



**Nunavut Canada**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

**4th Session**

**2nd Assembly**

**HANSARD**

Official Report

**DAY 27**

**Tuesday, October 23, 2007**

**Pages 1752 – 1824**

**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk**

(Pangnirtung)

*Chair, Management and Services Board*

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**

(Nattilik)

*Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister responsible for Status of Women Council*

**Tagak Curley**

(Rankin Inlet North)

*Striking Committee; Management and Services Board; Regular Members' Caucus*

**Keith Peterson**

(Cambridge Bay)

*Striking Committee; Management and Services Board*

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk**

(South Baffin)

*Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation*

**Joe Allen Evyagotailak**

(Kugluktuk)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole; Chair, Regular Members' Caucus*

**Hon. Ed. Picco**

(Iqaluit East)

*Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for Multiculturalism, Homelessness and Immigration; Management and Services Board*

**David Alagalak**

(Arviat)

**James Arreak**

(Uqqummiut)

*Deputy Speaker; Chair of the Committee of the Whole*

**Peter Kattuk**

(Hudson Bay)

**Steve Mapsalak**

(Akulliq)

*Co-Chair, Full Caucus; Regular Members' Caucus*

**Hon. David Simailak**

(Baker Lake)

*Minister of Finance; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Chair of the Financial Management Board*

**James Arvaluk**

(Tunnunuiq)

**Levi Barnabas**

(Quttiktuq)

*Chair, Full Caucus; Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole; Regular Members' Caucus*

**Hon. Patterk Netser**

(Nanulik)

*Minister of Environment; Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board*

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk**

(Amittuq)

*Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Human Resources*

**Hon. Levinia Brown**

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of Community and Government Services*

**Hon. Paul Okalik**

(Iqaluit West)

*Premier; Minister of Justice; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs*

**Hunter Tootoo**

(Iqaluit Centre)

*Striking Committee; Management and Services Board*

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Tuesday, October 23, 2007**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, 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): I would like to ask Mr. Curley to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Members, for returning. Members, before we go to the Orders of the Day, I will read the following letter from the Commissioner of Nunavut:

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut the passage of the following bills during the Fourth Session of the Second Legislative Assembly.

(interpretation ends)

- Bill 14, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2007-2008*
- Bill 15, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2007-2008*
- Bill 16, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009*
- Bill 17, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2006-2007*

(interpretation) Signed by Anne Mikidjuk Hanson, Commissioner of Nunavut.

I also wish to notify members that the Member from Arviat can't be here at this session due to illness. Let's think of him in our prayers and his family.

Mr. Arvaluk.

**Point of Order**

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a Point of Order in relation to comments that were made in this House at our sitting of September 17, 2007.

Mr. Speaker, during consideration of Motion 17 – 2(4), the Member for Nattilik stated, and I quote, “I’ve been a subject to similar incidences here in the House and it’s absolutely unacceptable.”

Mr. Speaker, I’m raising this Point of Order because I believe that it contravenes Rule 23 (h) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly. This Rule states that a member will be called to order by the Speaker if he or she makes allegations against another member, a House officer, or a witness.

Mr. Speaker, the comments made by the Member for Nattilik alleges that more than one incident has taken place in the House involving members making comments towards her. As all members are aware, an incident occurred earlier in this Assembly involving the Member for Nattilik and another MLA. The matter was closed when an apology was offered and the apology was accepted.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Nattilik’s comments of September 17 clearly contravenes our Rules, and I would ask that she apologize to the House and detract her statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. I would like to ask the Member for Nattilik if she has any comments. Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did, in the House, state that I had been subject to some verbal, or some things have been said to me in this House; in this House right here and out in the hallway. The member issued an apology and I accepted the member’s apology at the time. Because it was not recorded in the House, it does not mean the incident did not happen. It happened.

We dealt with an issue last month for an incident that occurred in Labrador; outside the territory; outside this House.

So by stating the fact that I have been subject to similar language, it doesn’t mean that it didn’t happen; it happened. It happened in this building, in this House. It was not in the agenda; it was not in the *Hansard* because it happened during break in Committee of the Whole, down the hallway and into the elevator area. There are witnesses to that. Just because it was not in the *Hansard* it doesn’t mean it didn’t happen. It happened.

Abuse or verbal abuse, or what not, just because it was not in the *Hansard* it doesn’t mean those things don’t happen; it does happen.

That incident happened two years ago, I understand that but it doesn’t mean it didn’t happen. The member apologized and I accepted the member’s apology. All I was trying to say in those statements was the fact that I can relate to how difficult it is to raise the issue when the matter was presented by the two individuals of Iqaluit.



So there is no Point of Order. The *Hansard* clearly speaks to the apology and I accepted it. Because there is an apology in there, one would think that something occurred for an apology to be heard in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. (interpretation ends) Ms. Aglukkaq, I find that the Member for Tunnuniq does have a Point of Order. As your comments do contravene Rule 23 (h), at this time I will ask you retract your comments. Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Can you repeat that so in terms of what that I contravened what.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. My comments were that I find the Member for Tunnuniq does have a Point of Order; that your comments do contravene Rule 23 (h). At this time I will ask you to retract your comments. Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I contravened Rule 23 (h), I take those comments back and I apologize to the Members of the House for those comments. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. We are going to the Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Picco.

## **Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

### **Minister's Statement 082 – 2(4): Akasuk Absent from the House from October 23 to October 29, 2007**

**Hon. Ed. Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I would like to echo your comments and say that our thoughts and prayers are with our good member and friend, Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the Members of this House that the Honourable Olayuk Akasuk will be absent from the House from October 23 to October 29, 2007. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Picco. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Finance, Minister Simailak.

### **Minister's Statement 083 – 2(4): Mid-Year Fiscal Update and 2008-09 Capital Estimates**

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and greetings to the residents of Baker Lake.

## INTRODUCTION

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring members and all Nunavummiut up to date on the current fiscal situation of the Government of Nunavut. I will also be introducing the Capital Estimates for the fiscal year 2008-09.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut will continue to implement the priorities that have been set out in *Pinansuaqtavut*, by maintaining a sound fiscal position, while maximizing the benefits from the financial resources that are available to us.

## MID-YEAR FISCAL UPDATE

With respect to the previous fiscal year, 2006-07, we are projecting a deficit of \$6.3 million. I wish to remind members that this amount is preliminary and is subject to adjustments. All departments, with the exception of Health and Social Services, were within their appropriated limits. We will be bringing forward a supplementary appropriation bill for your consideration during this session for this overexpenditure.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, we will be bringing forward other supplementary appropriation bills that pertain to the current fiscal year, 2007-08, for your consideration during this session. These appropriations include:

- Additional funding for the Nunavut Housing Corporation for the pre-trades training program being delivered by Nunavut Arctic College. This is a value-added project to the \$200 million Northern Housing Trust Fund, provided by our federal partner, for new housing construction;
- Additional funding to the Department of Education for the Nunavut Community Skills Information System. These funds will build on the success of this program which was recently awarded a silver medal for innovation in technology by the Institute of Public Administration;
- Additional resources for the Department of Community and Government Services to actively recruit four additional project officers and a quantity surveyor to enhance their technical division's ability to assist in the planning and costing of capital projects; and
- Additional funding for the Department of Health and Social Services for repairs to the Kitikmeot Regional Health Centre as a result of a recent fire.

Mr. Speaker, we are currently projecting a deficit of \$7.2 million for fiscal year 2007-08, up slightly from the projected deficit of \$6.6 million tabled in the Legislative Assembly in March 2007. When I addressed the Regular Members Caucus last month, I indicated that we were expecting a deficit of \$12.0 million for 2007-08. Based on the September 30 financial results, we have revised our deficit projection down to \$7.2 million, an improvement of \$4.8 million. This is primarily because we have reduced the energy

contingency to reflect the additional revenues that will be recovered by the Petroleum Products Division from the increase in the retail price of aviation fuels and gasoline effective November 1, 2007.

This revised deficit includes \$37.1 million in forced growth expenditures that were approved by the Legislative Assembly this past June. It also includes a small provision for unforeseen events.

The Fiscal Plan also includes initiatives that were announced in the Federal Budget 2007, such as:

- \$23 million for Strengthening Financial Management;
- \$1.1 million a year for the next seven years for the Building Canada Fund; and
- \$25 million a year for the next seven years under the Infrastructure Base Fund. This fund is cost shared with Canada on a 75/25 basis, with Nunavut's per-year share totalling \$8.3 million; a total yearly investment of \$33.3 million.

While our longer-term fiscal outlook continues to be positive, we must continue to manage our finances prudently. Our cautious approach to managing expenditures is more important now than ever to ensure that we are prepared for the challenges that await us.

Mr. Speaker, I will now introduce the *Capital Appropriation Act* for 2008-09.

## **2008-09 CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

For the fiscal year 2008-09, the government will allocate \$98.3 million for capital expenditures on projects that will benefit communities throughout Nunavut. When the 2008-12 Five-Year Capital Plan was approved last year, \$87.4 million was allocated for 2008-09. This increase of \$10.9 million is due to higher than anticipated costs for multi-year capital projects.

The Department of Education has the single largest capital budget for the coming fiscal year at \$25.6 million. Mr. Speaker, this is consistent with our government's goals of improving the quality of education and preparing Nunavummiut to take advantage of training and employment opportunities. The allocation includes:

- \$5.2 million for the completion of Nunavut Arctic College student accommodation residences in both Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit;
- \$1.5 million to begin renovations to the elementary school, including the addition of a Gym, in Gjoa Haven;
- \$5.5 million to begin the Inuksuk High School retrofit in Iqaluit;

- \$6 million to begin an addition to the Peter Pitseolak School in Cape Dorset;
- \$3.3 million for the start of construction of the trades school in Rankin Inlet;
  
- \$2.1 million for the plan and design of Nunavut Arctic College's Community Learning Centre in Pond Inlet; and
  
- \$1.0 million for repairs to the Ataguttaaluk Elementary School in Igloolik.

The budget for the Department of Community and Government Services' capital expenditures in 2008-09 is \$23.1 million. The capital projects undertaken by this department affect almost all communities in Nunavut. The Capital Estimates include \$20.8 million for community projects and \$2.3 million for projects within the Petroleum Products Division. In addition to the capital contribution of \$2.4 million for projects in Iqaluit, approximately \$4.6 million will be spent on water supply and sewage facilities, which includes a sewage lagoon and solid waste facility in Kugluktuk, a sewage treatment plant in Rankin Inlet and sewage lagoon work in Kugaaruk.

The Capital Estimates, Mr. Speaker, also include \$19.1 million for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. This includes \$6.9 million for the construction of staff housing units associated with the Continuing Care Centres in each of Igloolik and Gjoa Haven and the Rankin Inlet Trades School. In addition, \$2.0 million has been allocated to Homeownership Programs and \$8.0 million has been allocated for ongoing modernization and improvements to, and retrofits of, public housing units.

The Department of Health and Social Services has been allocated \$14.4 million for the upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Speaker, the objective of the GN continues to be to provide health care to Nunavummiut closer to home. As members are aware, the Qikiqtani General Hospital in Iqaluit was officially opened on October 19, 2007. Included in this budget is \$ 4.5 million for Phase II of the Qikiqtani General Hospital. In addition, funding of \$8.7 million will be allocated to complete the construction of the Continuing Care Centres.

The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth has been allocated a budget of \$850,000 for the planning and design of the Piqqusilirivvik Folk School in Clyde River. The Piqqusilirivvik Folk School is an integral component of *Pinasuaqtavut* in building a stronger cultural foundation based on Inuit societal values.

Mr. Speaker, to maintain previous time frames and incremental infrastructure commitments made to Nunavummiut with respect to major capital projects, \$9 million has been reallocated from the Heritage Centre Project. This is to provide the cash flow we need to maintain existing schedules. We are committed to returning the \$9 million to the Heritage Centre Project budget in future years. The heritage centre is still a priority under *Pinasuaqtavut*, but at this time we must realize that the balance of the funding required to complete the project is not currently available.

The Department of Justice will receive \$2.9 million for capital projects in the upcoming year, which includes \$2.5 million for the planning and design of the new correctional centre in Rankin Inlet.

For 2008-09, the Department of Environment will have a capital budget of \$1.7 million. This funding will be used primarily for the standard replacement of regulatory mobile equipment.

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation will receive a capital budget of \$9.5 million. \$6.4 million will be allocated to the Airport Replacement Project in Arctic Bay. As well, \$1.0 million will be allocated for Small Craft Harbour Projects throughout Nunavut. This amount represents part of our government's 10 percent share of the \$66 million investment identified under the Nunavut Transportation Strategy, and by a study done by the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Our government continues to work with our federal partner in securing funds for this important economic development initiative.

Mr. Speaker, the Office of the Legislative Assembly will receive approximately \$1.2 million. This includes a \$500,000 capital reserve for a new Legislative Assembly and \$660,000 for furniture and equipment, and upgrades to the audio visual system for the Chamber and offices.

## CONCLUSION

Mr. Speaker, all of the capital investments that I have announced today serve to reinforce our commitment to managing our fiscal resources wisely, while investing in priority areas that best meet the needs of our territory and the government's commitment to building Nunavut's future under *Pinasuaqtavut*. This commitment will be delivered in close consultation with all Members of this Assembly and Nunavummiut.

I remain confident, Mr. Speaker, that with the hard work, commitment, and cooperation of all members, we will continue to make much progress in developing a territory that all Nunavummiut can be proud of. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### 2007-08 FISCAL UPDATE (\$ Millions)

	<i>2007-08 Revised Estimates</i>	<i>2007-08 Main Estimates</i>	<i>Change</i>
REVENUES	1,109.2	1,050.6	58.6
EXPENDITURES *	1,116.4	1,057.2	59.2
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(7.2)	(6.6)	(0.6)

\* Includes estimated appropriation lapses, as well as supplementary requirements and contingencies.

<sup>1</sup> As per the Proposed Capital Estimates for 2008-09

<sup>2</sup> Includes increased expenditures in Supplementary Appropriation No. 1, plus Special Warrants.

### Summary of Capital Expenditures (\$ Millions)

<i>2008-09 Capital Estimates</i>	<i>2007-08 Revised Estimates</i>	<i>2007-08 Capital Estimates</i>
Legislative Assembly	1.1	0.6
Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs	-	-
Finance	-	-
Human Resources	-	-
Justice	2.9	4.3
Culture, Language, Elders and Youth	0.9	11.7
Education	25.6	44.0
Health and Social Services	14.4	48.8
Environment	1.7	2.9
Community and Government Services	23.1	34.8
Economic Development and Transportation	9.5	16.9
Nunavut Housing Corporation	19.1	16.0
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>98.3<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>180.0<sup>2</sup></b>
<i>Totals may not add due to rounding.</i>		

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Simailak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Taloyoak, Ms. Aglukkaq.

### Item 3: Members' Statements

#### **Member's Statement 175 – 2(4): Pages from Gjoa Haven; Evie Eegeesiak's 40th Birthday**

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. [I would like to recognize two individuals from Gjoa Haven who are here with us today, Kiefer Kikoak and Percy Iquallaq.] I was trying to get Johnny over here from Taloyoak, but he couldn't make it due to the weather. Rebecca Iquallaq is also here from Gjoa Haven. I would like to welcome them to Iqaluit as they will be working here.

(interpretation ends) As well, today is my good friend Evie Eegeesiak's 40th birthday. I would like to wish her a happy birthday. If you're listening, Evie, I hope you have a good day. I wish you a happy birthday, and from myself, I hope to see you after session today. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Evyagotailak.

#### **Member's Statement 176 – 2(4): Liquor Act Plebiscite Results Point to a Bright Future for Kugluktuk**

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today here in the House to thank the residents of Kugluktuk... (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, a plebiscite was held in the community yesterday under the *Liquor Act*. The community had an opportunity to vote on the question of whether or not to establish an Alcohol Education Committee.

Mr. Speaker, 360 residents of Kugluktuk took the time to vote on this important question.

234 people voted in favour of establishing an Alcohol Education Committee and 120 people voted against the idea.

Mr. Speaker, since over 66 percent of the valid votes were in favour of the question, the Alcohol Education Committee will be established in Kugluktuk.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my support for the decision made by the community, and I want to thank the government and Elections Nunavut for their work in administering the plebiscite and helping people to understand the question.

Mr. Speaker, our community needs to work together to address the issue of substance abuse. Yesterday evening, there was a CBC national news story on the Kugluktuk plebiscite.

In this story, the young people of Kugluktuk spoke strongly in favour of life and hope, and strongly against alcohol and despair. Mr. Speaker, I stand with the community today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 177 – 2(4): Prime Ministerial Visit to the High Arctic**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to report to the House on the recent visit of the Prime Minister to the High Arctic.

As members are aware, the Prime Minister made a number of important announcements during his trip concerning federal initiatives for the North.

These included the establishment of a Canadian Forces Arctic Training Centre in Resolute Bay, the expansion and re-equipping of the Canadian Rangers, and the establishment of a Deep Water Arctic Docking and Refuelling Facility at Nanisivik.

Mr. Speaker, these announcements will have a significant impact on the communities that I represent in the Legislative Assembly.

As their MLA, I have supported initiatives to strengthen Canadian sovereignty in the High Arctic and provide benefits to Nunavut communities and residents.

Last year, I wrote to the Minister of National Defence on the issue of establishing a new training centre in the High Arctic, and publicly tabled my correspondence in the Legislative Assembly.

Following the Prime Minister's visit, I wrote to him on behalf of my constituents. In my letter, I indicated that it is essential for all levels of government be fully involved in discussions surrounding such matters as infrastructure use, Canadian Rangers recruitment initiatives, and local employment and contracting opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I expressed my support for the establishment of mechanisms and forums to provide for ongoing communication at senior levels between federal, territorial, and municipal leaders and officials.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will table a copy of my correspondence for the public record. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause



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

**Member's Statement 178 – 2(4): Support Needed for Nursing Program**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in regard to the nurses as the Minister of Finance stated that we're going to be \$7.2 million in deficit, although there are many various reasons but we all know that, I think one of the main reasons, it's because of agency nurses. I have been speaking to many nurses, not just in Pond Inlet. The agency nurses make \$5 to \$50 more than the head nurse and those are her subordinates.

And also, elders, especially those who are unilingual, when they have to go to the health centre they see a new nurse, and the nurse that was previously there has to tell the whole story again to the new nurse every time a new nurse arrives.

For the past two years now, I have been making statements in regard to providing support to the Nunavut Nursing Program that is comparable to the Nunavut Akitsiraq Law School because this is an urgent matter now. We need properly trained nurses that will be residing in our communities and that will take training programs at the local level rather than hiring agency nurses, which is very expensive.

I was told that agency nurses literally make \$700 a day. They are very expensive today and they stay for very short periods in our community. The length of time that they stay in our community is not sufficient enough to find out what the problems are of their patients.

Due to the fact that many people have died off without being diagnosed properly, therefore, I am urging the government to please provide more support to the Nunavut Nursing Program so that we can get Nunavut Inuit nurses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 179 – 2(4): Scientific Research on Polar Bears Not Using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the elders in the Keewatin region.

We are extremely proud of our elders and we are proud of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* and Inuit societal values. At times, the government sets up a system that does not conform to *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. Usually, the government doesn't take the time to instill *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*.

We have been told that there is a decrease in the polar bear population in the Hudson Bay area but in *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, this is not true at all. The reason why I am making these statements is that the federal government and the Government of Nunavut count the population.

You shoot the polar bear, tag it, and take a tooth out for diagnoses. If you catch that polar bear in about 10 years, then they would know where the polar bear had gone. Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) this study is not shared nor agreed upon by Inuit elders.

So what I am saying is that *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* and scientific studies (interpretation) don't agree. As that's the case, Mr. Speaker, when the Canadian Wildlife Service does a study on polar bears and Government of Nunavut makes statements that there's a decrease in the polar bear population... what I'm trying to say is that the people will have to consult with the people of Nunavut because that's their job.

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

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): What I am saying is that the scientific studies are taken extremely seriously by these agencies, but this is not being utilized by the elders and they are not being consulted.

I can say that in the Keewatin region there's going to be a cut of 38, but Mr. Speaker, if you camp out in the Keewatin in any location, (interpretation ends) polar bears are going to attack you. There are more bears than ever before.

So, Mr. Speaker, what I'm asking the government to do is that scientific studies that are normally done and relied upon by agencies, including the Canadian Wildlife Service and the safety polar bear groups out there, they are flawed; they're not good enough.

We need a new method. This new partnership should begin with the minister and it should be carried out by this government, which would include Inuit and not just organizational representatives, the wildlife groups, and that.

These all have limitations, so I am asking the government and the Members of the House that we will work towards a new partnership arrangement to include *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit*, and best technical advisors we can get so we have a proper record of our wildlife resources. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin South/Whale Cove, Ms. Brown.

**Member's Statement 180 – 2(4): Kivalliq Arts and Crafts Event September 8 to 12, 2007**

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very glad that you are able to make it to the session.

I would first like to make a comment regarding the elders and the elder who was found in Igloolik, Inooki Kunnuk. His daughter is a very good friend of mine and I would like to thank the people for making sure that he returned safely to the community.

Again, in Rankin Inlet, this community is represented by both Mr. Curley and myself; the North and the South. Just last month, I think it was September 8 to 12, they had an arts festival in Rankin Inlet and it was a huge event.

(interpretation ends) The two events highlight the skills of Kivalliq carvers, doll makers, sewers, designers, and printmakers in an amazing display of Inuit skill, tradition, and imagination.

I would like to mention some of the organizers and forgive me if I don't mention them all. Therese Tunngilik, Robert Connelly, Bernadette Dean, and thanks to all those who have helped put this together. We surely enjoyed the event and showcased the skills of the people from Kivalliq.

The other amazing part was the elders, when they wore their traditional outfits they did their drum dancing and their throat singing. I was truly amazed with that and everybody who attended and who was there to see, they all had a ball.

I know that my colleague, David Simailak, was there and I saw you there, and many of you were there. So I would like to mention that to Rankin Inlet and we hope to look forward to the next event for next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, I apologize, Ms. Brown. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit East, Mr. Picco.

**Member's Statement 181 – 2(4): Global Warming and Climate Change**

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the past several months international focus has been on the Arctic and Nunavut because of global warming and climate change.

Mr. Speaker, this has included nationally broadcast news reports by CBC, on 'The National' with Peter Mansbridge, U.S. TV crews; Dan Rather was just in Arctic Bay last week in a cruise travelling throughout Nunavut documenting global warming and climate

change. Mr. Speaker, as well, countless news articles in the International and National Press, newspapers and news magazines have highlighted the issues.

Sheila Watt-Cloutier has been a forceful and passionate advocate for the Inuit and the North on Global Warming and Climate Change. Her recent nomination for the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize was a win for all of Nunavut and the Arctic. Thank you, Sheila.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Speaker, in the same vein tonight on the Discovery Channel at 7 p.m. Eastern time is also focusing on Nunavut and featuring Nunavut's global warming and climate change and the people that live here.

First up will be the Iqaluit Greenhouse and the dedicated volunteers who are making it work here in Nunavut. Tomorrow night, Mr. Speaker, at 7 p.m. on the Discovery Channel they will feature the Inuksuk High School Robotics Team who have represented Nunavut internationally at the NASA in Houston, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, what does all this have to do with today and in the House here? Mr. Speaker, all these news stories, programs, and media coverage helps us get the message out about Nunavut, our land, people, and our changing climate.

Mr. Speaker, this is good news for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

#### **Member's Statement 182 – 2(4): Weekend to End Breast Cancer**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform the House about an inspirational constituent in my constituency of Cambridge Bay.

Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2006, Angela Phillips was diagnosed with breast cancer. Fortunately, her cancer was caught early and she underwent a lumpectomy procedure shortly after her diagnosis.

Mr. Speaker, our health facilities in the Kitikmeot do not have the specialized medical equipment and doctors to treat patients who are diagnosed with cancer. During the year following her cancer diagnosis, she had to make regular trips down south to Yellowknife and Edmonton for cancer treatment.

Mr. Speaker, it was a very trying year for her with all the travel, treatment, and medication that she had to undergo. In addition, there was the emotional turmoil that she, her husband, and family had to deal with.

Mr. Speaker, to raise awareness in Cambridge Bay and to encourage women to be proactive about their health, Ms. Phillips entered to walk in the Third Annual Weekend to End Breast Cancer in Edmonton. She trained for months by walking daily in Cambridge Bay to get in shape to walk the 60 kilometers. Our community was inspired to see her walking every day.

Mr. Speaker, during the weekend of August 10 to 12 of this year, she and her friend Jan Peters raised over \$13,000 in cash donations to benefit the Alberta Cancer Foundation. Alberta is where many Nunavummiut from the Kitikmeot must regularly travel to receive cancer treatment.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Phillips and Ms. Peters were the fourth largest fund raisers during the weekend. Their many friends in Cambridge Bay and around the North chipped in to show our support for this very important cause. We all know or have heard of people who are fighting cancer and it is very important that we help and encourage them in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Phillips has shown that with early diagnosis and a good attitude, combined with support from her community and the care of the medical professionals, cancer can be beaten. She hopes her experience helps women to be a little less afraid if they are diagnosed with breast cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the House to join me in congratulating Ms. Phillips for her leadership in the fight against breast cancer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

### **Member's Statement 183 – 2(4): Congratulations to Sanikiluaq Students**

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the students at the Nuiyak School in Sanikiluaq for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, two groups of Nuiyak School students are in the process of building two houses in the Hamlet of Sanikiluaq. I am very proud to say that one group is made up of all girls, while the other group is made up of all boys.

Mr. Speaker, for each group, ten students spend half of the day on the building site, while another ten students focus on their school learning. In the afternoon, the two groups switch roles.

Mr. Speaker, the boys are building two units onto a three-plex house to convert it into a five-plex house. The girls are working with a lady instructor and five other female students who are on the building site all day.

Mr. Speaker, this wonderful project to provide students with hands-on experience in the construction world would not be possible without the partnership and support of several organizations.

Mr. Speaker, the Housing Corporation supplied all of the building material for this project and I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the corporation for helping these students to get their training.

Mr. Speaker, since 1998, students in the community of Sanikiluaq have worked on six house building projects such as this. By the end of this school year, 110 students will have benefitted from this very worthwhile training in the construction trade.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating the students of Sanikiluaq on their efforts and their contributions to the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Members' Statements. Going back to Orders of the Day. Item 4. I apologize. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

#### **Member's Statement 184 – 2(4): A Hole-in-One for Habitat for Humanity**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought you saw me with my hand up earlier. Before I do my Member's Statement, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to thank my cousin Brad Hicks. He is responsible for this nice Italian tie he brought back from his honeymoon. It almost looks like Mr. Picco's but his is not quite authentic. This is an authentic Italian tie from Italy that he brought back from his honeymoon and I would like to congratulate my cousin Brad Hicks and his wife Catherine, and thank them for the tie.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the Legislative Assembly about a very successful event – the 2007 Annual Invitational Golf Classic that the Habitat for Humanity Iqaluit held this summer.

Mr. Speaker, all Members of this House are well aware of the housing crisis facing Nunavut.

Shortages, overcrowding, and the aging housing stock contribute to a growing number of other social problems in our territory.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, there are many people who are working hard to make a difference for us all.

The Habitat for Humanity program is about home ownership and providing a long-term solution designed to break the poverty cycle.

Here in Iqaluit, we are looking forward to the upcoming dedication on November 17 of the first Habitat for Humanity home in the community. This will be the most northerly Habitat Home in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I was honoured to have been able to be joined by a number of my colleagues in supporting this year's Golf Classic. This event raises much needed funds for Habitat, and I am pleased to say that approximately \$60,000 was raised this year.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I could go into great detail about which Members of this House shot par, and who ended up in the rough, or who shot double bogeys. However, I certainly don't want to embarrass anyone here today, including myself.

Mr. Speaker, this year's event was truly a hole-in-one for Habitat for Humanity. I like to take this opportunity to thank and recognize the committee, all of the sponsors that made the event happen, and especially the board of directors, including the task chair, Ms. Pam Hine, who has moved on to different opportunities in the west. I would like to thank her, particularly, for the effort that she has put in over the years, and also know that the new Chair, Mr. Glen Cousins, who's here, as well as Mr. Don Sinclair-Chenier, who is the Chair of the Fundraising and Partners Committee, will continue doing a great job in making this thing work.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask all members to join me in applauding the organization for their excellent work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 185 – 2(4): Governor General of Canada and Throne Speech**

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We heard some time this year that the UN sent a representative from the federal government representing the territorial government who didn't want to recognize the aboriginal rights, and we were refused that right by the federal government; the same thing with the Americans. This is not acceptable for us aboriginal people.

Just recently, when the Governor General presented her Throne Speech, she stated repeatedly that the North is very important and said that it will be part of the history. She also stated that the North is developing and we face many challenges in regard to social and housing issues. Those are the things that we have to deal with.

It has been mentioned that they wish to bring, I believe, about eight ships up with the cost of \$3.1 billion and \$3.3 billion to operate it for 25 years. And here we are, struggling to accommodate our people with housing, especially when we are in need of 3,000 houses. Now, they're willing to offer to those ships, which we are not asking for. We have to be recognized and be provided with housing.

I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You can proceed, Mr. Arreak.

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues. At the Throne Speech, the Governor General also mentioned about the arctic waters that they wish to do mapping of. That would be very costly and what we are requesting doesn't cost as much. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

#### **Member's Statement 186 – 2(4): Golf Tournament for Habitat for Humanity**

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome, my colleagues. Welcome to my riding. I also wish to thank those who came out to help with the golf tournament, we were playing well as a team, me and the Speaker, but I'm sorry that we did not win, and hopefully next year we will do better.

I wish to invite all of my colleagues because it's very enjoyable and a very good cause, not just for Iqaluit but it's also for the other communities because we have a dire shortage of houses.

When we can, we will be building houses. So I encourage the members to participate next year and I am very thankful that we were able to help out with the building of the house, and we were given instructions. It was very enjoyable. I wish to see this kind of thing going on every year and I wish to thank everybody on behalf of Nunavummiut.

As the Iqaluit Centre Member mentioned about his blue tie, I have a red tie on which I'm very proud of because we won again last night. So that's why I'm wearing a red tie and it was made in Nunavut, which I'm very proud of. I thank them and I thank the Montreal Canadiens.



I'm pretty sure the next time they play I'll have to wear something red again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are some people in the Gallery who don't come here often. I wish to recognize my constituent, Jayko Tunraq. He's a community counsellor and he helps the people of Arctic Bay, whether they're old or young.

And sitting next to him is the former mayor who now works with the housing association, Niorie Iqalukjuak. He helps me a lot and also helps in the community, especially if it involves the community, and Barry, who is his son.

I would like to recognize those three individuals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I don't have anybody else, my apologies. Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have visitors from my constituency, who is my cousin, Michael Evic, and my constituent Sammy Peter, I wish to welcome them.

Sitting next to him is the husband of my cousin, Abraham Arnakak. Mr. Speaker, he is your constituent and I wish to welcome him to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. (interpretation ends) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation) Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin North, Mr. Curley.

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

**Question 227 – 2(4): CEO of Nunavut Development Corporation**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development. I raised this question before but I have not received a response and it's in regard to the Nunavut Development Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, it's been about a year and a half that they haven't had a manager, and they have been running since it started in 1999. The funding that they get has not increased and the projects that they have are very good. The former CEO, since the time it started, was transferred somewhere else and they have been running without a CEO.

The former speaker had good financial management skills. I wonder why that CEO has not been reappointed. Thank you.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The contract for the past President for the Nunavut Development Corporation was not renewed, and at this time, we are looking at the whole of Canada, not just in the North.

I knew the past president's capabilities, but his contract was not renewed. We were given the go ahead to look for someone else to see if it would go through a different route. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it's very important. I think it's quite serious that people who are successful and people who have experience, people who are Inuit, who have good communications skills and proven records for success should remain in either government corporations or payroll.

This former CEO has a good track record. Why is it that you're looking around all over the country when the record shows and it will likely be proven, when you table the report on Nunavut Development Corporation, that you're not willing to hire him back?

Can the minister explain to this House why you're not willing to put Mr. Hickes back on as the CEO? Thank you.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said when I made my statement, we wanted to look for another CEO position for the NDC.

He has worked on it since it was established in 1999, and yes, we know his experience has contributed a lot to NDC. We were thinking we might want to go in another direction

with NDC and their mandate in hiring a new CEO for NDC so that it may grow larger. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I understand the minister's response but he did not answer my question. Why is he not willing to hire Mr. Hickes back as the CEO? That's the question.

Ignore the Premier's personality difference between him and that; I believe that plays into effect because I believe there's some disagreement on that. As the minister, you have the responsibility to hire CEOs for most of the Crown corporations that deal with economic development; and that is one of them.

So what I'm asking you is; Mr. Hickes has the full support of the NDC Board, and therefore, a good proven track record. I believe the productivity, including the balance sheets, will show that he has a good record, and that record probably could not be matched by any CEO who has a weakness in communication skills if he doesn't come from Nunavut. So why not cancel the search for a new CEO and hire Mr. Hickes back in? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Curley I have to raise a Point of Caution in naming individuals that may not be present, or may not be in the position to defend themselves, or their party. So I caution you and all members to be respectful of those individuals.

(interpretation) Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said earlier, we were thinking and rehashing that we would put somebody else as the CEO to the betterment of the organization.

Up to now, we went forward with that, and he has been in that position for seven years. We are thinking as to how we can better that organization. For that reason, we were looking for another CEO inside Canada and that will go forward. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley:** I appreciate the minister's response but what I'm saying is that I don't see any justifiable reason why they are looking for a new CEO. The company has done a good job. The former CEO has done a great job in turning the company around and has not asked for any additional money; the balance sheets are great.

So what I'm asking is that it's really, critically important that the Keewatin feels as a part of this government. Why are you looking around when an effective member of the

business community's proven record, and why is it necessary to look around for someone who may not do as an effective job as the former CEO has? That's my final question. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Simailak.

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't want to further discuss this in the House. I don't want to talk about it here in the House. We were thinking how we could better the organization and that's why we are looking for another person to replace him for NDC. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 228 – 2(4): Federal Announcements Concerning the High Arctic**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Premier.

In my Members' Statement today I informed the House about the Prime Minister's recent visit to the High Arctic. (interpretation ends) I expressed the need for the Government of Nunavut to work closely with the federal government and local municipalities to ensure that the communities in the High Arctic, which I represent, are fully involved with the projects that are moving towards to establish a docking facility in Nanisivik and training centre in Resolute Bay.

Mr. Speaker, can the Premier tell me today what discussions have taken place between the Government of Nunavut and the federal officials, with respect to the High Arctic initiatives, that the Prime Minister announced during his visit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) To date, I am not aware of any discussions that have taken place with the federal government.

I've always expressed the willingness to try and do our part as a government to try and help assert our sovereignty, and to date, there have not been a lot of cooperation. I am hoping that that would change with this current government. It has been, at times, difficult and I am hoping that this trend will not continue. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Premier.

(interpretation ends) Last week's Federal Speech from the Throne included a number of references to the North. Can the Premier tell the House today how the Government of Nunavut has reacted to the speech from the Throne? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I think I did my response earlier last week that we had some mixed emotions towards the Throne Speech. I was very pleased to hear that the Prime Minister will finally apologize to the victims of residential schools and I was relieved to hear that.

The Throne Speech mentioned that there would be some housing money; we don't know where that will go but if it's going towards Nunavut, we would be very happy to be helping out wherever we can as a government.

But at the same time, our long standing position on devolution was barely mentioned in the Throne Speech. So I'm hopeful that something will happen but we were expecting a little more in the Throne Speech than what was outlined. So there are some mixed feelings on our part towards the Throne Speech. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Barnabas**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have frequently raised concerns in the House about the high cost of living in the High Arctic. Can the Premier tell me today how his government is lobbying Ottawa to achieve improvements to the Northern Residents Tax Deduction? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I raised this with my colleagues during our Northern Premiers' Conferences and the three territories have established a working group with our Departments of Finance. So this issue is continually being put together with our colleagues in the North. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Barnabas**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Premier outline for me today what further support he believes we can realistically obtain from Ottawa to address the shortage of housing in the High Arctic? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I think what we've done has helped in the past. We have been lobbying very hard for all of Nunavut for the lack of housing and we partnered well with NTI and we were able to leverage 700 plus units. And we had outlined, there were a shortage of 3,000 units throughout Nunavut. So we still have a long ways to go.

So we will continue to press our expectations in the housing issue and try and do our part, like we heard from our colleague from Iqaluit Centre that we're trying to build Habitat Housing.

That will help but we all have to do our part in terms of trying to get employment so that people can afford their own homes. But we all know that we need more social housing. So we will continue to press our federal partners on that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 229 – 2(4): Training Programs for Health Care Professions**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier towards the health issues, I have a question directed to the Minister for the Department of Health and Social Services.

We are all aware and know that we need to have more nurses in the communities and we all know that the government has not pushed enough to get nurses, as I know they've tried.

At the same time, I have a question to the minister. We will need to get nurses. If we could maybe set up something right away so that some of the communities could get nurses and training programs for the registered nurses in our communities. We need to get nurses for the communities and train our people for positions in the health field. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can provide an overview of some of the training programs that the Department of Health has worked on for the last few years and the health care professions that are currently being delivered in Nunavut.

There are a number of programs that cover nursing, that cover social work training. Midwifery training was just expanded to be offered in Iqaluit and we had some graduates from Rankin last year. We also have a program that the Nunavut Arctic College will be delivering for the continuing care facilities.

We also have programs to support our students, student summer employment. Alcohol and drug training has been offered in Cambridge and Kivalliq in the past. We have X-ray training as well, CHR training, and Inuktitut translator training for medical translators in health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the answer, however, it's very broad. In the health professional area, I guess, our biggest concern in Nunavut is registered nurses that are absent or practically absent in our communities.

We get several permanent nurses, and few and far between agency nurses. What we need is a registered nurses' training aggressively in Nunavut. Will the minister tell me that there is an immediate plan in place to accelerate or to be aggressive for our nurses' training plan from the government? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One program that I forgot to mention earlier in the first question, a reply was the Mental Health Training Program, and I was very proud to attend the first ever mental health graduation on Saturday where seven Nunavummiut graduated in the program.

The member, in terms of the Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy, I will be tabling that in the House. I am anxious to release that information and it will outline some of the broad multi-dimensional approach that we're trying to take in addressing the whole issue of nursing capacity in Nunavut.

So during this sitting, I will be presenting that plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will this document you will be tabling include the budget allocation and business plan to affectively carry out your plans to deal with the health professionals issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Where there are monetary requirements to implement the plan, the department will be working with FMB to put that

process in the main estimates process but it will identify the finances required to implement the strategy for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will this also include the ultimate goal, the end result requirement that it will have actual tangible benefits at the end of the program, at the end of the plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the development of the strategy, we tried to, again, address the strategy in a multi-dimensional approach and tried to address a number of concerns that were raised by nurses, as well as the staff and the challenges that we face.

So without getting into the specifics, it is an approach that we're trying to take in a broader context and once I release that information in this House, I will be glad to speak in more detail on those initiatives outlined in this strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 230 – 2(4): Support for Alcohol and Drug Treatment Programs**

**Mr. Evyagotailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Health and Social Services. In my Member's Statement today, I informed the House about Kugluktuk's decision to establish an Alcohol Education Committee.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Cabinet recently held meetings in my community of Kugluktuk. After its retreat, the Cabinet announced that the government will plan for an alcohol abuse treatment facility and programs.

Can the minister give me and other members some more details today about her department's plans to establish a new alcohol abuse treatment facility in Nunavut and would she consider locating this facility in Kugluktuk? 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. The department's approach to A&D has been to do a comprehensive review on, currently, what we provide in Nunavut for alcohol and drug counselling and to examine those programs that are in place, and then to



look at the various methods we've used in Nunavut for delivery of various A&D programs.

One example is the 28-day live-in program in Cambridge Bay model as a means to try and develop programs here. We have not discussed the building infrastructure *per se*, but right now, we're looking at what review we need to do and what work we need to do to develop an A&D program in Nunavut.

My thing is that if we can deliver an A&D program in existing facilities to get it more out into the communities, absolutely, that would be a more viable way to deliver programs through our communities.

So the issue on the building itself, there have been no decisions on it if long-term but it is an option that we're also looking into. And at the same time, we're also looking into the design and review of the existing programs that are offered in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Madam Minister.

The Department of Health and Social Services budgeted just under \$1 million in 2007-08 for funding to Nunavut municipalities to provide alcohol and drug treatment programs. Can the minister tell me today how much of this funding has been provided to Kugluktuk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you. I don't have the main estimates' books in front of me but every community currently receives funding for a PY for an alcohol and drug counsellor and that funding is in the form of a contribution agreement to the hamlet.

The exact amount, I will get that for the member. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Madam Minister. The *Liquor Act* allows Alcohol Education Committees to organize education and counselling programs.

Can the minister tell me today what support, if any, is provided by her department to Alcohol Education Committees across Nunavut to deliver alcohol education and counselling programs? 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. The member makes reference to the *Liquor Act*. That responsibility falls under the Minister of Finance as it relates to the Education Committee for A&D Committees, so I can't answer his question.

But what I can say is the department, under the Public Health Initiative for initiatives to educate the general public on the harms of alcohol and alcohol abuse; we have a number of programs we offer through our health centres and through our CHRs.

One example is FASD; the impact of drinking while you're pregnant is one program that we offer. So programs of that nature are distributed through the health centres.

But in terms of the specific question related to the committees, I cannot answer that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Evyagotailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thanks again, Minister. Over five years ago, the Government of Nunavut's Addiction and Mental Health Strategy was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. The minister indicated that her department is working on a new strategy.

Can the minister update us today on the status of this new strategy and indicate when she expects to table it? 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 said earlier that we're examining the current ways that we deliver A&D programs in Nunavut and evaluating whether that's effective or not. I had made this commitment as well when the Member from Arviat had raised it.

We're looking at models that we can use in Nunavut to deliver A&D programs, such as the 28-day program model in Cambridge Bay; whether that can be applied throughout Nunavut.

In terms of the strategy itself, we're in preliminary stages of reviewing that. So I can't speak to when I'll be prepared to table that report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 231 – 2(4): Financial Control Systems in Place at Finance**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance on this year's fiscal update of the 2008-09, Capital Estimates. I thank the minister for the updates. It's very important information I think we should all read.

When I was reading through it and listening to the minister, I highlighted a couple of areas that tweaked my interest and some of the language that he used, "... to manage our finances prudently," on page 3, "... managing our fiscal resources widely," on page 7, they're sending signals to me.

So I thought I would question the minister and ask him what financial systems and controls has the Department of Finance put in place to manage the GN's finances prudently and widely in 2006-07. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Within the Department of Finance, we are fully staffed at this time finally and we have very capable workers. We have been working with the other departments within our government with financial control services.

We have been working with the Auditor General, who was here recently and had left not too long ago. I met with this individual yesterday, last night. We've been working closely with them and we're looking for ways of how we can improve the government's financial system.

There are other various things that we've been dealing with on a day-to-day basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance mentioned the deficits in a couple of areas. Deficit is usually an important word to pay attention to, so if you have a deficit you have financial problems, and it has impacts and effects on all of us.

My question for the minister: when he's talking about deficits, can he tell us today if they're projecting an affect on current programs and services; will there be any cutbacks in programs or any freezes on employment, or any capital projects cancelled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, we have not even thought about freezing any programs or capital projects. So at this time, we're not considering any ideas on what you have spoken about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister of Finance for the answer. I'm not sure if it's that's good news or bad news at the moment.

Mr. Speaker in 2006-07, we carried over quite a few capital projects from the previous fiscal year and a lot of their explanation was sky rocketing capital costs and the lack of staff to see the projects through to completion.

On page 2 of his update, he mentioned that "... the Department of Community and Government Services to actively recruit four additional project officers and a quantity surveyor to enhance their technical division's ability to assist in the planning and costing of capital projects."

I wonder if the minister could clarify for us. I think we all know what a project officer is but what is a quantity surveyor? Can the minister explain how that position will help the Government of Nunavut save money and deliver capital projects on schedule? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague knows exactly what a quantity surveyor is, and this individual will be working on several projects in the communities. I'm not quite sure what those surveyors do, so I'll leave it at that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister of Finance for clarifying a little bit. I'm not sure that when he gives fiscal updates that he should put terms in there that the listening public might not understand.

I certainly didn't know what a quantity surveyor was until last month when I asked a technical person in the Community and Government Services, but it seems to be a very important position and it will help us. Perhaps, the Minister of Community and Government Services will clarify at some point during this session.

Mr. Speaker, I was at the Kitikmeot Inuit Association AGM last week, and I sat there for a couple of days and I listened to a lot of their concerns. And I appreciate that three ministers had shown up, made presentations, and answered questions.

When it was my turn on the 'hot seat' over there, one of the delegates asked me a very important question. I said I didn't have the answer but I told him that I would certainly ask the Minister of Finance if the opportunity arose. The question to me was, "With the tremendous demands coming from all across Nunavut with programs and services and capital projects will the Government of Nunavut have enough money to deliver in all the programs and services that they have promised the Nunavummiut?"

So I'll ask my question to the minister and hope my constituent is listening for the answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in February with the budget being approved by the Legislative Assembly, we will be proceeding with all the projects that we have identified and also capital projects that were identified last year.

We have set aside funds that will be used for capital projects. And for this year, if the capital estimates are approved, the programs and projects, and everything that the government has identified will go ahead as planned. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 232 – 2(4): Capital Block Funding Project Contribution Agreement**

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

Mr. Speaker, I know that the minister as well as all members are aware that a project that went on here in Iqaluit, as being the only tax-based community, was the Capital Block Funding Project Contribution Agreement that was in place over the last number of years. I understand that funding for the initial contribution is ending this March.

I am just wondering if the minister could give us an update on that and where things are at. Can the City be looking forward to a renewal of some type of capital contribution agreement that they can plan for future use as well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Community and Government Services, Ms. Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have some information in relation to that. The contribution agreement approach has worked very well in meeting with the objectives. The current CGS capital plans contain provisions for further funding to extend this program under a new agreement. It will begin in 2008. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. I am sure that the City officials will be happy to hear that.

Given the timing of things, we know that the City is on a different fiscal year than the government, theirs is in December, and they're putting their budget together for that year right now.

I'm just wondering if the minister could indicate that they have been made aware, for their budgeting purposes, if an amount will be forthcoming as the government funding through a contribution agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Community and Government Services, Ms Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Both the City of Iqaluit and the Government of Nunavut are eager to continue this agreement, and they also have monthly meetings. So from there, I am sure that the agreement will still be going on.

A long-term stable and unpredictable funding allows the City to develop its own five-year plan within the funding envelope, and provides a more manageable approach than annual project-specifying funding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. I'm sure and glad to hear that the government has been satisfied with the way things are going and hope to continue with process into the future.

Can I ask the minister if she can check into and find out whether city officials, who are in the middle of preparing their budgets right now, that are required by December, if they've been officially informed by the department of the amount of funding that they're going to be receiving as the minister outlined, or not?

If they haven't been officially informed, would the minister commit to doing that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into this and see where the City is at. I always try to make sure that there's a good working relationship between the Government of Nunavut and the City of Iqaluit.

They have been in existence for quite a long time, and we get updates regularly, or even on a daily basis, on how it's going. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can appreciate the minister is committing to look into it, but I would just like to ask the minister, if once that's been done and the city has been formally informed, if she could notify the members from Iqaluit here as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't hear a question. I would like to ask the member to rephrase his question so that I can respond properly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Tootoo, would you please rephrase your question?

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just asking the minister and thanked her for committing to look into finding out whether the city has been officially informed or not.

So I just asked her: once that's done, could she also inform the three members from Iqaluit as well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Brown.

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Certainly. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Kattuk.

### **Question 233 – 2(4): Polar Bear Study in Western Hudson Bay**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment in regard to the polar bear studies around the Belcher

Islands or around the Sanikiluaq area in Western Hudson Bay. I think it was stated that the 2007-08 study will be completed. Could the minister indicate to the House as to whether that study is completed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the surveys in the Hudson Bay, they were going to be completed in the fall but we have not received a copy of the report to date. I will inform the member as soon as they are completed and ready. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Did the minister say Southwestern Hudson Bay? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I understood what you said. You stated that once the study or the report is ready, you will inform us.

My question is: is the study completed around the Western Hudson Bay area? I'm asking a question about polar bears. We were never consulted by the individual who was doing the study on polar bears. Could the minister indicate to me whether the study has been completed or not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Netser.

**Hon. Patterk Netser**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once I have the proper information for the member, I will relay it to him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 234 – 2(4): Vacant Positions in Kugaaruk & Repulse Bay**

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



In the communities that I represent, I just recently came back from Pelly Bay, or Kugaaruk, and there were two concerns regarding Health and Social Services. We have no social worker in Repulse Bay and we don't have a mental health worker in Kugaaruk. Could the minister tell me when those positions are going to be filled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The ad for the positions in Kugaaruk, I have seen that competition out recently. I'm not aware if the interviews have been concluded or not.

In terms of the Repulse Bay vacancies for a social worker, I'm not aware if an ad has been put out for that vacant position or not, but I can look into it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have heard in the House, and I have heard personally, that they don't utilize Inuit for mental health or social work positions. You don't see too many Inuit holding those jobs.

There is a concern where they want to see people who understand what they are going through and they would prefer to talk to Inuit workers. Is it very difficult to get an Inuk mental health worker, or social worker, and do they have to have formal training in order to get into those positions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department works very hard to try to find Inuit to work in those positions, and not just community social workers and so on.

Under the child welfare legislation, there are some requirements to have certain levels of training and so on in order to meet the legal requirements under the legislation. But in trying to balance those two, many efforts have occurred to train Inuit for those positions that can provide counselling in Inuktitut to Inuit.

At the same time we also have to look at the fact that there are other skills that are required to deal with the functions of the job; of child welfare workers, as an example. Under the legislation, the requirements to deal with the courts in apprehending and so on; the procedures related to that. So it's a combination of both. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My constituents are mostly Inuit. There are a very few *Qallunaat* in those communities. It's clear that it's probably like that in other smaller communities.

When the Inuit understand what their fellow Inuit are going through, why can't they get into the social service positions? They have to import from the south when their qualifications are not really met by the Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister of Health, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We put every effort to train Inuit of Nunavut for those jobs. They are Inuit that have the Inuit knowledge. At the same time we carry out the functions of what's required under legislations; as an example, the child welfare legislation.

Another good example is the Mental Health Worker Training Program. We just graduated six Inuit from Nunavut in that field. A combination of both is what we're looking for to deliver those services. It takes time.

We have a Social Worker Training Program in Cambridge Bay to train people from Nunavut. We're trying to train more Inuit nurses, as well. So it's a long-term process. We're open to anyone who wants to get into those fields and we promote that.

As it is right now, we haven't caught up with every position to have Inuit. As it stands right now, the Department of Health's Inuit employment statistics, I believe we stand at 52 percent of our workforce within Health are Inuit at all different levels. So I'm proud of that, and we'll continue to try and train Inuit to take on these jobs so clients can receive counselling or information in Inuktitut from a person that knows their backgrounds. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Do I understand correctly that the Inuit who take training, do they incorporate the Inuit societal values when they take training in those fields? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister of Health, Ms. Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From what I recall, the curriculum guideline for mental health program is also included, and perhaps, the one in social work, but I can verify that.

Parts of the whole Inuit knowledge and Inuit traditional skills, and so on, those skills as an Inuk come with us when we take training as well. So that's something that we also have to recognize in our efforts to hire and train Inuit in jobs. Thank you.

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

**Question 235 – 2(4): Women Crisis Shelters**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services, and it may have something to do with her responsibilities as the Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

Mr. Speaker, last week at the Kitikmeot Inuit Association AGM, the delegates there, again, raised the issue of the need of women's shelters in Nunavut and the Kitikmeot including ongoing funding to keep them open. Fortunately, the minister was there to help shed some light on the current situation with the crisis shelters.

My question for the minister: will the minister tell the House how many new women's crisis shelters her department has helped to open since 2004? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am aware that we have five shelters in Nunavut now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the answer. I believe that we've had five crisis shelters for four or five years, so there haven't been any new crisis shelters opened that I am aware of.

Mr. Speaker, since there are only five crisis shelters in Nunavut, despite the overwhelming need and demand for shelter protection to women and children who are being abused in our communities, can the minister tell us what plans or strategies her department has to open new crisis shelters in every Nunavut community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The approach that we've been taking to address violence against women and children in Nunavut was not to just build buildings so that women and children can be in a house and be in a safe place, but rather

trying to look at it from the context of how do you change behaviours so that there is no violence in our communities and in our society.

Strengthening laws; the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* that we've tabled in the House, as an example; the *Inuuqatigiitsiarniq Symposium* we held where there were 75 recommendations that we're working hard to try and put the implementation plans in place to address the recommendations coming from over 100 delegates that attended that conference.

So the issue of addressing violence against women is not just about building buildings; it's about trying to put programs in place to support families and children as well as communities where the need is at. So that's the approach that we're taking at this point in time.

At the same time, we do provide support and assistance to the current existing facilities in Nunavut. We're looking at ways in strengthening what our roles can be in supporting community-run facilities. For example, we've asked for ways of how we can deliver more programs through the centre.

Statistics of usage as well, we've had a challenging time getting that information by community and that will also shape and assist us in planning what the actual facility requirements are needed in Nunavut.

But at this point in time, the approach that we're trying to take is maintaining the current facilities but focus on the development of programs at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for explaining the way her department is currently providing help to the women in the communities.

There's no doubt that it's a serious issue or a crisis in our communities. We only have five crisis shelters; that means there are probably 20 communities that don't have crisis shelters. Not every woman and child in Nunavut is going to be able to stay in their house or in their community and receive counselling and treatment. They have to be removed from the community or from their house to a safe shelter where they will be protected from abuse.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Minister Bev Oda announced a \$56 million in federal funding in June to build women's shelters and provide support to those shelters in First Nations communities in Canada.

There was no funding for Nunavut's women's shelters. This is a very serious oversight given Nunavut's high instances in violence against women.

I know the Minister of Health met with Bev Oda and they had a Status of Women meeting here this past summer, right here in Nunavut. So my question for the minister: can the minister tell the House what her department is doing to lobby the Minister Bev Oda to rectify this growing omission by the federal government, again, that deals with funding to support crisis women's shelters in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The F/T/P meeting that we hosted here in July was a real opportunity for me as well as the three territories to bring forward the differences between the First Nations group and the Inuit in the program funding allocations of the federal government. It was also an opportunity for us to raise awareness within the provincial ministers as well that we are not a First Nations group and often excluded of many programs of the federal government.

Minister Oda also had an opportunity to tour the shelter in Iqaluit. At the same time, we brought her here to the Qulliq Status of Women Council to meet with the council to hear firsthand the challenges that they face in accessing funding from the federal government.

Since that time, the three territories met with Minister Oda and the three territories are working towards putting a case plan for the federal minister to deal with funding for shelters in Nunavut for Inuit. This is an issue for us and it's ongoing.

Since that time, she is no longer the Minister of Status of Women, so we have contacted, through writing, to plan meetings with the new federal minister and we will be putting our case forward to her for consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer, and I certainly encourage and support her lobbying efforts in Ottawa. We have to get those people in Ottawa, the ministers and their senior officials, to recognize that there are people in Nunavut, and indeed, the entire North, who require a shelter.

We are not First Nations up here but certainly there is an equal demand for shelter protection from abuse. The minister mentioned earlier that they tried to collect stats from crisis at the shelters that exist in Nunavut.

Can the minister tell the House when she will be in a position to table a report that details the use of the five existing crisis shelters that operate on an annual basis? 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. Once we have the information from the centres, I would be prepared to share all that data with my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Members, the time for Question Period is now over. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 8: Returns to Written Questions\***

#### **Return to Written Question 006 – 2(4): Administration and Enforcement of the Liquor Act**

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

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am tabling Returns to Written Questions 6 and 7 that were filed with the Office of the Clerk. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing of Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Barnabas.

### **Item 13: Tabled Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 114 – 2(4): Letter to the Prime Minister re. Canadian Forces Facilities and Operations in the High Arctic**

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to table my recent correspondence to the Prime Minister of Canada. In my correspondence I address the impact of recent federal announcements concerning the High Arctic. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. (interpretation ends) Can we have that document brought forward to the table, please?

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

#### **Tabled Document 115 – 2(4): Kitikmeot Inuit Association AGM Resolutions 2007**

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a package of resolutions concerning cultural, social, and health issues that were adopted at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. I encourage all members to review them with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

\*See Appendix for full text of Returns to Written Questions 6 – 2(4) and 7 – 2(4) filed with the Clerk.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Please bring the documents forward to the table.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation ends) Mr. Premier.

**Tabled Document 116 – 2(4): Nunavummiut Kiglisinniaqtiit GN Bureau of Statistics Annual Report 2006 to 2007**

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the document Nunavut Statistics ending March 31, 2007, Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. Please wait while the documents are being sent up here.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

**Tabled Document 117 – 2(4): Nunatsiaq News Article “No Quick Fix for Agency Nurse Problem: Aglukkaq” October 12, 2007**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table an article from the Nunatsiaq News, the edition of October 12, 2007. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Please bring the documents up.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents.

**Tabled Document 118 – 2(4): Statutory Requirements for Tabling of Reports and Other Documents in the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut – October 2007**

Thank you, Members. (interpretation ends) Today I wish to table the document, ‘Statutory Requirements for Tabling of Reports and Other Documents in the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.’

This list is regularly updated by the Legislative Assembly and tracks the status of documents that are legally required to be tabled in the House.

(interpretation) Thank you. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills. Minister Simailak.

**Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**

**Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – Notice**

**Hon. David Simailak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Thursday October 25, 2007, that Bill 16, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Simailak.

### **Item 17: First Reading of Bills**

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for Bill 16, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is requesting unanimous consent to deal with the motion today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Minister Simailak.

### **Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – First Reading**

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 16, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. A question has been called. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 16 has had its First Reading.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister Simailak.

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

### **Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – Second Reading**

**Hon. David Simailak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 16, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Government of Nunavut to make capital expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. A question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 16 has had second reading and accordingly, the bill stands referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Mr. Barnabas.



**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like unanimous consent to go back to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. The member is asking consent to go back to Item 5. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Barnabas.

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

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my colleagues, too. At this time I would like to acknowledge my in-law, who comes from my community, and he's originally from Inukjuaq, Mosesee Suigaaq is here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 16 with Mr. Arreak in the Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 15:43 and Committee resumed at 16:13*

### **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 item to deal with: Bill 16. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Evyagotailak.

**Mr. Evyagotailak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to proceed with Bill 16 and commence the review of the Capital and Main Estimates for the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Are we in agreement that we first deal with the Capital Estimates for the Department of Education?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

### **Bill 16 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2008-2009 – Consideration in Committee – Education**

**Chairman:** Thank you. I would like to ask the Minister of Education, Mr. Picco, to make his opening remarks. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, very much, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to be here today to present and discuss the proposed 2008-09 Department of Education Capital Projects budget.

Our government has many capital priorities in the area of education. New projects like the Nunavut Trade School, an important policy, program, and priority in *Pinasuaqtavut*, are underway. These priorities are made all the more challenging with the recent dramatic increase in construction costs that we're experiencing across Nunavut.

The Department of Education's 2008-09 capital budget has proposed expenditures of \$25,585,000 in 2008-09, and additional project budgets totalling \$119,225,000 for the 2009-10 to 2012-13 time frame. The 2008-09 budget allows the department to undertake 10 major projects.

Mr. Chairman, my department gathers information from hamlets, District Education Authorities, communities, schools, Nunavut Arctic College, as well as Community and Government Services to develop, manage and plan the capital and initiatives. This process also includes a comprehensive school facility database to determine the level of need for each school capital project based on a ranking of the current facilities' condition, utilization and program requirements.

Mr. Chairman, we have emphasized the principals of *Inuit Qaujimatugangit* in our planning and design, as well as supporting multiple purpose facilities, partnerships and training as fundamental elements in the construction contracts.

Mr. Chairman, this department continues to move forward in a progressive and a fiscally responsible manner.

This plan includes construction of Nunavut's Trade School. In the 2008-09 fiscal year we will begin the construction phase in Rankin Inlet with a construction tender call slated for later this calendar year.

As the mining industrial sector gains momentum our trades training program will also be keeping pace. The new equipment for the Cambridge Bay Trades Training Program has been installed into the high school. I had an opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to visit the school a couple of weeks ago and I'm very pleased to say that the equipment is in place, and indeed, is working to capacity.

Mr. Chairman, I am also pleased with the discussions to date on the Inuksuk High School renovation project. We believe the proposed joint use of the trades training area by the college as well as the high school will only serve to enhance both the training and future job opportunities for our students.

With the development of the Mary River mining activity, we are pleased with the commitment and support to construct a new community learning centre in Pond Inlet. This is a positive approach to providing training opportunities to our youth at the community level.

We continue to experience a high degree of vandalism, however, Mr. Chairman, and break-ins in our schools. To combat that, we have installed surveillance cameras in all of our schools and are now in the process of reviewing our security programs, and where needed, we are increasing the level of security and surveillance. Having the cameras in place has been an active deterrent. We've been actually able to catch some of the people who have been causing damage to the schools because of the cameras in place.

Mr. Chairman, the prevalence of foundation issues along with the dramatic increase in construction costs will require careful monitoring and attention to detail as we continue to plan, tender, and construct our facility projects. Nunavut needs infrastructure that meet our growing needs, is affordable, as well as long-lasting.

I want to emphasize, Mr. Chairman, that the government has determined we cannot spend more than our means. There are many more requests and expressions of interest in both new facilities as well as delivering projects quickly. As a government, we have to work within the budget framework. There are implications for project costs when they increase, including staffing, associated housing requirements, building utilities, and ongoing maintenance and O&M that must also be considered when we look at creating new facilities as well as adding to our existing structures.

Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to be here today to discuss our education capital budget for 2008-09 and for the next subsequent four years. In summary, we commit to making every dollar go as far as it can to reflect our government's investment in the educational process.

We look forward to your questions, comments, and the discussion on the 2008-09 Capital Budget for the Department of Education and for your Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Before we start, I would like to ask the minister; the Department of Education's 2008-09 Capital Budget has been proposed to expenditures of, is it \$22 million or \$25,585,000? Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, very much, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that. You are correct; it's \$25,585,000 in 2008-09, as well as additional projects which will be totalling \$119,225,000 for the department in our fiscal forecast for 2009-10, up to the 2012-13 time frame. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Minister, do you have any witnesses that you would like to bring to the table? Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of people I would like to bring to the witness table with me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**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.

Welcome, Mr. Minister. For everyone's information, please introduce your officials, Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It gives me great pleasure today to introduce with me the following staff members: on my immediate left is the Deputy Minister of the Department of Education, long-time educator, lifelong resident of Nunavut, she's with us here today, Kathy Okpik; on my immediate right is a well known long-term northerner, entrepreneur, raconteur, Mr. Murray Horn, Director of Corporate Services for the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. (interpretation) Welcome. Does the co-chair of the Standing Committee on Health and Education have any opening comments? Please proceed, Mr. Barnabas.

**Mr. Barnabas** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As the Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Health and Education, I am pleased to make some opening comments as we begin deliberations on the 2008-09 Capital Estimates of the Department of Education.

Once again, the department's proposed capital budget for next year represents the largest share of the GN's overall capital spending. The Department of Education will account for 26 percent of the entire capital budget for 2008-09.

While the committee firmly supports continued investment in Nunavut's educational infrastructure, members have noted a significant rise in costs to deliver the number of proposed capital projects across the territory. At the same time, the promise of so many projects has raised expectations at the community level.

The standing committee will be closely monitoring the department's success in balancing its plans for ensuring safe and effective delivery of education services, while meeting the growing needs of Nunavummiut, all within the government's budget envelope.

The committee continues to have concerns over the steadily rising costs of capital projects. Total project costs are increasing significantly, sometimes even doubling, from year to year. The problem appears to worsen as tenders come in significantly over budget, projects are delayed as the re-tendering process takes place, and the impact of inflation ultimately makes original budgets unrealistic. The end result is a long list of capital

carryovers, budget transfers and supplementary appropriations, all trying to recover lost ground.

The committee recognizes that all departments are faced with similar challenges. For example, the current economic boom in Alberta has caused a shortage of trades workers in Nunavut. However, such budgetary practices are not sustainable in the long run.

Members of the committee recognize and appreciate the efforts that are being made to make costs more manageable, such as changing the scope of specific designs, re-using designs from one project for another project, and carrying out projects in phases. However, in some cases, it is not always apparent why expensive and extensive renovations are undertaken instead of building new facilities to provide additional space or replacement schools. It also appears that some renovation projects may be undertaken during the school year. The committee encourages the department to make every possible effort to ensure that students' classes and learning times are disrupted as little as possible.

Members appreciate that the age of a building or the occupancy rate of a school are not the only criteria used to determine whether additions or renovations should take place. It is disturbing to note, however, that some of our communities' oldest schools, such as those in Kugluktuk and Arctic Bay, suffer from extensive damage and deterioration. Members urge the department to address issues which directly affect the health and safety of students and staff as a priority.

Members were pleased to note that the Inuksuit High School addition project in Qikiqtarjuaq has been moved forward as recommended by MLAs in a Committee of the Whole motion passed in the fall of 2005.

The committee was further pleased to note that the department has incorporated a community learning centre in this project. Other projects which have been moved forward include the Community Learning Centre in Pond Inlet. With the rapid advancement of mining development in Nunavut, the committee encourages the department to take all necessary steps to ensure that this project is not unduly delayed so that individuals can access training in the facility as soon as possible and not miss out on employment opportunities.

The committee is very supportive of the department's focus on developing facilities with a view to meeting upcoming training needs such as those in the mining industry. Members appreciated receiving an explanation for the delay in the Rankin Inlet portion of the Nunavut Trades School project and look forward to seeing this move forward in the near future.

Members are supportive of shop programs that will be accessible to students from both high school and Nunavut Arctic College. Members were pleased to hear the minister's assurances that the shop program in Cambridge Bay will be ready for students' use this school year. Providing opportunities for high school students to learn trades skills appears to be having a positive effect on drop-out rates, as well as student satisfaction.

The Department of Education faces the difficult challenge of dealing with accommodation shortages, an issue shared with other departments which need to recruit large numbers of professionally trained individuals to provide services in our communities. It is unacceptable that the shortage of housing should be an excuse for the shortage of professionals, such as teachers and nurses. The standing committee strongly supports the department in its efforts to ensure that housing is available for teaching staff.

Members have noted related staff housing unit projects within the Nunavut Housing Corporation's capital plan, including staff housing for the trades school planned for 2008-09 and three other school staff housing projects planned for future years.

The standing committee further notes that the shortage of accommodation arrangements for students, both single and married, with and without children, continues to be a barrier for a number of adults who would like to further their education and improve their opportunities for employment. Members continue to hear from constituents who cannot get housing because their marital status or family status does not fit the criteria established by Nunavut Arctic College.

While recognizing that Nunavut Arctic College does not have unlimited resources in this regard and that ensuring that housing is available to students with dependants is a priority, the standing committee encourages Nunavut Arctic College to allow some flexibility in this policy whenever possible.

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

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barnabas, and thank you for mentioning that the school in Qikiqtarjuaq has been moved forward.

(interpretation ends) Before we proceed, I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken. I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates. And please, make your preambles short and to the point.

Do members have any general comments? Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a general comment from the minister's opening statement on page 2. He stated that "we have emphasized the principals of *Inuit Qaujimagatugangit* in our planning and design," at the same time that the Peter Pitseolak School addition is being proposed here.

When we were in discussion with communities a few years ago, especially in Arviat, about continuing to add more and more to the schools, especially when the school addition is being built a second time, when the population greatly increases in the school, it creates opportunity or at least significant potential for violence, misbehaviours, etcetera. In fact, at one time in Arviat, we were told that parents go to school with their children to prevent them from being bullied in the school. The reason, they say, was there are too many students in one school. There are over 300 students in school; there were close to 400, I think.

How is it that, my questions will be when it comes to the Peter Pitseolak School and I will give the minister a heads up right now, that how is this IQ, *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, is being used in the planning stage when *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* says too many people in one place creates for the potential of violence.

In a similar paragraph on page 3, he stated that “We continue to experience a high degree of vandalism... and break-ins in our schools.” Isn’t that from having too many students in one school? We were advised by the Inuit, especially the seniors, those who have life experience, to build separate schools even in the same communities, like in Iqaluit.

Maybe before we even go into details, then why is it or how is it the same that IQ is used when you start building additions to existing schools to increase their student capacity? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That’s all.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. I will give you an opportunity to ask that question later on when we get into the page-by-page departmental review. Right now, I’m asking for general comments from members. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister’s officials to the proceedings. It’s always a pleasure to see Mr. Horn and Ms. Opik here, instead of just the minister. It’s good that they’re all here.

Before I go on with my general comments, Mr. Chairman, I just want to say I’m sorry I forgot to mention something earlier and that was; I wanted to wish a happy birthday to Kevin Kullualik, who is sitting over there in the booth. I want to remind members that unlike my learned colleague across the floor with the red tie, cheers for a real hockey team.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of things from what I’m hearing in the minister’s opening comments, and one is that trades is mentioned quite a bit. For years I’ve been an advocate for getting trades programs back into the high school system because I believe that if we don’t have enough carpenters, electricians, and plumbers around the territory, that we’re always importing them...

They have a trades program in Cambridge Bay. It's up and running. With the trades school, I look forward to the minister's next O&M budget and seeing something in there for trades programming in the high school system so that we can try to, as he indicates earlier, address the high degree of drop-out rate that we have throughout our school system. So I think that that's a pleasant thing to see.

Also, this time I will be questioning him under his projects. He indicated that they have come in way over budget; tenders that have been put out and the bids are a lot over the budget that's been allocated for that project.

I'll be asking the minister: if this is something that had been occurring for some time, why haven't they adjusted their budgets accordingly to that known fact that things are coming in a lot higher, and if we can expect to see more of the same type of thing in the future? And, not only with the minister's ten projects that he has here, but I think that's an issue that we should be addressing for all of the departments as well.

So with that, Mr. Chairman, I guess I'll just leave my general comments to that and look very much forward to questioning the minister and his officials as we go through the detail of the capital budget for his department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. General comments. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): I would like to welcome the minister and his two officials. We have known these two individuals for a long time. (interpretation ends) It's good to see the both of you.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I would just like to mention that, and I had brought it up before, we don't have school boards in our communities. (interpretation ends) I don't think we have a school board at all in Nunavut.

I believe the minister is the only school board that we have in the whole of Nunavut, who is responsible for administering, monitoring, and delivering K to 12, as well as college programs and so on. It's amazing to see that the minister has complete control of education in all aspects, including the capital estimates and spending powers. With no education or school board, not having any, no wonder he enjoys his job, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that that's something the Assembly, in time, will certainly, I hope, continue to work upon.

My comments have to do with the way in which the capital projects are planned. I believe there are some communities that tend to have a much quicker approval process because they don't have to worry about whether they are in a five-year capital spending plans.

Those of us not close to the headquarters, we normally have to go through our local school boards and say, "We're not that close in the five-year plan." Whereas, many of the projects that are happening here in Iqaluit normally have a lot quicker supplementary



estimates and a rush to the approval process for this House and grant it, and now, they're not going to bother tendering the capital project. They're just going to do it as they progress and so on.

So my comment is, Mr. Chairman, why don't we have the same standards throughout Nunavut? If the minister can work with us to improve standards that are substantial, I think we would be in a proper planning process because it's important that we have that.

As well, I would like to comment on the way in which the local school boards are not used, in terms of planning many of the education facilities. They may be but probably just administrative. I believe the minister can work towards in getting them actually a little more informed of what's in the planning process. For instance, when we're about to announce certain, maybe a year ahead or what not, an educational facility, we normally, in my view, politicize it first. I believe we need to get away from that.

I can tell you, I can use a number of examples where a major infrastructure project is planned. First, there's a big political event, and really, in my view, these are used not so much for getting the educational group and community recognition for the work that they've planned.

And, I believe the minister really should begin to plan now, that they actually forget about the politicians. Forget about me, for instance, in my riding. You, your local school board, the chairman of the educational committee, if you're going to make an announcement, don't worry about me, whether I'm going to get re-elected, or whether that's going to make any mark on my political ambitions or not, I think that you should focus on the school kids' education groups. Get them recognition and get them involved because it's a little uncomfortable sometimes when only politicians are invited to make statements and so on. Sure, we can participate as a regular Joe or a regular Inuk on the street.

So I'm just asking the minister, I think it would make a good 'bring it back home' kind of planning and grassroots if we can get local education groups involved. So I think that's something that they can do. They can also arrange for welcoming the minister to the community in this fashion.

So these are just my points that I thought were useful. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. General Comments. I have Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome Minister Picco and his officials to our Committee of the Whole meeting today.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Minister Picco for coming to Cambridge Bay last month. I had a firsthand opportunity to talk to him about some projects we are looking for in Cambridge Bay.

I also had an opportunity to take Minister Picco over to the high school there to tour the trades shop. It's quite a nice facility now that it's running. The kids are happy and the teachers are very enthusiastic. So in early going, it looks like it's going to be a positive success for Cambridge Bay, and hopefully, attendance increases. I am expecting to get updates from the principal on a regular basis. He seems to be that kind of guy.

I had the opportunity last week to meet with representatives from Newmont Mining, who were in town to talk to folks about their takeover of the Miramar Mine Project down in Hope Bay. As everybody knows, that project was approved with their water board license last month as well. So shortly thereafter, Newmont made an offer to take them over.

During the meeting with the Newmont official, we talked quite a bit about mine training. They are planning to be around the Kitikmeot for two to three decades and a lot of the mining employment that they'll have down there will be tailored around underground mining and also heavy equipment operators. So I'm not sure how the trades shop in Cambridge Bay and the trades school in Rankin Inlet will provide the specialized training for people working at the mines, or this particular mine, that they require for those underground jobs.

The Newmont officials did indicate that they have their own training school in Nevada. So it might be an opportunity for the Government of Nunavut to meet with those people. I think they might be planning a trip to Iqaluit some time. We just talked about what kind of training they provide at their school, and if we can't provide the underground training in the Kitikmeot, there are other areas where we can look for that type of training.

One of the things I have been lobbying the minister for quite a few years, and other people from Cambridge Bay have as well, is a new Nunavut Arctic College campus. As the minister is well aware, the facility that we presently have in Cambridge Bay is quite old; it's probably close to 40 years old. It's a collection of trailers; I'm not sure how they were connected but it's quite a contraption.

We do have some beautiful accommodations in Cambridge Bay but I think, to properly help the folks in the Kitikmeot and other students who come from across Nunavut, we should have a facility that's modern, that has classrooms and labs; training centres within the facility. So I'll be asking the minister for an update on where the planning is within his department with respect to the Nunavut Arctic College campus in Cambridge Bay.

Another area or item I brought up with the minister in the past, and I had an opportunity to mention to him last month when he toured out high school, is the need for a proper flooring for the high school gym. When the high school was being constructed, for one reason or another, the flooring that went in there is very hard. It's hard on the limbs and joints of the young people who are using that gym for any sort of recreational event or sport - basketball, floor hockey, and jogging. So I mentioned to the minister that we had to, again, look at that. We don't want our kids growing up with knee and ankle problems when they're growing as youth and then become adults.

The other thing that I promised I would ask the minister about is the backboards for the basketball hoops. So that's another thing.

Overall, I found the minister to be very helpful in his trips to Cambridge Bay over the years. I was thinking about making him a honorary citizen of Cambridge Bay. He's been there so often, I think seven or eight times in three and a half years. So it's certainly appreciated by myself and the people in my riding, when the minister is out there and gets a firsthand opportunity to see what an MLA is dealing with, and gets a chance to talk to my constituents personally and answer their questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. I don't have any more names for general comments. We will now proceed to page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting with page G-6, which includes G-7. We're at the top of page G-6. Education. Detail of Capital. Corporate Services. Tangible Assets. Headquarters Region. Total Headquarters Region. \$685,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** We're on the second half of the page. G-6, which includes G-7. Qikiqtaaluk Region. Total Qikiqtaaluk Region. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) I will be asking my question in Inuktitut. If we look at the Peter Pitseolak School addition and the Inuksuit School addition, which are additions included in here, one is \$6 million and the other one for next year is \$9.5 million.

In his opening comments, the minister stated that they incorporate *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* in their planning process. I'm sure they do so indeed with additions, too. Can the minister elaborate more where they are incorporating *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* in his opening comments? He just mentioned *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*. Which areas of *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* are they incorporating in their planning stages? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the new schools, *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*... (interpretation ends) There are three basic areas where *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* is used, Mr. Chairman, in the planning and design, and finally the functionality of the school.

First of all, as the members are aware, at the local level with the DEA and with elders and so on, we go through the outline for the school and that would include, in our current designs, gathering places for elders in the school, and you'll see that in many of the new schools that we've built in the last three and a half years; having skin rooms in there, for example, or rooms that would be suitable for preparing skins and so on; and being able to have gathering places and meeting places in the school for elders specifically; talking to

elders about what would be the best learning environment. For example, elders talked about having more light in the schools.

So when you look at the schools that we have been building over the last few years, with more ambient light, with more natural light coming in from windows and so on and so forth, all those types of things that we hear from elders are incorporated into the designing of schools.

The question that the member raises is a good question. He is suggesting that: why would you go ahead and renovate a school when the school population is so high? And, in his opening comments he made a good point. He said that in many schools where you see a lot of the school population, meaning, when you've got a school with 300, or 400, or 500 students, would you see maybe an increase in violent activity and so on, and I think the member is making a good point.

Our issue comes back to, when we look at the size of a school, when a school gets over 200 in population, then we have to look at, do you need a new school? Then you try to take what the demographic breakdown of the school is, meaning what's the school age population in the community and how do you project that over five years? How is the school population going to grow; is it growing two percent a year, five percent a year, and so on and so forth. And, then you try to forecast any economic activity. Now, a good example of this is in the community of Pond Inlet. For example, you have to factor in the current growth but you also have to look at if the mine takes off, would more people move to the community and so on and so forth.

So all of those factors are placed into the pot when you're trying to project the development of a new school; in this case, we also have to look at what the budget available is also. So do I have the available funds to be able to build a brand new school and is it warranted to do that, or should we actually renovate that school and expand a current school?

In the last ten years, when we were building schools and new schools, all schools have, what we call, expandability on the given site, meaning you can expand the school based on the design that you have in place. A good example of that was the Aqsarniit School here that members can see, where we were able to expand the current school on the given site instead of having to build a new school.

So, hopefully, that helps to answer the member's question. It's based on the school size; it's based on the number of population. Once we get over 200 in a given school, we have our people go in there, in consultation with the local DEA at all times, with the school principle and with the staff, to see what is the best part for that school and to prioritize it by the utilization of that school also.

So, hopefully, that helps answer the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You mentioned *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* when there is an addition to a school; *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* is not being used at all. Inuit have long stated that it doesn't only occur in the schools but everywhere there's population growth, there's potential for more people making offences. So that's not incorporated when they're making school additions, as the minister indicated.

Yes, I understood him when he said there would be an elders' meeting room, for example. I understand that but maybe it would've been better if you had stated that you used some of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* values and not all of it because you stated that you used *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*.

My other question: will you be looking at revising the planning and design of schools? It's obvious that if a school is not overcrowded, they get along better with each other, with the teachers, and even with their parents. Is this being looked at by the government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the member's comments, especially on the *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. I guess what we're trying to say there is that we do involve our elders and the local DEAs when we're planning and designing new schools. That's not to say that we don't take their advice when we look at the size of the school.

The two major factors in the size of schools, as the member has indicated, is the utilization of the school, meaning what percentage of the school is being utilized based on the population of that school. Is it 80 percent, 90 percent, or 100 percent based on enrollment? And the second part, of course, is based on the need. The school might be too old, for example. We wouldn't want to renovate it because it's old. It's better to go ahead and build a new piece of infrastructure to do that.

Not necessarily when you have a large school population does that mean more violence in the school and so on. What we have found and what historically has been found throughout the Western World is that when you look at educational facilities, most educators believe that if you have a smaller facility, you have a better opportunity to create a family environment within that school, and that's better than having 1,000 students in the school compared to 500. So we agree with that philosophy, but again, we have to look at what budget opportunities are available.

We have over 42 schools in Nunavut, Mr. Chairman. The majority of our schools are under the utilization rate. Right now, based on my current numbers, we have 38 schools that are below their total utilization rate, meaning they're below 100 percent, and indeed, most of our schools are between, in some cases, 50 to 80 percent in utilization.

So, hopefully, that helps summarize the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Then from the minister's comments, for example, if we reach the population of 200 in one school, we have to consider whether we should expand or build a new school.

For the Peter Pitseolak School addition proposal for \$10,775,000 for renovations and additions to the existing school, and in the substantiation sheet, for 1,300 square metres, that's a very large addition. The present population of that school is 169 and the school capacity is 147. I understand the need for renovation but that's only 31 short of 200 in student population who require money before a different school is being considered. How many more students are being expected to be housed in that addition of 1,300 square metres? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member makes a strong point and the total enrollment at Peter Pitseolak School, and I've had an opportunity of being in the school a couple of times last year.

Mr. Chairman, when you look at the current enrollment, as the member said, it's about 169 and that means that the current utilization is 113 percent. When a school gets to about 85 percent, we actually start looking at when should we start building or renovating a given school? In this case, the school population is well below 200.

When we look at enrollments and the population demographic in the community of Cape Dorset after the renovation is completed, we don't believe it would be necessary to be able to build a new school in that community based on that time frame at a given time.

The last major renovation to Peter Pitseolak School was in 1992, which is 14 years ago. This renovation, it is a considerable amount of dollars, will be able to give a longer longevity to that school, meaning that the utilization will increase over the period between eight to 15 years. Given the demographic and the population that we see in Cape Dorset, that should be more than sufficient to handle the school population.

So I think that answers the member's question on the time frame, that we also look at the original construction year and the time frame for the last renovation. By the way, there are other schools in Cape Dorset, too, as the member is aware, Sam Pudlat for example. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Arvaluk:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that answer. However, I am not quite sure what “we” means in this case; the Department of Education and the DEA, or the Department of Education alone. Can he clarify that? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we do is when we are planning a school, consultation has to be first and foremost with the local DEA, and that’s what occurs on the file, as well as the involvement of the current teaching staff and so on in a given community.

We also have our capital planner within the department who would go to a given community and meet with people to express: here’s what we are proposing. What do you think? This is an ongoing collaboration with the community, with the department and with the local DEA, as well as, and more importantly, with the school and with the people at the institution, or at the establishment, or at the facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. (interpretation) I don’t have any further names on my list for questions. (interpretation ends) Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought you had a long list of names.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, my question to the minister, when we look at the capital items particularly for the residential units of the Arctic College, could the minister, or the appropriate individual, or the school board official, indicate to us...

The growth of the residential units seems to be expanding pretty quickly. I’m sure you have some studies now as to what percentage of growth is happening from year to year because I note that those of us are just starting to enjoy the first time residential college units for married couples, we’re just going to hopefully have a proper tracking system.

Could the minister indicate to us because it seems to be quite serious here, as well as large; in Iqaluit, for instance, the new growth, in terms of dollar savings, huge dollars, if you look at the future years in Iqaluit, you’re allocating \$13 million for unspecified years.

How does the minister actually plan for those kinds of expenditures? Do you accept the recommendations from local school boards or something to that effect? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the member’s question. I had an opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to speak to the member before the break there. I was lobbying him on being recognized by many of us, including myself and other people,

over the years is probably being one of the first and foremost fathers of Nunavut, and I think he needs to have that recognition. I want to put that on the record.

To kind of take away from some of the other things he said earlier in his opening comments, when he suggested that the minister, for some way of craftiness and so on, is the sole arbiter of education in Nunavut, and it couldn't be anything farther from the truth.

When our new *Education Act* comes forward, which gives and devolves real control to local education authorities; then you don't need a Board of Education. So I am not going to get into that debate because we are on the capital budget but I look forward to debating that with him. I love debating that with the gentleman.

Answering the member's question very quickly, when we look at the demographic breakdown on a given community, we can only make population estimates. That's why, even when you do your estimates in the House, they're called estimates. We're looking at the main estimates and we're looking at the capital estimates.

So given everything that we know, we try to estimate what costs will be, and that's why we call them capital estimates. You can't say they're actual figures. You're given a budget and you try to come within that amount. No different than any other government in the country.

When we look at the accommodations, for example, here in the community of Iqaluit, as the members know, I think right now we rent 35 or 40 units on the private market for family accommodation. We're trying to get out of those units and have our own accommodation so that we can actually save some money for the government. Why should I go and lease from a given building in the community at \$3,000 a month or what have you, when we should have those facilities closer to the campus for the students.

We're seeing student increases in enrolment across Nunavut, whether it's at post-secondary right in their own community, or indeed, going to three of the major campuses - Cambridge Bay, Iqaluit, and Rankin Inlet. Therefore, we look at the total costs of dollar values that are available to us when we see those prices going up.

When we look at the value of the project that the member is talking about, we're projecting and saying, based on the best information to us, here is what those given costs will be in the five-year capital plan.

So hopefully that answers the member's question and answers his concern about the board of education today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the minister's frank response. I thank him for his good memory as well.



Mr. Chairman, I think this is a gentle question that we need to actually develop a tracking system somehow. Somehow the public, as well as the planners and those of us in politics; because we can only scream at you when we say that there's no housing in our communities, or that kind of thing; is that it's important that we have that base somehow incorporated in the planning process, which then would indicate to other regions, based on number of students that are enrolling as well, we would expect at a certain time in the future to have accommodations or whatnot.

The reason I'm asking that is because I think it is important that our students have accommodations that are safe, that are secure, as well as the overall planning as part of the Arctic College facilities and as part of the higher education facilities because there is a tendency in my kind of riding that we should privatize these kinds of units.

So privatization means: why not allow the private sector to build these and lease them to you, but I think I'm cautious, I'm concerned; I'm cautious about it because, like I said earlier, there needs to be a secure place for students to remain in protective places. So that is one reason why I am arguing for more lead, in my transparent way, of having a planning process into that.

Having said that, Mr. Chairman, I want to compliment the local school board or the local education committee, as well as the people who put up the money; I know that safety is always one of the issues. I know a very small amount in a place like Rankin Inlet, safety is always the issue with kids crossing roads and that kind of stuff and even trying to get money for that sometimes can become a problem. So I wanted to compliment the local education authority and the department.

At Rankin Inlet this summer we had at least a transparent improvement on the road. They marked the road and spend a little bit of money. The local hamlet was involved; the local RCMP was involved, local by-law officers actually involved, as well as the teachers because for years the school committees use to say that the by-law's responsibility is to ensure that traffic slows down. I said no. My suggestion to them was: have an organized week of enforcing and getting people involved because just a suggestion doesn't work sometimes.

So I want to compliment all of the people that were involved in getting the school involved. They actually painted the road so that the cautions, speed limits, and students' crossing signs were put in. And, that was very noticeable and it's working, whereas before that, it used to be just a speedway.

So I want to compliment the minister, if you would pass that information to your local teachers as well as the committee. Thank you.

**Chair:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. G-6. Qikiqtaaluk Region. Minister Picco, did you want to reply to that? Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I want to address the concern that the member has with the privatization over public accommodations. I strongly disagree with the member in that area. I believe the opportunity for a government to own its own assets is better in the long run when we can facilitate that. So owning our own student accommodations is the way to move, instead of having to rent them out from the private sector.

Secondly, the concern the member raises is a good one and he raises the issue of security at those accommodations, but I'm not convinced that having a public owned Q, like we have right now, for example, in Iqaluit, Q units would be more or less secure because it was owned by the Curley Corporation or the Ed. Corporation or so on. So I'm not convinced by that argument.

However, when the dollars are short we have an opportunity to move forward with a private public partnership, or P3 or 3P, and now that the federal government has stepped up to the plate and they're providing some logistic, as well as administrative and financial money to support that, then maybe that's something you could look at in the longer term.

Effectively, on the traffic situation, we're having the roads painted and having a better and safe situation for our children, I commend the people in Rankin Inlet for doing that. I had an opportunity to speak to the Deputy Minister Okpik on the issues with traffic and safety with our students earlier today.

We talked about how we're seeing more and more issues with motorists, especially in our larger communities like Rankin Inlet. It's good to see communities being proactive and we commend them on that, and commend the department officials who are involved in it also. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the minister for confirming what I believe, too. I think that he misunderstood me.

I said earlier that it was tempting by experienced private sector people, like we have in Rankin Inlet, to build such units and lease it back to the government. It is not my position. I truly believe and share the minister's view that these should remain secure and properly safe places for students to roll into that.

So I merely waited as that there were competing forces out there that would like to provide accommodations but I knew that only to try and have a proper planning process, as well as the database for planning such facilities.

(interpretation) So I'll leave it at that suggestion to correct the minister's understanding.  
(interpretation ends) Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Are there any questions?  
(interpretation ends) G-6. Qikiktaaluk Region. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, like my colleague, would like to say that the minister is doing an amazing job.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, the first question I would like to ask him it deals, on G-6, with the Inuksuk High School renovations that they have outlined in there to take place over the next six years.

I'm just wondering if the minister could give us the current status of that project. I know that there have been some concerns raised by parents here in Iqaluit about how that project is going to proceed. So I'm just wondering if the minister could give us the status on where they're at with that project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank the member for his amazing question.

Mr. Chairman, the Inuksuk High School renovation project has been ongoing since 1998, and in 1998, there was a determination based on the utilization of the school and based on the age of the school, as all members know is one of the oldest schools in Nunavut, and there hasn't been any major renovations or additions to that building since it was first completed in the early 1970s.

So the idea was to move forward on renovating the building because you would not be able to build today, in the day's fiscal climate, a school of that size with the dollar values that you have available to you. The building is structurally sound on its foundation and the idea was to move forward to be able to do a renovation of the facility.

At the same time, over the last three years since I've been the Minister of Education, is to look at how we can expedite this project and move it forward faster and so on. To take into concern issues with the school itself, mechanical, electrical, structural, as well as look at opportunities for partnerships and so on, and that partnership, for example, is with the Nunavut Arctic College because it's right across the street, and is there an opportunity to be able to combine some of the trades training programs and some of the other issues with the school.

When that school was first set up, it was first set up as a post-secondary school where it actually had, in that program, a fully functional trades shop that many of the members have been in many times, and it was left to fall to the wayside. So that was an opportunity to use that space in the school and so on.

After saying all of that, the concern that the member raises from the community at large is because of recent news articles which says, 'What's going to happen to the school?' Now, the plans that we did have on the renovation was to look at an opportunity to renovate the school, close down different rooms of the school, and leave the students in there and work around the students. It would cause some disruption but it would keep the school to function the way it is, and the way it is occurring right now.

The second option would be to take all of the students out of the school and look at alternative accommodations for the students elsewhere in the community. A good example is when Joamie School burned down, as the members know, 90 percent of the Joamie School students were accommodated at Nakasuk School and some of the other facilities around town.

So those types of questions have not been answered. We are hoping to be in a position in December, in about six or seven weeks, to be able to have some options to bring forward with the DEA, and those will be discussed then in a public forum here in the community with parents, with the teachers, with the students, and with the consultation with the DEA to see what is the best direction to move in on the school renovation project.

So, hopefully, that helps answer the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that that's not so much the concern I had. I'm just relieved to hear the minister indicate that they haven't set any definite plans yet.

I just want to confirm that he had indicated that once they have different options out, I assume that you're developing those options with the staff at the school and with the DEA, or is it once you develop those options, then you're going to go to the DEA and bring it to them for their input and decision on it?

Will it be the department making the decision all on their own as to what it's going to be, or will the DEAs have some input into whatever option that they feel is most appropriate for the students that they are responsible for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct again. The DEA are looking at options themselves with the school.

It's important to point out that the DEA have told me that they were not involved in any way with the newspaper article that stated concerns with the school and unlucky cohort and so on. I think that has caused some concern in the public with the way that the paper said there would be issues with the school and so on. So that's unfair.

What I can say in answer to the member's question is that the department as well as the DEA are having meetings right now to look at which way to move and have a set of options. I have given to the department a date that I would like to have those option papers come forward to me, as the minister, then to the DEA in cooperation with them on these options, and then I have public meetings. I would expect the DEA will then go out, as our stakeholder group in the community, and have meetings with parents on some of the options that are available when we look at which direction we go in.

We have some time available to us because construction in earnest won't begin until this summer. That gives us some time to be able to make sure that we make the right decisions now. And, at the end of the day, what we're trying to do is make it the least inconvenient as possible to the staff, to the teachers and to the students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that response and I'm sure there are a lot of relieved parents out there after hearing that.

Mr. Chairman, the next question I have it deals with status, but I'm not quite sure of whether it was like with similar delays are with construction and renovations, and the minister mentioned it in his earlier comments, and that's with the Aqsarniit Middle School addition project that was significantly delayed last year and students were there only half time. There were a lot of issues with that.

I understand that over the summer there was some further damage by vandalism, and hopefully, they caught it on camera, but if not, I'm just wondering, for the official record, if the minister could give us the current status of that project. Is it finally done? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I'm very pleased to be able to say that we were able to attend the official opening of Aqsarniit Middle School a couple of weeks ago here in the community, and the school was full of parents and teachers, and people are very pleased with the school.

This summer, I think it was on July 6, I received a call that there was a fire at the Aqsarniit School and it was quite worrisome for us after having seen Joamie School burn down.

What occurred, Mr. Chairman, was there was a break-in at Aqsarniit School on July 6, and through that break-in, there was a fire deliberately set. There was arson and it caused about \$40,000 worth of damage to the school at that time. That has been since rectified and so on. Two people have been apprehended by the RCMP for that crime, and indeed, the video camera has played a part in that.

At the same time, there has been ongoing vandalism at the school. At one point this summer several windows facing the Ecole des Trois Soleils School, the French School in Iqaluit, many of the windows were broken out causing several thousand dollars worth of damage and we had to use plywood to board up those windows. Again, that issue has been rectified. The windows have been replaced and fixed at the best of information to me. Again, those were ongoing issues.

The delay with the construction was the issues with sealift and things arriving in on time. But at the end of the day, the school is open now, it's at 100 percent and the people are quite pleased with the renovation project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question deals with the student accommodations for Nunavut Arctic College that the minister was talking about earlier here in Iqaluit, and I'm sure the same questions could be asked to the facilities in Rankin Inlet when we get to that appropriate stage.

I think it's very fair to say that there have been significant delays in that project and I'm just wondering if the minister could give us an indication on what the reasons for those delays were and what the current timeline; when we will finally see some work begin on the Nunavut Arctic College accommodations here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct. There has been a delay on the project and it is no different than what the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Barnabas, was reading in his report earlier.

When we looked at overall capital budget within the Government of Nunavut, we slipped a lot of projects, meaning a lot of projects have been delayed because of the tender packages coming in are so expensive.

In the case of the Nunavut Arctic College building, we're re-tendering that again next month. We're hoping to get a better price this time on the tender; we've made some modifications to the actual design of the accommodations to see if we can bring the price within that envelope down. The tender amount that they've come in with was about \$10 million over what we had budgeted for and that's why we weren't able to move forward.

We're looking at having about 12 two-bedroom units in that new accommodation, as well as 12 three-bedroom units and 10 four-bedroom units in total, where single students share the accommodations and so on. So it's quite a large project. It's matching very similar to what we're doing in Rankin Inlet.

The biggest cause for the delay has been the tender packages that keep coming in over budget, similar to what we're seeing in other departments throughout government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So then is the minister saying that any time they have a tender come in that's over budget that they're re-tendering them, or looking at finding at ways to reduce costs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we're looking at when we have a project in the budget, it has to go forward and a good example is the Nunavut Arctic College accommodations. We need to move forward on the project. We're renting 38 to 40 units off the private sector in town and we're trying to get away from that. So we're trying to move forward with our own accommodations.

When you put out a tender package, in this case, we had budgeted, as the members know in the House, an X number of dollars for this project, and when you put out a tender and you're expecting something to come in between \$10 million and \$15 million, and it comes out as \$22 million, then you don't have the money to do it.

So you re-evaluate the project and say, 'Okay, what can we change differently in the scope of the project without changing the integrity of that project,' meaning we still need 10 units and we want 10 units but can the units be a little bit smaller? You look at the size of the windows and you look at all kinds of things to kind of bring the prices down to be more reflective of what you've budgeted for, and then you re-tender that package and put it back out.

We've done that in a couple of instances and we have been successful in bringing in prices a bit lower a second time around, and that's what we're moving forward on in this case. So, again, we would re-tender this building in November and see what the price comes at. Hopefully, it'll come in considerably less than what the first one came in at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it doesn't, are you going to go ahead with it anyway? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe at that point we would take Mr. Curley's advice and go to the Board of Education and ask for their feelings on it. No, Mr.

Chairman, what we do is, again, look at what are the cost contingencies that are available after we've tendered a second time.

If there is a need at that time, where the amounts are substantially over what we've budgeted for, then I would go back, as minister, to FMB and say, 'Look, here's the situation we're running into. Is there an opportunity to look at bringing the project forward?' So that would be the next step after the tender in November. So I would be in the position, probably early in the new year, to be able to look at what the time frame could be.

The other opportunity is to do an invitational tender to go to certain companies and say, 'Look, this is what we have available. Can you do something for us?' Sometimes you have some luck by going that way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister says that sometimes they get lucky and save money in different ways. In the event, I guess I'm just wondering where he says if it comes in and it's way over budget, that they have cancelled the project and gone back and made modifications, and re-tendered.

I know we'll get to it on the next page but if you take, for example, the project for the combined school in Gjoa Haven that was budgeted \$17 million last year and now in at \$33 million. It's almost double or almost double of what was budgeted. Was that something that was re-tendered back? Did you follow through that same process in that particular case where there was such a significant increase in budget costs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that's a good example. We had \$17 million in the budget for that project and what we did twice, we went out to re-tender and I believe the last one came in at \$33 million. So we didn't have the cash flow or the money available to do that but the project needs to go forward because of some of the issues that Mr. Arvaluk talked about earlier, and that is with the crowding situation in the school and with the school itself.

So we decided that we would move forward, but instead of doing it in one big phase, we would phase the project. So we would Phase I of the project with the money available to us and look at trying to bring something forward within the five-year capital plan to be able to complete that project. So that was the decision that we made, again, to work within the budget framework that we had available to us.

So we didn't cancel the project because the project needs to go forward based on the school utilization, based on the age of the school, based on some of the other concerns with the student population, and to be able to carry it out. The way to do it, in this case, is



we've decided that Phase I and Phase II would be the appropriate mechanism to use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the event that they we run into the same problem and I raised it earlier in my opening comments, if we know that our budget numbers are going to be insufficient for projects based on... and we've been seeing this for the last couple of years now, where projects are continuously re-tendered or put out because the bids are coming in over budget.

How has the department looked at, 'Okay, are our numbers accurate, or are we just putting it in there under budget to have the project on the books, because it looks good if we have more projects on the books being done given the limited resources knowing full well that they're going to come in way over budget and we're not going to be able to do them anyway.'

I know I'll be asking all the ministers these questions for each department, but it seems if we know, it's been like that for a while now, that our budgeting numbers are not sufficient to what's coming in out there due to whatever external reasons, have there been any thought of re-looking at the budget numbers? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just very quickly, when Mr. Tootoo says that are we low balling the numbers to get these projects into the capital plan, I have to say to Mr. Tootoo and to the members; we just don't have that capacity in government to be that strategic.

>>*Laughter*

That doesn't happen. So that's not the case for the record.

Mr. Chairman, the member is correct that what we're seeing is not unique just to Nunavut. I can give you several examples but I just had an opportunity recently to meet one of our provincial colleagues in Alberta, where they have a lot of economic activity going on. They're having the same problem with every tender they put out. The projects are all coming in 20, 30, or 40 percent over what they had budgeted for because of the economic boom we do see in the west and because of the skilled shortages that we see in electricians, plumbers, carpenters and so on.

Similarly, what we're seeing is the same thing in the Northwest Territories, where they have actually moved forward to delay projects, or cancel projects and so on, because they have done tenders and they're coming in way over budget. So we're no different than any other jurisdiction as a government.

In the private sector, it's the same thing. I'm aware of several projects where projects have come in at where they've budgeted \$3 million, \$4 million, and \$5 million and they come in at \$6 million, \$7 million, and \$8 million, again, because of what we're seeing in the economy across Canada and internationally.

So what we've been trying to do is: how do we sharpen our pencils, go back in and look at what dollar values we have available to us, and how can we move forward with a project?

One creative way was to look at, for example, Gjoa Haven. Where was the biggest need, and it was at the elementary level in that case, to be able to do a phasing of the project – Phase I and Phase II - where the most need was and that was at the elementary level of the school and spend \$17 million to be able to do that, and then look at Phase II, putting some money in the budget. So that is one creative way of doing it.

The second way is like on the Nunavut Arctic College buildings; to take the tender that we received last time, re-tender it, see what we come in with, and then you could also do an invitational tender, where you pick two or three companies and say, 'It is what we have for \$17 million. Can you give us A or B?'

So those are the options that are available to us and those are the options that we've been moving forward toward. The member is correct that this is not unique just to the government or even to Nunavut. It's happening across Canada, and indeed, in the States. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister indicated he re-tendered that project. The substantiation sheet indicates that this project has been tendered twice and that both times the submissions were deemed excessive by CGS staff.

After the first time, was there any thought, or when you look at increases; is our numbers still reflective of what we think would be required for that type of a tender? Did they look at increasing amounts, if not after the first one, after the second one? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The CGS, as the member rightfully suggested, is the coordinator for all capital within the government, including the Department of Education. We have a capital planner, honestly, within the department like other departments. The majority of the tendering, the packaging, and so on go through CGS; they have that expertise.

When CGS project staff looked at the amount that came in from the package, they deemed them excessive and that's why we're saying we're looking at opportunities

within that framework to re-tender the project and to see if we can determine if the scope of work can be adjusted, but at the same time not ruining or changing the integrity of the program that we would like to have in place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to the substantiation sheet for this project, and I think, I don't know maybe the minister or his officials can correct me if I'm wrong, that we've spent approximately \$725,000 for the planning and design for this project.

I'm just wondering, where they talked about where they're determining the scope of work to see if it could be adjusted to reduce costs of the project, is that on top of \$725,000 that we paid for the planning and design so far, or would that be included in that amount? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That would be inclusive; that would include that amount. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We've paid for design, and I would assume an architect to come up with the design, and hours of time of people looking at it try and determine if it could be done cheaper on there.

I guess I'm just looking at the last line in the substantiation sheet here under the Explanation of Basis for Liability of Estimated Capital Acquisition Costs, it's a nice little heading, it says here that they're now evaluating the concept of a design-build approach to the next tender call. Would that mean that \$725,000 is being thrown out the window and having to pay for someone else to come up with a different design for that facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we're trying to do for the government is get the best value.

If I'm using a design, I've tendered it twice, and the contractors come back and say, 'Well, if we want to do that project, then we're going to charge you \$10 million, or \$12 million, or \$15 million more than what you budgeted for,' then as a government, we have to look at the design and say, 'Is that the design we want to go for if it's going to cost us that much money?' No different from you designing a house or the members, or what have you. So the short answer would be yes. We want to be able to look at all options to bring that cost down.

So given the amount of money that we've spent and the amounts that we have available for the project, we want to be able to look at other options to us. That's no different than any other department or business would do, and that's what we're attempting.

We haven't said we're going to do that. We're saying, 'Is there an opportunity if we rent...' let's say, for example, on an invite tender which we just talked about, that we went to an invite tender and say, 'We have \$13 million to spend. Can you give us the following?' And, that's the idea there when you look an invitational tender or a design-build.

They might actually take the design that we have right now, which we've paid for, and be able to modify that and say, 'Within the design that you have, we can do the following.' So that's the type of questions that will be going out there in November when we do the re-tendering, looking at, 'Is there an opportunity for an invitational tender to have the re-tendering process itself or a design-build?' Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. (interpretation) We are on page 6 and top of page 7. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 7, on the top, in Inuktitut it says Iqaluit and in the English it says Sanikiluaq. Can the minister tell me for the record: which community or city are we talking about on this page? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to take this opportunity to apologize to the member and to the members. There is a typographical error on page G-7. It indicates in Inuktitut, in Syllabics, Iqaluit. Indeed, that should be Sanikiluaq. Sanikiluaq is correct in English. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Kattuk:** Is that for the record?

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He asked me that a second time. I'm going to have to check because I want to make sure that if I say it's on the record, it's on the record. So if the member will give me just a second to confer with my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I'll make my question short in view of the time. Mr. Chairman, with respect to my colleague from Iqaluit Centre, I think he started to ask an appropriate question.

With respect to project management, including cost estimates and all of that, and the tenders, obviously, contained cost estimates that were prepared by the, I assume, government official, Mr. Chairman, can the minister help us out in explaining?

Obviously, somebody is wrong with estimates. Either the government is underestimating huge projects that they have laid out as well, or the contractors that are submitting bids for the tenders are wrong. Who is it, Mr. Chairman, that is making those mistakes? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I just want to confirm the dollar values for Sanikiluaq. There is a typographical error there with the Inuktitut in Sanikiluaq, so I just want to confirm the amount.

So while my officials are just reviewing that amount, I would just like to answer the member in his question. Again, the member is incorrect, he is wrong. What's happening here, as I tried to explain earlier, is that when we look at the total budgeted values that are available, given what's happening in the world economy and so on, all the tenders seem to be coming in, in most cases, 90 percent of the time, 10, 20, or 30 percent more than what's budgeted for. It's not mistakes being made by departmental officials and so on.

We can see that in other jurisdictions, and I gave an example of Alberta and the Northwest Territories, where similar issues are occurring. That's why we are seeing the slippage in the capital budgets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No builder, no private sector; no builder who is going to be actually doing the work is going to bill you for anything less than the value of the costs of a project.

Simply, the government is underestimating those costs that they're not giving out the true values of these projects, and therefore, someone is wrong. In the private sector, your estimates, or your project manager would be 100 percent replaced for not coming in on budget and whatnot and so on.

So, in view of time, Mr. Chairman, I would like to report progress at this time. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Is that a motion? The answer is yes. We have a motion on the floor to report progress. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Opposed. Abstained. The motion is carried.

Thank you, Minister Picco, Mr. Horn, and Ms. Okpik. I'll see you again tomorrow. I will now rise to report progress.

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

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 16 and the Capital Estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Netser. 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 of a meeting of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability for tomorrow morning at nine o'clock in the Tuktu Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for October 24:

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
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration for Committee of the Whole and Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 16
20. Report to Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:55*

# **Appendix – October 23, 2007**



**Return to Written Question 006 – 2(4): Administration and Enforcement of the Liquor Act**

**Asked by:** Keith Peterson, MLA (Cambridge Bay)

**Asked of:** Hon. David Simailak, Minister responsible for the *Liquor Act*

**Date:** May 31, 2007

**Question:**

What has been the total number of charges laid pursuant to the *Liquor Act* since November 1, 2005?

**Response:**

The Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board is responsible for the imposition of fines and suspensions if the holder of a liquor license commits certain offences. All other offences are prosecuted through charges brought by the RCMP and sentences (generally fines) imposed by the Nunavut Court of Justice after conviction. As of April 1, 2007, the Honourable Paul Okalik is the Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board. The Department of Justice has provided us with the following information regarding fines imposed under the *Liquor Act* between November 1, 2005 and March 31, 2007.

**Fines imposed on liquor offences  
November 1, 2005 to March 31, 2007  
(broken down by community)**

Community	# of fines	Total fines
Arviat	1	\$575.00
Baker Lake	4	\$2,300.00
Cambridge Bay	2	\$1,150.00
Gjoa Haven	3	\$690.00
Iqaluit	4	\$2,990.00
Kimmirut	2	\$460.00
Kugaaruk	22	\$4,975.00
Pangnirtung	8	\$1,840.00
Pond Inlet	4	\$1,610.00
Rankin Inlet	4	\$1,092.50
Sanikiluaq	11	\$2,908.00
Whale Cove	1	\$275.00

**Fines imposed on liquor offences  
November 1, 2005 to March 31, 2007  
(broken down by category of offence)**

Category of offence	# of fines	Total fines
s. 85 – Supplying to a minor	8	\$4,600.00
s. 87 – Supply to an interdicted person	2	\$1,150.00
s. 88 – Unlawful possession of liquor	26	\$6,805.00
s. 92, 94, 95 – Unlawful consumption	29	\$6,010.50
s. 98(3) – Person under 19 on premises	1	\$2,300.00

**Return to 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

**Question:**

- 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?

**Response:**

2000-01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rankin Inlet</li><li>• Iqaluit</li><li>• Cambridge Bay</li><li>• Taloyoak</li><li>• Kugluktuk</li></ul>	2004-05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rankin Inlet</li><li>• Iqaluit</li><li>• Cambridge Bay</li><li>• Taloyoak</li><li>• Kugluktuk</li></ul>
2001-02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rankin Inlet</li><li>• Iqaluit</li><li>• Cambridge Bay</li><li>• Taloyoak</li><li>• Kugluktuk</li></ul>	2005-06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rankin Inlet</li><li>• Iqaluit</li><li>• Cambridge Bay</li><li>• Taloyoak</li></ul>
2002-03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rankin Inlet</li><li>• Iqaluit</li><li>• Cambridge Bay</li><li>• Taloyoak</li><li>• Kugluktuk</li><li>• Cape Dorset</li></ul>	2006-07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rankin Inlet</li><li>• Iqaluit</li><li>• Cambridge Bay</li><li>• Taloyoak</li></ul>
2003-04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rankin Inlet</li><li>• Iqaluit</li><li>• Cambridge Bay</li><li>• Taloyoak</li><li>• Kugluktuk</li><li>• Cape Dorset</li></ul>		

**Question:**

- 2) What types of data and information are required to be reported by these shelters as a condition of receiving funding from the GN?

**Response:**

The GN requires monthly reports on the operating expenses and the occupancy, as well as an annual audited financial statement. The department's recently approved Grants and Contributions Policy describes the financial reporting requirements and the Family Violence Shelter Minimum Standards policy sets out the nature of the occupancy reporting requirements.

**Question:**

- 3) How does the GN track patterns of use and outcome for Nunavummiut who have used crisis shelters in Nunavut?

**Response:**

Social Services case workers keep files and deal with clients on an individual basis for those who are referred to shelters through social services. Likewise, patient files at health centres have a record of referrals from the health centres.

HSS receives occupancy reports from the shelters describing the following:

- Number of new clients
- Number of returning clients
- Type of referral
  - RCMP
  - Social Services
  - Health Centre
  - Nunavut Arctic College
  - Self
  - Friends
  - Victim Services
- Reason for admission
- Where clients are referred to from the shelter; and
- Departure plans.

Not all shelters have been able to provide regular occupancy reports and so the information we have is not complete. This could be due to a lack of capacity at the shelters or a lack of adequate training for producing reports.

**Question:**

- 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?

**Response:**

As mentioned, not all shelters have been able to produce monthly or yearly occupancy reports on a regular basis. Occupancy reporting is a requirement of the Family Violence Shelter Minimum Standards, a policy document bound to the contribution agreements allowing the department to exercise different options if shelters are unable to comply:

- Require that the shelter re-establish compliance upon negotiated terms and conditions within a specific time frame;
- Initiate a regional contract review;
- Suspend or withdraw department funding;
- Suspend or terminate an existing contribution agreement; or
- Refuse to enter into a new contribution agreement with the shelter

Although many of the shelters have not complied with the minimum occupancy reporting requirements, HSS is working to address this issue by encouraging the use of reporting templates and guidelines that we've developed, helping to reduce the reporting burden so that shelters are more able to focus on counselling services and other priorities.

**Question:**

- 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?

**Response:**

Travel has not been consistently tracked to the level where we can differentiate travel for crisis shelters versus other social services travel, although we expect to be able to provide this type of information in the future as we become more sophisticated in our accounting procedures and our new Client Travel Policy will ensure that this level of detail is noted when the travel is booked.

However, not all travel for crisis shelters is arranged by the Department of Health and Social Services since the RCMP and the Department of Justice also make referrals and their information would need to be coupled with our statistics.

**Question:**

- 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?

**Response:**

This information is not available for the same reasons stated in the answer to the previous question (5). Namely, that travel has not been consistently tracked to the level where we can differentiate travel for crisis shelters versus other social services travel.

**Question:**

- 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?

**Response:**

This information is not available yet, but we will be able to track this information in the future as we work with the shelters to improve their ability to produce appropriate occupancy reports.

Crisis shelters are an important component of a series of services designed to help victims of violence. These are our objectives:

- Make sure there are crisis shelters available to house people in need;
  - This is being accomplished. Although not every community has a crisis shelter funded by the GN, there are regional facilities and out-of-territory facilities that provide this service. Also, for many Nunavummiut, going to a crisis shelter within their community is not the best option. For the sake of privacy and safety, leaving the community is often a good choice.
- Make sure the funds that we distribute on behalf of the GN are accounted for with proper expense reports and an annual audited financial statement;
  - The shelters that receive contributions from the GN provide the required financial reports according to the GN standards.
- Collect information on the use of shelter services so that we can make informed decisions on programs that we offer.
  - We are working to enhance the level of information we receive from the shelters.