discuss Bill 11 and Tabled Document 49 – 2(4)?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 10 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2007-2008 –  
Consideration in Committee**

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. For the record, minister, please introduce your officials. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is Mr. Ma, and on my right is Roy Green.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome Mr. Green and Mr. Ma.

(interpretation ends) 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 wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I may, following Friday's session with the discussions with one or two regular members, I believe we have now got the document, the Capital Supplementary Appropriations document in a format that's acceptable to everybody. If possible, I would like those handed out now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. You can hand them to everybody on the floor.

Thank you. Bill 10, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2007-2008*. We're on page H-9 and H-10. I think they all have them now, so go ahead, Mr. Minister.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Okay. Just for the members' information, the new documents for Community and Government Services are now on page 10 and 11 in the new documents I have just handed out.

Page 10 lists the capital projects, or expenditures, or commitments that are in place now for 2006-07 expenditures, and these are the ones that CGS would like to carryover into 2007-08.

On page 11, the top portion lists those CGS capital monies that CGS would like to carry forward into the fiscal year 2007-08, and this list of projects are those that have not started, or where no contractual commitments exists, or where no funds have been expensed in fiscal year 2006-07.

So I believe this is what the members were asking for and I believe this will now satisfy that request. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to take a second to thank the minister and his officials. I'm sorry if you had to work on the weekend to present, I would think, the proper format. I'm sure I'll feel better approving it like this.

The old format that was there implied that all of them were actually capital carryovers, where we found out that some of them weren't. So I think that would have been something I would have requested Ms. Fraser to look at during her next audit, but if it goes in like this, I don't think she'll have any problem with it either.

I don't have any problems with it now, and I thank the minister and the officials that put it together in this format. I appreciate it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation) I don't think there are any questions. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I have a question. A few days ago, before you brought these documents to us regarding CGS, Mr. Rafter said that the finance management, \$786,000... that the qualifying indicators were that I was a little shocked. Maybe the minister, Minister of Finance, could answer me when he was talking about the qualifier, and he said these are good projects.

As members of the Legislative Assembly, we think that there are good projects, and if anybody would not be qualified to get into those projects, why are they in that... they're not carried over, but they're new funding; they're new in the budget.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is my understanding that in previous years of the Government of Nunavut, when this was before the House in the Committee of the Whole, there were always projects in there where money had not been spent, or no contract had been signed, and they were never identified in the supplementary appropriation documents.

As part of our Strengthening Financial Management Project, this is the first year where we have tried to identify those projects, again, where no project has started, or where no contractual commitments exist, or where no funds have been expensed in that previous fiscal year.

That's what we've tried to do in these documents. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Mr. Chairman, I just want clarification because that was when Mr. Rafter, along with the minister appeared, he said to the committee that... mainly, the fact that no other explanation, other than the fact that the CGS bringing us the new projects, it's the sole reason, the only reason why that they're good projects.

Is this the new criteria each time the supplementary estimate is submitted that you can put in the additional expenses to be covered; mainly that fact that they may not be their priority but these are just good projects? Is that the new criteria being used by departments? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Mr. Ma, please. Thank you.



**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Ma.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will attempt to answer the member's question.

As the minister stated in his comments on Friday, when he tried to clarify the process that we're following, in the FAM, the Financial Administration Manual, when a capital project does not have a financial obligation against it, or if we haven't spent money against that project, it needs to be brought back to the Financial Management Board and re-approved again, as a new project, even though that project was previously approved by this House. It needs to be brought back to FMB, and the terminology that is used is "new project" but it is an existing project.

In terms of the member's question with respect to the criteria that's used, there is no change in criteria. Obviously, when it goes to FMB, the previous criteria that were used to approve that project, would, of course, still stand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record, I appreciate the response because I think it's important that we clarify that because last Friday it was not clear exactly what he meant by it. Time didn't allow for me to ask that question but I appreciate your clarification. (interpretation) Thank you. That was it.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. We're at page 9 and 10. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Ma just reminded me. It is something for the record when I make it clear because I was having a very difficult time trying to understand it last Friday, as well. I appreciate Mr. Ma and others for taking the time to sit down with me after to try and make sure that we all understood the same thing.

As Mr. Ma indicated it's more of a technical term for "new project," that all these projects that are listed here under this area have been projects that had been approved in the House in the past but for whatever reason didn't get started in any way shape or form. So the process that Mr. Ma indicated requires it to go back for re-approval as a new project. That's where the confusion was: if it was a new project, or an old project.

For the record, am I correct in saying that the process that all of these projects that fit in this category were handed out were projects that were previously approved by the Assembly, and just for technical reasons they have been called "new projects"? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Mr. Ma to clarify it some more, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Ma.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe on Friday, in the minister's comments, or it might even be my comments, I don't recall for sure, but as part of our strengthening Financial Management Initiative, we're all working on re-writing some of the sound directive. Obviously, this one would have some priority.

The member just made a really good point, which we at the department, it just didn't get emphasized on Friday, but the fact that capital projects that didn't have expenditures against them, or we didn't commit money to at the New Year, and now have to go back to Financial Management Board is actually a good financial practice.

So we didn't really emphasize that but I think that it's actually a control point in terms of the government bringing back projects like that. So thanks for reminding me of that, Mr. Member. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to get some clarification in the corrected version; I think we're on page 10 or the old version. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're on page 10, and 11, and 12 of the pages that were handed out today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We're on page 10, 11, and 12, and Bill 10, page 9 and 10. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to get a clarification on page 9 and 10. For the old page 9 and 10 are no longer in use, are we using the new pages that are handed out? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is correct. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome the ministers' officials back to the witness table. I'm curious about this one project that's listed: the Iqaluit Brown Building Roof Repair. I was looking at the substantiation sheet and a couple things that came to mind.

Is that W.G. Brown Building, is that a leased building, or is that Government of Nunavut building? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is Government of Nunavut owned, not leased. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the answer. That clarifies in my mind what you're seeking here. The other things that occurred to me, Mr. Ma mentioned good financial practices. There are a number of substantiation sheets in here with notations, that the original substantiation sheets cannot be located.

On that particular project it says it dates back to 2000. There's another one here for Cambridge Bay, "... would replace the water supply line and the original substantiation sheet cannot be located." Another one here, "... sewage solid waste improvements in Whale Cove original substantiation sheet cannot be located."

I'm wondering why those original substantiation sheets can not be located. Is that not something that the government should have when they go forward with projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't know why they are missing; these substantiation sheets are what came in from the departments as they're written. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer. I wonder if the minister could comment on whether or not he thinks its good financial practice for departments to be submitting projects for carryovers where they can't provide the original substantiation sheet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's why it's highlighted on those particular pages, and in fact, all the pages as carryover justification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the answer. Can the minister indicate whether he thinks it's the Department of Community and Government Services who lost the substantiation sheets, or would it be the sponsoring departments that would have lost the substantiation sheets? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The substantiation sheets are written up by the sponsoring departments. We would have to go back to the sponsoring department for further clarification 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. I think that it's important that before you're in a future lease, when we are going through this exercise again, that we do have all the substantiation sheets because they provide a lot of valuable history.

Like this one project for example, it mentions this project originated back to the year 2000. Many of the Members of the Legislative Assembly weren't here in 2000, so it would be very helpful information if we had the history, the original project history substantiation for reference to help us understand the project.

I wonder if the minister could commit to ensure that in the future, all the original substantiation sheets will be provided to the standing committee when they come forward for supplementary appropriations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As part of strengthening financial management, we will continue to work with all departments regarding that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. We are on page 10 of the handout. Community and Government Services. Capital. Capital Planning. Not previously authorized. \$15,189,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 11. Total Capital Planning. Not previously authorized. \$15,189,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Petroleum Products. Not previously authorized. \$3,018,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 12. Total Petroleum Products Division. Not previously authorized. \$3,018,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Department. \$18,207,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 13 of the new handout. Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Capital. Transportation. Not previously authorized. \$3,382,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Department. \$3,382,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Department. \$3,382,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Go back to page 2 of Bill 10. Schedule 1. Capital. Capital Appropriation. \$88,215,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** To the bill. Bill 10. This bill should be in your white binder. Bill 10, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2007-2008*.

Definition. Clause 1. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 3. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go to page 2 of the bill. Schedule. Vote 2. Capital. Total Capital. \$88,215,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Supplementary Appropriation. \$88,215,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go back to page 1. Clause 4. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 5. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 6. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 7. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Are you agreed to bill 10 as a whole?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Are you agreed that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 10 can immediately be placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Now, we have Bill 11 to deal with.

**Bill 11 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1,  
2007-2008 – Consideration in Committee**

Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2007-2008*. Go to page 4. Bill 11. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Operations and Maintenance. Not previously authorized. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not think the projects are in here. Can the minister outline what that money for this fiscal year is for? \$6,400,000 is not previously authorized and to provide funds of \$1 million. Can the minister give us an example as to where the money is going? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the Residual Heat Projects, there's \$5,400,000. For the Homeowner Energy Efficiency Incentive Program, there's \$700,000. Incandescent Light Bulbs, there's \$200,000, and the Energy Efficient Public Information Campaign, there's \$100,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Is the \$5 million for residual heat? Is that going to be used this fiscal year? Together, there's \$6,400,000. The amount of \$700,000 will be directed to non-government houses, and the \$5 million goes to government staff houses for the Eco Trust Fund.

I wonder why the Cabinet or the minister gives a small amount to homeowners and a lot more to the government because we have consumers here in Nunavut. There is nothing in here for Inuit in terms of energy efficient programs but the government staff houses get most of the funding, probably for leasing the buildings as well for \$5 million.

I wonder why the homeowners have been left out a lot more. If there is, can you tell us how much is going to be directed to the homeowners out there for that program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Minister Picco, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just very quickly on a couple of things. Mr. Curley has raised a couple issues under the Eco Trust Fund. The Eco Trust Fund, as the members know, is monies that have been announced in the federal budget and is pending the approval of the federal budget in the House of Commons.

Out of those monies, Mr. Curley has pointed out; it has been a tremendous opportunity for us in the community of Rankin Inlet, the member's home community, we've been able to move forward on Phase I of the Residual Heat Project. We had an opportunity to go over there and move forward and actually officially open that project.

We're saving a considerable amount of money, and the residual heat is 90 percent of the displaced diesel cost of energy when we look at the heat being displaced.

This Eco Trust Fund, Mr. Chairman, especially in Rankin Inlet, we'd be able to move forward on part two, as the member has indicated, of the Residual Heat Project, and replace the old link to the CGS buildings with addition to the new sewage treatment plant in Rankin, and those things right now are in the planning stage.

On the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the monies that have been made available under the Eco Trust, there are parameters, as the member knows and the House knows, for those types of trust fund moneys when you draw them out from the federal government. They don't just give you the money and say, "Here, take \$5 million and do whatever you want with it." You actually have to have a list and a status of what can be carried out under those funds and what can be approved.

The member is correct. There are programs under the Nunavut Housing Corporation, again, in conjunction with some of the other monies approved in the House, including the Home and Renovation Program to make your house more energy efficient.

We're moving with the energy sector to look at the energy audits of units. We're looking at the design, for example, we have a five-plex we have designed under the Nunavut Housing Corporation that's 25 percent more efficient than the national energy guidelines, or the energy code guidelines.

So these are just some of the ideas and some of the things that have been going on, and there are monies available through different programs that we're running, separate from the Eco Trust monies, for homeowners to make their homes more energy saving and for alterations this fall. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to thank the minister for outlining some of the projects that will be funded. But my point really is that the minister appears to, most of the time... these are very important projects and they have a great impact on Nunavut lives.

But really, the territorial government... or the government has had a lot less burden of proof upon themselves for affording such energy impact stuff and so on. In many of the projects that are connected with the residual heat are really private sectors with long-term lease arrangements with the government. So in a sense, these are commercial buildings.

So I would like to ask the minister why the commercial sector and the public sector are the priorities, like the public infrastructure, government-owned infrastructure, they're the priorities of this government, in terms of energy-saving conservation stuff.

Even though the minister says that the Housing Corporation has a number of projects, I just sent the Minister responsible for Housing an application for renovation projects that the homeowner has applied three times now, in three fiscal years. Each time there is a rejection, not qualified.

But these people are long-term residents, so why isn't there much more public information about the Energy Conservation Initiative that the private homeowners can benefit from. In terms of even heating systems, they are probably outdated now but we



just don't have any idea, nor can we go shopping for new heating systems in most of the communities.

Could the minister undertake putting in a good project that would benefit a homeowner? Why is it so hard to do that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Minister Akesuk, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** Thank you, Minister. Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) We are going to be working with the Energy Secretariat to make sure that we get the information out there to the public. If we should be getting any more federal funds, we will focus on the homeowners and the renovation of their residences. We will make sure that these monies are put to good use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we need to go beyond that. Mr. Chairman, that we will not only look into it, but I think it is a good idea that the regular private sector homeowners out in Nunavut are given information about what energy saving ideas there are.

We just don't have homeowners' groups, or associations, or bodies representing, although there may be in large sectors like here in Iqaluit and so on.

My point is that we desperately need advice and help to reduce energy consumption. Everybody wants a reduction, but not only the public sector, government is well able to afford to pay high energy prices, where the homeowners have very difficult times finding ways of lessening the impact of the energy at the home. And yet we do not see.

We get a good promise, "We will look into it." A homeowner wants more than that. Homeowners want an idea as to how to replace a furnace. I just sent the minister a note saying that I have applied to replace a 20-year old furnace each year and we get rejected; they do not qualify. Why is that, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Minister Akesuk, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a renovation for homeowners' houses. Some of the requests are denied because of the ceiling in the income and we give first priority if it is health or safety-related; those are given the first priority.

There are quite a lot of applications that pass through the Housing Corporation, but I am sure that there is room for improvement in regard to renovating private homes. We will be reviewing this in the coming days, months. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. In regard to the Eco Trust Fund that is \$5 million, especially this \$5 million and in regard to the Residual Heat Project and Conversion, why is it in Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs because I would assume that it would be better suited with Community and Government Services?

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

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. [Yes, we deal with this on an annual basis; the use of funds for this is unique. This money is set aside to be used for various programs and also to decrease the use of fuel. Some are for housing and some for energy, so for those various reasons that is why it goes through our Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Yes, I agree with you wholeheartedly that there have to be more programs and support available to the homeowners and there's \$700,000 that has been set aside to assist them.

In view of the use of fuel, the government uses the most fuel, and homeowners make up only seven percent and we are trying to maximize the funds for these intended purposes. The question is how we can cut down on the use of fossil fuel. We have to view Nunavut as a whole, as a government. We are going to be looking at how we can cut costs to these energy-related issues. I am very happy with this program.] Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): I would like to thank you. One thing that I'm concerned about, and I'm sure all of the programs are great, but when it's under Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, I'm sure that every request has to go through the Planning Committee.

If it's under Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, under the direction of the Premier, are they funds fairly allocated? Are we using a fair process, or if you oppose it, then there

won't be much you can do, especially if it's under Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and it has to go through the CGS Planning Committee.

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

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As government departments, we have to work closely.

We are starting to find out how we can align it better and we would like to see more ideas on reducing energy consumption, getting ideas from the departments. It's all part of the planning process and we're right in the middle. We are not representing any particular department. What we are trying to look at is a program that would be good for all of Nunavut.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just on the Residual Heat Projects; I know they were mentioned earlier in response to another member's question. To me, those sound like capital projects. I'm just wondering if there's a reason why they're in O&M supplementary and not in a capital supplementary because I would have thought that those would be capital projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you. To Mr. Ma, please. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Ma.

**Mr. Ma**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The conditions of the Eco Trust... because of federal funding, there was no specific criteria that it would be capital or operations and maintenance.

The main criterion is that we reduce the reliance on greenhouse emissions; that type of thing. So that was the primary criteria that we're trying to adhere to from the federal side of it.

Yes, these projects are somewhat capital in nature, but they should, in the long-term, short-term even, reduce our reliance on greenhouse gas emissions. It's a tongue twister for me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Even if it doesn't specify how those are spent, it sounds like, looks like, and probably is a capital project.

What was the rationale behind... if there were no criteria from the federal government, whether it is a capital or an O&M project, why was it decided to stick it in the O&M supplementary and not the capital supplementary? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, to Mr. Ma, please. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Mr. Ma.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From the perspective of the government, even though these projects are capital in nature, the Residual Heat Projects are ultimately going to be done by the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

So from the perspective of the government, this is actually an operations and maintenance expenditure. When it gets down to the QEC level, yes, they certainly would be capital in nature. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was a good answer, Mr. Ma. Thank you, very much.

Mr. Chairman, my next question is for something that is actually not in here. I know in our winter session when we were discussing the budget, the O&M budget for the departments, a question then that I asked in the past to the Minister responsible for EIA was the fact that we were looking at their budget that showed the whole departmental budget, even though a decision had been made to transfer some of those positions to the Department of Finance.

At the time, the Premier had indicated when I asked that, he said, "... oh, you will see that change in the spring sitting, in the supplementary appropriation." So at that time I had told myself to remember to look for it, to see how much that was when we get to our spring sitting. I forgot to remember. I wanted to see what those numbers were and how it affected their O&M budget, and they're not in here.

So I'm wondering if sometime later this week we're going to see another supplementary appropriation budget that would show that because I know that the Premier did indicate at that time that we would be seeing it here in this sitting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, to Mr. Ma, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Ma.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps that responsibility rests with me to answer the member's question.

I have worked on the request for the decision and we will be bringing signatures and bringing that forward to the Financial Management Board. The tardiness in dealing with that squarely rests with me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When, and I would assume if you look in Finance, too, there's nothing there... I know that affects both departments, and also the Department of Health and Social Services.

I am wondering if he can give us an indication as to when we will know what those numbers are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will be bringing those numbers to the June FMB Meeting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. Very interesting responses from the minister's staff, as well.

My concern with that is many of the items that we have seen, including the ones that we just passed as capital. My concern is that I think that some of the project management initiatives that should be carried out are not fully utilized in terms of planning. We normally adopt, nowadays, a huge lump sum of money; quite a large amount prior to any of the design phase or planning done.

I truly believe that his committee is going to have to ask for an independent person, like the Auditor General, to look into all the processes and see whether or not the design phase of project management criteria; they're all applied. We have seen huge project funding approved without any design, without any consultant studies, or anything.

The same thing with this; I don't believe that QEC has project management design staff. CGS, obviously, has all that project management, as well as the planning group in their department. And yet huge amounts like this are allocated, and say this is the QEC's responsibility.

Can the minister tell us exactly whether or not CGS has any input, or involvement in

terms of project management with the amount like \$5 million for energy-related projects? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Minister Picco, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank the member for his support of the Residual Heat Project. As I said earlier, the project in his home constituency is going to save thousands of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. That was done under the auspices of the Power Corporation. It does have a technical and planning group, under the engineering section of the Power Corporation. So that capital planning is there.

If project management is needed outside of that, because it is a Crown corporation, a business, a company, then the corporation has the opportunity and the ability to be able to bring in that type of expertise. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. My other question really has to do with ensuring that the fact that there appears to be, either by intent, the role of CGS, in terms of planning and contract management, pretty much shifted over to the energy corporation. CGS has all the legal requirements in terms of putting out a tender, and everything else. It's clearly stipulated under certain contract rules and so on.

I am wondering, if you look at... it may be energy-related but it doesn't mean that QEC is the most appropriate group to project manage that whole thing, and tender and carry out all the responsibility needed to get these designs and everything else into this project.

So I am wondering, minister, if, eventually, it's more efficient for QEC rather than CGS to administer those projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Minister Picco, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, the QEC is a Crown corporation; it has the ability to manage its own capital projects aside the scope of using CGS. However, if there were issues, they have technical advice and assistance that could be provided through CGS or any other government department, and of course, that's well welcomed by the corporation.

The corporation has, every year, a several million dollar capital budget and is able to carry that out quite efficiently as a corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** I only have one more question under what was in the response. But originally, when it was a single territory, Power Corporations were exempt from the NNI Policy. Can the minister indicate to the House whether or not that is still the case, or has the Power Corporation legislation been amended to include NNI provisions or employment provisions?

They were clearly exempt in the original Power Corporation projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Minister Picco, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct. In the old Northwest Territories, there were issues around the NNI Policy, which was specific in regard to the Nunavut Sovereign area, when it came to looking at purchases and so on that would give priority under the NNI Policy.

It was thought that time that the Power Corporation should be outside or not compliant to that. With the leadership of the Premier, Mr. Chairman, I can say that the corporation has reviewed that, and indeed, is compliant today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Page 4. Bill 11. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Operations and Maintenance. Intergovernmental Affairs. Not previously authorized. \$6,400,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Intergovernmental Affairs. Not previously authorized. \$6,400,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Devolution. Total Devolution. Not previously authorized. \$125,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Department. \$6,525,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Page 5. Finance. Operations and Maintenance. Financial Management. Not previously authorized. -\$250,000. Do you agree? Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if the minister can indicate when the decision for this transfer was made. There was nothing that has been brought to the attention of standing committee or the other Members of the House. I was wondering if we could get an indication as to when. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this was effective in the beginning of the new fiscal year, April 1. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was the decision for this transfer made at the same time as the decision to transfer the positions from EIA and Health to Finance as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer is no. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was this one before or after the other decision? I shouldn't have to go into that much detail.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're pretty sure it was before. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if there is a reason why it wasn't brought to the standing committee's attention for the transfer and also the justification behind the transfer. It's something we haven't heard anything about yet, officially. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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



**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This issue had been on discussion for some time, and over the last few years it has become apparent that one branch of government can't be selling the liquor and at the same time enforcing the laws against it.

We had discussed for some time that it was becoming difficult for one department to sell the stuff and also enforce those same laws against the liquor. So we decided to separate the functions where the Finance Department will continue to sell and tax liquor but Justice will be enforcing the laws in relation to liquor infractions. So that's why we separated the functions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Page 5. Bill 11. Finance. Operations and Maintenance. Financial Management. Not previously authorized. -\$250,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Financial Management. -\$250,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. Not previously authorized. -\$250,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Next page. Page 6. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Directorate. Not previously authorized. \$250,000. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Lawyer Support Services, \$320,000. The \$80,000; Senior Public Trustee Officer: where is the office going to be? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For those people who die without a will, they have to go through the Public Trustee, and they are getting behind with their workload here in Iqaluit, and that person will be assisting the Public Trustee.

For those people who have passed on without a will, they have to go through the Public Trustee. They are getting behind because of the workload that they have now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The other one, \$240,000; for the legislation counsel; where is that office going to be? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It will be in the Iqaluit office. That's where we have to consolidate Nunavut's Acts and regulations. They have a hard time because they are behind as to what we have to do. It is also to simplify for our constituents so they can be responded to in a shorter time to assist them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Mr. Alagalak.

**Mr. Alagalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the law students, who just graduated, if they apply, I wonder if they would qualify. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It will be open to anybody. They already have jobs, but maybe if there are more students that take courses we would be able to hire. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Premier. (interpretation) We are on page 6 of Bill 11. (interpretation ends) Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Directorate. Not previously authorized. \$250,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman**: Total Directorate. Not previously authorized. \$250,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Law Enforcement. Not previously authorized. \$163,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Law Enforcement. Not previously authorized. \$163,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Lawyers Support Services. Not previously authorized. \$320,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Lawyer Support Services. Not previously authorized. \$320,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Corrections. Not previously authorized. \$1,752,000. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. (interpretation) We just approved under capital projects for \$1 million under corrections for a female offenders facility. It is probably to that facility and that project will only be finished in the summertime.

I wonder if they will require \$700,000 for operating costs because it has not even opened. The female offender's facility will be completed in 2008. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a very good question.

In the past, the women are usually put in the trailer, which is an old part of Baffin Correctional Centre. We have used that money and we will have to use it again before that women's offender facility is completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Premier. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same page, that \$1,752,000, it also says it's for the outpost camps. How much would the outpost camps get? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We want to see more outpost camps because there aren't that many of them. There will be \$188,000, and \$391,000 will be for shipping and to house inmates outside of our jurisdiction. So that is the total amount, \$1,044,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I do the math there; there's \$188,000 for the outpost camps, \$391,000 for housing inmates outside of our jurisdiction, and thirdly, about \$465,000, would that be the cost of escorting; it costs that much? Maybe if you could just explain how come it's so high?

I guess the overall thing is that if it's over the existing budget that the department had for that already. So you're getting more demand on having to send people out, is it because we're too full, or are there people that have to serve federal time or people that can't be served here in our jurisdiction? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As you probably read in the papers, it has been a very difficult time for the Baffin Correctional Centre with a lot of overcrowding. So we've had to take measures to transport quite a considerable number of inmates outside the territory, and it's not cheap. Sometimes we have to charter planes out just to manage the level of inmates and maintain a balance both for the inmates and the employees. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Page 6 of Bill 11. Corrections. Not previously authorized. \$1,752,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Corrections. Not previously authorized. \$1,752,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Page 7. Registries and Court Services. Not previously authorized. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for a quick clarification on this page on the first section there, it says, "... to provide funding of \$222,000 for the implementation of the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*," and further down it has, "... to provide funding of \$1,643,000 for the implementation of the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*."

I'm just wondering: that's two different places and I don't know if there are others in there, but I'm trying to get an indication of what the total cost of implementing the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* entirely is going to be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From what I understand, the total budget for this fiscal year will be as set out at \$1,953,000 for this fiscal year overall to implement this initiative, to get the training going, and to actually start implementing it by the year's end.

So that's what we're trying to do. It's going to require training of JPs and training at the local level as well to implement this legislation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So that's \$1,953,000 plus the \$220,000 up under Registries and Court Services. That's the only amounts; if you add those two together you get a little over \$2 million for that effect of total cost? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From my understanding it will be roughly around \$1.9 million in future years to implement on an ongoing basis. We're going to

have local employees everywhere, in every community in Nunavut, to implement this legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So this year it's a little over \$2 million, and then the same every year from now it's going to be \$1.9 million. I just want to make sure I understand this correctly. Just for clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) From what I understand that is the correct answer. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Premier. On page 7. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Registries and Court Services, there's an amount to provide funding of \$200,000 for a land titles officer and a legal registries officer to handle increased demand from the public.

Can the minister tell us how many land titles officers and legal registries officers that currently are in the Registries and Court Services Department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** I don't have all that detailed information as to how many but we're trying to hire additional employee services. The member may know there has been a bit of a back log in some of the work that was required. But at the same time we're trying to modernize and finalize the modernization of the equipment used, so that's what we're trying to do in this fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the answer. It's been a bit of an issue in my riding where there have been delays in processing legal documents. I

have been in contact with the minister and the department to express my concern from their end.

I know not all of the difficulties rest with the land titles officer and the legal registries officer. When the paperwork comes in from the lawyers and communities or hamlets, if it's not done up, if it's not detailed and all the I's dotted and T's crossed, then that paperwork could end up going back to lawyers and to the hamlets resulting in substantial delays, as much as two to three months.

I attended a Nunavut Housing Corporation public meeting about a month ago where that very issue came up where prospective homeowners were told by the officials there, the Housing Corporation officials, the bank and some other officials, that you couldn't move into your house right away if you bought it because it could take two to three months to turn the paperwork around.

I'm concerned about the delay. I'm wondering if the minister could comment that, if he thinks by adding these additional PYs that those delays will be addressed, with the extra people and more efficient operations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is perfectly correct in that it's not always a legal registries problem, but at the same time, we do not in any way want to be a part of the problem.

There has been a real increase in activity throughout Nunavut. Since we were created a lot more transactions have been taking place. The original forecast for the level of work in this registries office was fine for the times, but more activity is taking place in Nunavut, which is good.

We will require additional help so that we don't be a part of the problem. We want to be making sure that transactions are carried out in a timely manner so that business will continue. We want to continue to encourage efficient and effective registries so that we can have more business transactions throughout Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. We are page H-11. Bill 11. Registries and Court Services. Not previously authorized. \$942,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Registries and Court Services. Not previously authorized. \$942,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Further down. Community Justice. Not previously authorized. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is very well-welcomed in the communities; the implementation of the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*. However, I am curious. This implementation or planning of the implementation; how will it be dealt with if there is family abuse?

Can the minister tell me if that is at the planning stage, how long does he think it will take because he told us that there will be one person employed in each community. So the guidelines will be drawn within that period of time, and as soon as we approve this funding, then it will start being proceeded immediately? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I must correct myself. I was relying on different sheets of paper when we were discussing this earlier.

The first year of operation will be about \$1.86 million for training and work required. The way it's going to work so far that we know of, the work is ongoing. We currently have half-time community justice workers throughout Nunavut. We will make those full-time employees and they will have offices throughout the RCMP in Nunavut, so they'll have a physical location. Currently, they don't have a physical location to even call an office. They work out of their homes.

The families affected will have a location to go to and at the same time they'll know a phone number to call. At the same time, we're working with each of the Community Justice Committees and identifying elderly counsellors who will be assisting us in implementing and healing in the communities.

So that work is ongoing. The ongoing work that will be required will total about \$2.8 million a year after this. I must say that this is an investment. You saw our corrections budget. It's a hefty bill, and I want to reduce that, as I'm sure you do, by making sure the families are healed so that they don't have to go to jail. So this is an investment for families and for our territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Arvaluk.



**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Premier for this energy that will be spent in implementing the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*. People are waiting for it, especially the elders.

The way it has to work is that it is workable in the community. I don't think we can afford to make instructions from the headquarters here. We tried that with social services and it does not work. We tried that with the counsellors and it does not work.

The communities are unique to Nunavut. Right now we have a social worker from pretty far away from Canada and it doesn't work to counsel people in Pond Inlet because it's not relevant.

So I welcome the Premier's comment and that some elders are now staying with other families because their grandchildren are abusing them in their own home. The abuse system is a social issue and it is not acceptable. It has to work the way the community sees it.

I really hope that this will go as fast as it can, and I encourage the Premier to actually visit some communities and show support to elders to encourage them to start speaking out like we do in the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Premier, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I appreciate the member's comments and I appreciate his ongoing support.

That's exactly what I was trying to do is hire local support and work with existing Justice Committees and coordinators so that we can do this at the pace of the communities to support them in their efforts.

We will have ongoing central staff like a psychiatrist and family mediators that will be there to support the communities and implement this legislation. We will have JPs who are specially trained under this Act so that we can get away from the current practice of separating the families and not working on healing themselves.

So that's the objective and I appreciate the ongoing support from my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. (interpretation ends) Page 7. Community Justice. Not previously authorized. \$1,643,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Community Justice. Not previously authorized. \$1,643,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. Not previously authorized. \$5,070,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Next page. Page 8. Education. Operations and Maintenance. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some questions on this item to the Minister of Income Support.

I know that the rate for food allowance has been increased since 1989. However, I continue to find it strange that Sanikiluaq is the only Nunavut community that is located in Zone 1.

For example, a family of six people in Sanikiluaq received \$1,199 per month for food. A family of the same size in Iqaluit, which is Zone 2, receives \$1,280 per month.

Can the minister explain why Sanikiluaq is the only Nunavut community in Zone 1, and will he commit to reviewing this issue and move Sanikiluaq into a different Zone? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department will commit to reviewing the placement of the zone which Sanikiluaq finds itself in now, which I believe is Zone 1, and we will review that to see if we can have it placed in a different zone based on the costs.

Again, the cost of a regular food basket and so on usually dictates where a given community is placed within a given zone. So we will review that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the minister has done some good things, such as stopping the practice of clawing back Co-op dividends. Can he tell me

when rates for other benefits, such as the clothing allowance, will be reviewed and increased? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct. We have done some changes to the program, including increasing it by five, then ten percent, and then 15 percent over the last two budgets.

We've also allowed for not having monies clawed back on the Co-op dividends and some other federal programs that are in place. On the areas, specifically with the clothing allowance and so on, those are, again, reviewed departmentally. The next review will probably be this fall to see if amounts can be looked at within the cost categories, for example, for food only, or clothing allowances, and so on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have been hearing concerns about the National Child Benefit Supplement. This is for low income families. For the purposes of the Government of Nunavut's Income Support Program, this is considered unearned income and must be deducted from the amount of support that income support recipient gets.

Although this is a small amount, every little bit helps lower income families. It is my understanding that some provinces do not claw this amount back. It would not cost the GN very much to allow people to keep this extra money, which they could use to meet their family's needs. Will the minister commit to reviewing this issue and reporting back to the House?

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The National Child Benefit Supplement is provided by the federal government to lower income families in the territory, in the same way that it does across Canada. It is a national program.

For 2005-06, the federal government put in almost \$7 million into the National Child Benefit Supplement that was paid out to Nunavut residents. The member is correct, other

jurisdictions like Nunavut make adjustments to our social assistance or the income support amounts that we have for families with the National Child Benefit Supplement.

We've had some discussions internally on how we can deal with this and move forward with not allowing a claw back on it. Again, there are some issues with the Nunavut Personal Income Tax and how deal with that. That is something that is still being reviewed by the department.

We take the member's suggestion, and hopefully this fall be able to report back to the House again on we can move forward with making a recovery to the fund, or enhancing programs that we use the money for across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Picco. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also have concern from constituents about deductions in the income support benefits when they receive air tickets that have been paid for by relatives or friends. I understand why the government does this for the tickets that are used just for visiting relatives.

However, I am aware of a situation where people have used tickets for such things as attending important graduation ceremonies, or to escape abusive situations. Would the minister commit to this reviewing the issue, so that people who get tickets for legitimate travel do not suffer a reduction in their benefits? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister of Education, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We've had some discussion on that in the House in the past and during Question Period. We're reviewing it. There are a couple of good opportunities within the program right now, which number one, if there is a concern raised, the individual has an opportunity to appeal that decision, the income support decision.

But at the end of the day, the idea, Mr. Chairman, again, if someone receives a ticket to visit a sick relative or what have you, then that isn't taken off the Income Support Program. If there is a situation regarding a compassionate need for a ticket, that isn't taken off a person's income support amount.

However, if I give a ticket so I can send a relative for a holiday for a few weeks, and then when they come back and they apply for income support, although leaving on a holiday, then, of course, they would be ineligible, like most jurisdictions would do that.

Again, that's something that we need to review, and that's something that we're looking at on an ongoing basis. Again, this fall, we will be doing some of the work on the Income Support Program, that will be looked at again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to thank the minister in regard to claw back of income support, and for him trying to resolve those claw back concerns. Because we don't have a highway in our Nunavut communities, sometimes we cannot go and see our relatives just like that, we have no choice but to go on the airlines. Either we try to go through the charters, even if you want to go back on a certain time you can't do that because you don't have any money to go back, no return ticket.

And I think the minister has to review this situation on an ongoing basis because the money is not lost. Look at the projects that are being initiated by the government and there's a lot of money being wasted like doing such things as design; there are hundreds of millions of dollars that are going to waste.

Like the people that go and visit their relatives that are on income support, that's their only livelihood. The department keeps saying that they cannot receive claw backs and money because they go and see their relatives?

(interpretation ends) I'm not proud of that and I think the minister is quite proud of provision. I really truly believe that he should have a fairer reviewer of that provision and really present the case to the public, not just to his advisors and himself. Present it to us, and see whether or not we could find a proper line.

If you were down south and were able to drive to visit your relatives, or your relatives can come in for a month, for those that are employed, it probably doesn't affect them. But our people need to be able to visit their relatives as well.

So for that reason, I would like some commitment from the minister that he will properly evaluate and maybe put in a little more compassionate recommendation to members. Can he do that, Mr. Chairman?

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I know the minister has very good people working for him on this Income Support Program, and in some cases it's very challenging. I know that in some cases, many of the income support applicants know they have to go through what they call emergency basis, not on permanent basis but emergency basis.

I have seen some of these communities that are more effective and have a very good emergency nature program. Whereas where I live, the emergency nature situations don't always get its support. Could the minister maybe outline to us whether or not some of these, what I would call 'emergency nature' type of programs for situations people get into, aside from the regular ones, are they similar right across Nunavut? Is it the only difference; maybe because the amount up-front? Or what is the difference that creates a difference in applying for emergency nature?

I can use a word, for instance, like one-time support meetings to fill up the tank or half of it for the homeowner. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct. That's a Nunavut-wide program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. The minister has a way of making it very simplistic with his responses but he has to understand that it is not applied across the board.

I have a constituent this year, she was willing to give up her house and give it back to the Housing Corporation. She had no way of getting help to heat the house. The only thing that was running was the revenue collected from the power corporation. She had the oven on 24 hours a day. She did not qualify and she couldn't get any help. What is the difference when an emergency like this occurs? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Specific cases have specific needs and each case is judged on its own merit. I can't speak to the case in question because I'm not aware of all the details of the case in particular. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** I'm surprised because the minister said earlier this was across the board, Nunavut-wide basis; the policy applies throughout but yet when it comes to actual reality, it doesn't. So that's puzzling.

I have a further question to the income support. I would like to ask the minister a question with respect to the claw-back provision. The minister has, like I alluded to earlier, been improving that provision with some of the benefits that occur to Nunavummiut, including Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated related programs.

To put it the other way around, can the minister explain to us whether or not the income support benefits, like the Senior Citizen's Fuel Supply Assistance Program, are subject to CRA clawbacks? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the member define GRA for me? Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley:** I am referring to CRA; Canada Revenue Agency. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Canadian taxation agency, as the member knows, has its own regulations in place, which guides and judges the tax responsibilities of all Canadians.

In this case it's the money being paid through the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program, which is considered unearned income, and then it would be considered income on behalf or for the person; they would be issued a T4A, I believe. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** My last question to that is: does that mean then that even if you have a certain amount of arrears with the CRA that it doesn't prevent you from qualifying for benefits if you meet all the policy provisions and qualifications to get the Senior Citizens Fuel Subsidy Assistance Program? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for correction, I said T4A. I would say that it's actually the T5007 Form that is used in this case. Any income received under this program can be tax deducted; the chance of it being considered earned income on a person's T4 slip.

Specifically, to the member's question, I really can't answer that because it is a CRA matter. However, any income received, the T4 slip would be issued, and they'd have the deduction on their Income Tax claim form, like the member indicated. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same issue, maybe from a different angle, the funding that is not previously authorized of \$3,438,000 is in addition to the \$38,097,000, which is totalling \$41,335,000.

In 1999, I remember that the income support budget was approximately \$22 million. This is almost doubled in six years, almost seven years now. I seem to recall that we wanted to create the Nunavut Government so that we could become more self-sufficient and create our own economic opportunities, yet income support has continually increased at an alarming rate. I suppose this is due to poor education and some other reasons.

I also understand that the Income Support Program was placed under Education so that the people who are on income support, especially the young people, can be advised by the Department of Education about educational opportunities, skills, and training opportunities for the purpose of employability of that young person.

I am from Pond Inlet and this is not being done because the present income support officer right now under the hamlet is just a welfare officer that doesn't have any background in training, or advising young people what employment opportunities there are. If the trend continues to be like that, then we are not really encouraging young people, who are on income support right now, to find the job skills and to start a productive life.



Are there any plans in place somewhere using this Income Support Program, or is there something else in the department that works directly with the income support workers to encourage young people to find skills, and also encourage other people?

For example, in Pond Inlet, we are now talking about and hearing on the radio that those who are on income support, or in public housing, and those who are attending school, or people who are at the hospital are paid for by people who are paying income taxes.

Those who are collecting garbage, water truck drivers, carpenters, these are the people who are paying for these services and I think there will be more public information because people who are on income support probably think that the money comes from the government.

The money does not come from the government. It only passes through the government. There will have to be more education in the area of responsibility so that some of these, I know they cannot be reduced, but at least slowed down because with 25,000 people, we cannot really afford these kinds of program. We complain about not being able to get infrastructure programs.

Can I ask the minister if there is anything in the *Income Support Act* or some kind of legislation to be able to encourage, at least from the hamlet, to find work for these young people, especially during the summer, to be more productive because the hamlet will come up with so many little projects - access roads in parks, picnic tables - they have all these things. Can the minister tell me if we can access some of these income support funds to turn the young people into a more productive lifestyle? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Minister Picco, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member raised some really interesting points. The member talks about that if you are on income support being productive and so on, specifically targeting our younger people.

Just to clarify in the O&M book, the current child services, the amount is \$38 million, and then we are appropriating the extra \$3,438,000. That's not the total for income support alone. That includes early in childhood learning services, funding for day cares, and so on. That is not strictly income support.

The member is correct. In 1999, we were spending around \$21 million for income support. In 2006, we spent \$28 million. This year, we are looking at spending about \$29.6 million. That's an increase of over \$8 million in seven years. However, we have to put on top of that the 15 percent increase we have given out into the programs. So that is about a

\$3 million or \$4 million increase. Plus, with our young population as the fastest population growing, you are going to have an increase in the Income Support Program.

There are programs to help make healthy choices if you're on income support. A good example is if you're on income support and if you identify a job in a community, income support can pay your way to go to another community to get that job that you see there.

Income support can help if you're a single mom trying to go to school to better your education and your on income support, we will pick up the cost for your child care, daycare expenses.

So there are a lot of programs in income support for training, if you're income support eligible, we can help get training for you. And all those productive choices that the members' talking about, we're trying to put in place within the program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that, and all the members' know that that's a very good program. My question then is: how do we make it work? It doesn't work in my community. My income support worker is the welfare officer, and there's no one in my community doing all the things that Mr. Picco is talking about. How do we move the wheel? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the Minister of Education, please.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's the quandary that we find ourselves in, and that's what we're talking about. Where there are jobs available, we want people to be able to access those jobs. And if there are no jobs available, income support is a support of last resort.

The member raises several issues about our young people being productive. We're not talking about elderly people who should be on income support, people who may have a disability, people who can't find work and so on. I think the member is talking about people, aged 18 to 35, that cohort of group.

On one hand we want to support them, on the other hand, we want to help them get out and help make proper choices. And that was the point we just made earlier when the question was, "Why can't we allow them to have tickets?" If you want to take a ticket, I'll send my sister, aunt, uncle who's between 18 and 35, they could go to Clyde River to visit their relatives from Iqaluit, costs \$3,000 worth of tickets, it shouldn't come off their income support.

Well, if they're travelling to these communities and so on, they're not making healthy productive choices; they're visiting people. However, if they're going for a compassionate reason, if there is a legitimate reason to go, then they would get the ticket and it wouldn't come off. So on one hand, we're trying to enforce a stricter regime on income support. On the other hand, we're trying to make it more productive and more eligible.

I would suggest to the member that we are reviewing that program again, and in the next cabinet sitting in September, hopefully, we'll be able to look at some other policy issues that we can bring forward under income support.

But again, the member is correct, income support is a program of last resort, and you see an increase of over \$8 million in less than eight years and we see the numbers of people on income support increase, then that's an area of concern that we need to address. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Picco. Minister Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to argue through this, but I did want to have a debate sometime, in the proper form, not in a budget. But more, how do we have an operational debate to where we want to go with it. We did that in Baker Lake years ago I think there were some other debates, too.

The government came up with fancy words in Inuktitut and they're going to follow through with it but that's only good on paper. We want to get into more of a tangible area because the minister is trying to muddy the issue. I'm sorry I'm not going to get lost in the mud, with all these documents we kind of shown our system now, I think.

I appreciate the minister and the government who have these programs. I support those programs; I'm not arguing those programs. But when it comes to the implementation of these programs, that's the difficulty we have in our community. There are tons and tons of paper on us alone in this House.

We get about 200 pounds of paper in a couple of weeks in our offices. It doesn't move what's in the community. The young people's first choice or first resort is income support for some only.

For example, in Pond Inlet, I have 38 young people working in the mine, and six are not. I shouldn't be complaining, but they are doing this by choice. There is work available. How do I know? Because Baffinland couldn't find any more workers from Pond Inlet, they hired people from Iqaluit; about 26 of them. That's how I know there is work there.

But these particular few young people have chosen not to work. Now, we support them under this legislation. Is there anything we can do? We can say it's a last resort but it's not a last resort, it's a choice, it becomes a choice.

We can't force people to work. We are a democratic society, a free society, and we can't do that. But we have to find a way before we start denying eligible infrastructure projects in the communities in place of the money to be used for income support. This is mostly just a comment, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. I'm done.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Thank you for your comments. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to make a very quick comment before I recognize the clock.

From the questions that I've heard, and the questions that I was going to ask is: this increase, is it due to enhancements to the program? But it isn't, it's just growth. And, I think that \$8 million over seven years, as the minister had indicated, and I know there has been a 15 percent increase over the last few years, but it should send red flags out there, that whatever we're doing as a government, it's not working.

This is, like the minister said, a program of last resort. We want to be able to be more self-reliant, get paid more, employment locally, and for whatever reason, it isn't working. I think that maybe we should use indicators to say maybe we've got to re-look at some of the things that we're doing to try and achieve what we started off to achieve.

That is just a comment. It has nothing to do with income support, other than the growth in it. So with that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to recognize the clock and move to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. You cannot debate the motion.

>>*Laughter*

All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress. Thank you.

Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you, Minister Simailak, Mr. Ma, and Mr. Green.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Members. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Member for Uqqurmiut, Mr. Arreak.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 10 and Bill 11, and I would like to report that Bill 10 is immediately ready for third reading. I move the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Akesuk. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

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 that a meeting of the Full Caucus at ten o'clock tomorrow morning at the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for June 5:

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. Notice of Motions
15. Notice of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
  - Bill 6
  - Bill 7
  - Bill 12
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration for Committee of the Whole and Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 11
  - Tabled Document 49 – 2(4)
20. Report to Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
- Bill 10
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. The House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 5, at 1:30 in the afternoon.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:08*

# **Appendix – June 4, 2007**

**Written Question 007 – 2(4): Victims of Violence in Nunavut**

**Asked by:** Keith Peterson, MLA (Cambridge Bay)

**Asked of:** Hon. Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health and Social Services

**Date:** June 4, 2007

- 1) Broken down by fiscal year, from April 1, 2000, to the present, in which Nunavut communities were crisis shelters for victims of violence operating?
- 2) What types of data and information are required to be reported by these shelters as a condition of receiving funding from the GN?
- 3) How does the GN track patterns of use and outcome for Nunavummiut who have used crisis shelters in Nunavut?
- 4) Broken down by fiscal year, from April 1, 2000, to the present, how many nights did individuals stay at crisis shelters in Nunavut communities?
- 5) Broken down by fiscal year, from April 1, 2000, to the present, how many individuals had transportation arranged by the Department of Health and Social Services to travel out of their home community to a crisis shelter elsewhere in Nunavut?
- 6) Broken down by fiscal year, from April 1, 2000, to the present, how many individuals had transportation arranged by the Department of Health and Social Services to travel out of their home community to a crisis shelter outside of Nunavut?
- 7) From April 1, 2000, to the present, how many individuals who stayed at a crisis shelter returned to a crisis shelter on one or more occasions?