



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Friday, March 14, 2008**

**Members Present:**

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akasuk, Mr. David Alagalak, Mr. James Arreak, Honourable Levi Barnabas, Honourable Levinia Brown, Mr. Tagak Curley, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Honourable Patterk Netser, Honourable Paul Okalik, Mr. Keith Peterson, Honourable Edward Picco, Honourable David Simailak, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Peter Kilabuk)(interpretation): Good morning. I would like to ask Mr. Curley to say the opening prayer. Mr. Curley.

>>Prayer

**Speaker** (interpretation): Good morning, Premier, Ministers, Members, and our visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good morning. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Rule 18(1), I seek unanimous consent of the House to proceed directly to Item 19 on the Orders of the Day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. The member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed directly to Item 19. Are there any nays? There are no nays. We will proceed to Item 19.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 22, 23, 24, and 25. (interpretation ends) In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 4 – 2(4), the Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out.

(interpretation) Members, I ask that you remain in your seats and Mr. Arreak will be the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Arreak)(interpretation): I would like to call the committee meeting to order. (interpretation ends) In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 22, 23, 24, and 25. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with Bill 23 and return to the Department of Health and Social Services. Following the completion of Bill 23, we will then proceed to review Bills 22, 24, and 25. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. (interpretation ends) Does the committee agree we deal with Health and Social Services?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 23 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009 –  
Consideration in Committee – Health & Social Services**

**Chairman:** Minister of Health, (interpretation) would you like to have your witnesses with you at the witness table?

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Yes.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Welcome. Minister, for the record, please introduce your officials. Minister.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq** (interpretation): Good morning. (interpretation ends) To my left is Alex Campbell, the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services, and to my right is Raj Downe, the Assistant Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome to the Chamber. We were on page H-7 in the Main Estimates of the Department of Health and Social Services. Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Committee Motion 013 – 2(4): Addition of \$1,000,000 to Health and Social Services  
2008-09 Main Estimates**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you. While we're here, I move that \$1 million be added to the 2008-09 Main Estimates of the Department of Health and Social Services 2008-09 under Treatment Branch, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. The member would like to move that \$1 million be added to the 2008-09 Main Estimates of the Department of Health and Social Services. (interpretation ends) To the motion. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that it's good that they're putting an extra \$1 million in there. However, I still have concerns regarding the amount. Now, we have before us a Supplementary Appropriation Bill that's looking at putting another close to \$4.5 million in for medical travel, which would bring the revised amounts for 2007-08 up

to about \$49 million. With this extra \$1 million, it only brings the medical travel amount up to a little over \$44 million. So I'm just wondering whether it's sufficient or not.

I know the minister, in speaking to the motion to defer the department, had indicated that the best numbers that they could go with is what they actually spent the year before and here we're seeing it's still about \$2 million or \$3 million less than what they actually spent in this fiscal year. So I would like maybe the sponsoring minister, the Minister of Finance, or the Health Minister to speak to the motion and explain how they only came up with \$1 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion, raise your hand, please. Against. The motion is carried.

Branch Summary. Treatment. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$138,236,000. Does the committee agree? Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some comments. The minister earlier indicated, I believe it was last week, that she has pretty much responded to the tender that was put out for medical travel contracts and the RFP that was issued, RFP #2007-52 Medical Travel on Scheduled Airlines in the Territory of Nunavut's Kitikmeot, Kivalliq and Baffin regions. I think there was some information that was provided to the Committee of the Whole for the Baffin region, but the minister, in her reply to me some time last week, indicated that the Kivalliq was one region that did not have a medical travel contract with the airlines.

I wonder if she is prepared to indicate to the House now exactly what the result of this tender that was released some time last fall is and the closing date for that time was December 7; I believe you issued it on October 30, 2007. So my question to the minister is: is she prepared to announce to the House who is awarded with the medical travel contract in the Kivalliq region? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct; when I did state that there was no contract in place in the previous years, there was no contract in the Kivalliq region.

In terms of where we are at with the process, from what I understand from CG&S, we are waiting for the signed copies of the contracts to come back from the airlines. That's where we are at right now. So the RFP process, from what I understand, in following the procurement procedure process, is still open until those signed contracts are returned from the airlines. Thank you.

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



**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. In view of the fact, Mr. Chairman, that there can be quite a tremendous economic impact to the regions, once all the reviews and more information are obtained from those airlines that are participating in the bidding process, or responding to the tender or the RFP, will the minister assure this House that whatever happens that she will not award the contract to a single carrier? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Mr. Chairman, the whole process of the RFP process has taken place and once all that is finalized, I will gladly brief the members on the decisions. It is not final at this point in time for me to make comments but they're respecting the process that's in place for tendering contracts. I can't speak to the details of it but I would be happy to release the information once everything is finalized and the RFP process is closed. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. Mr. Chairman, it would be useful to have that information but that is not what I'm asking. I'm asking the minister responsible for signing the new medical travel contract with the airline from the Kivalliq region to Manitoba. I'm asking the minister or her colleagues that they will not award the contract to a single carrier. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Again, Mr. Chairman, for the record, there is a process that's in place for the Request for Proposal process. Each proposal is evaluated on the basis of each merit and decisions are based on that. Once that information is available, I will announce the airlines that have been awarded the contract and it is not one airline for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Transportation indicated and stated to the House more than once here that the government is in support of the competition. Does that also apply to the medical travel contracts? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** The medical travel contract is a government program, so yes.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. So whatever happens in the Kivalliq region, there will be a competition, that the medical travel contract will likely be split amongst the airlines in

order to ensure the competition and have less economic impact on flights to the region?  
Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Again, Mr. Chairman, when the contracts are finalized, I will be prepared to release the information to discuss the details of it. At this point in time, I can't release that information. So once they're finalized, I will be happy to discuss the issues with him. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Whatever happens, if the medical travel contract is not split among the more dominant carrier as well as the smaller one, there could be a very serious negative economic impact. So is the minister saying to this committee that she will not negatively impact the air travel services as a result of the contract being issued in the Kivalliq? Is the minister prepared to confirm that to the committee? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Mr. Chairman, what I have been saying here is that once the contracts are finalized, I will be prepared to release the information. I cannot answer the member's questions until those processes are complete. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. I welcome that information but it's still unrelated to what I'm saying. There could be a serious air travel disruption if the contract is not split and therefore, I'm trying to get some commitment from the minister as it may be too late for this committee or for the MLAs impacted after the fact.

So I'm trying to get some assurance from the minister that whatever happens, it will improve the air service in the Kivalliq because medical travel is a major component of successful air services in the region. So is the minister saying to us that she will not unfairly impact the current air travel in Kivalliq? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. According to our Rules, we must not pose hypothetical questions in Committee of the Whole. It's at your discretion to respond. Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the clarification. What I have been saying, in response to the member's question, is that once the RFP process is complete, I will be prepared to share the information with the member as it relates to medical travel contracts for the Nunavut territory.

As a government, we said that we encourage competition. We use the guiding principles of our government to ensure that we use a fair process for allocating the contract through the RFP process and we will be announcing the results of the RFP process when the contracts have been signed and received by the Department of CG&S. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it's difficult sometimes, Mr. Chairman, to get a clear understanding of what the policy of the government is, even though the Minister of Transportation said that they believe in fair competition in Nunavut. When it's actually applied with some of the contracts that each department has, that particular direction or goal is normally not fully realized.

I'm trying to get a clear commitment from the minister that competition will continue to exist in the Kivalliq region as a result of this one tender, which is a major one and there are no other contracts like this one within the government. So how long will it take to actually sign this medical contract for the Kivalliq region? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From what I understand from CG&S, the contracts have been couriered to the airlines and we have not received the signed copies back from them. Hopefully, by next week, we will have received those contracts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I need clarification from the minister. Did she indicate that the contract documents have been forwarded to more than one airline? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Again, the RFP process is for the Nunavut territory. The contracts have been distributed to the airlines for the medical travel contract for the Nunavut territory and we're waiting for those to come back before we can announce them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** I appreciate the clarification. I think the minister indicated earlier that the contract documents have been forwarded to them. Did I understand her correctly? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Again, the contract processing is still open for the Nunavut territory and from what I understand from CG&S, they have been sent and we're waiting for the signed copies to come back. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** I understand from your response to my earlier question of clarification that contract documents have been forwarded to them. Have you received one or more signed contracts back? As they likely will not sign all of them in one day, have you received at least one or two? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the member with what he's getting at here but we have not received anything, which is why we cannot speak to that RFP process. It's open until the paperwork has been signed is what I have been saying and I'm waiting to hear back from CG&S the confirmation that they have received. So once that information is processed and finalized, I will be notified and then I will be happy to announce the information to the member.

As it is right now, the RFP process is in place and we're following the procedures of the contracting procedures that we follow and respecting that, the RFP process is still open until we receive the signed contracts. So that's where it's at, Mr. Chairman, I believe I have answered the member's question more than once. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's useful to understand. I'm not 100 percent sure whether that RFP is still open because the closing date, as far as I have it, it says October 30, 2007. The evaluation may be taking a lot longer than that, and so on, and I believe that's what is happening, and the government has offered its service requirements to a number of airlines. My next question is: how many airlines responded to the Kivalliq RFP when it was issued in October? And actually, they did close on December 7, 2007. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I believe that's a question for the CG&S Department that manages the contracting procedures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct. The RFP closed on December 7, 2007 but I don't seem to see how many had applied. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Mr. Chairman, I'll rephrase my question. Which airlines responded to the RFP #2007-52 which closed on December 7? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Mr. Chairman, those questions should be directed to the department responsible for the procurement process and that's Minister Brown. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to my briefing notes, I don't have that information; I just have the information on the procurement on the medical travel for RFP and the contract process. That's what it speaks about but it doesn't directly speak on how many airlines applied. I don't have that information right in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Curley:** Thank you. Mr. Chairman, that information is important to the committee and I would urge the minister to bring that information as quickly as possible to the committee. This is quite an important part of the process and we need to know exactly who is participating in the RFP. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I could get that information from the department and I believe there were five airlines that were bidding. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. We're on Branch Summary. Health and Social Services. Treatment. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just needed more information from what I have been given or received from the department when I asked which airline was awarded for the Sanikiluaq medical travel. Which airline was awarded to serve the residents of Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We are in a difficult dilemma. The contracts have not been signed and they have until April 1, so we cannot disclose publicly the process in terms of the actual contracts at the moment. Once they are signed, as the minister committed to doing, they will be public.

So we're in a bit of a difficult situation. We made sure the process was fair and open; we gave everyone an opportunity to compete through the RFP. So that's all I can say at this point. Once they are signed within the next week and a half, by April 1, we will disclose that information. Hopefully we will get it sooner than that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When do the contracts start? (interpretation ends) Is it April 1? Today is March 14. (interpretation) That's not very far from now, so the government must know. Why is it so late or why aren't they signed yet? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are aware this, but we can't say anything in public at this time because they have not been signed. Once they have been signed, then we can make it public but if we try and say something about it now, we will be breaking our laws. We're trying to following the RFP process methodically and thoroughly, and ensure we take due consideration of public concerns at the same time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that they will definitely be signed by March 31. That's how I understand it; they have to be signed by March 31. This is not a question. It's just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): It could be before March 31 because those airlines have until April 1 to sign the contract. It would be good if it's before March 31 so that we could release it but we're waiting for them at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, (interpretation ends) Mr. Premier. Branch Summary. Health and Social Services. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I must say that I'm kind of surprised that this government is indicating that they don't know who put in tenders. They have evaluated them already, they have awarded, and they're just waiting for signed copies back. It's baffling to hear, "Well, we don't know who applied for the contracts in the Kivalliq," I know that they know; they issued contracts already. It just seems odd that they don't want to tell us anything about this; it just raises more questions.

Mr. Chairman, my question for the Minister for Health is: although the minister is deflecting everything to Community and Government Services, I mean it is Department of Health's contract; can the minister indicate if they had officials from the Department of Health involved in that process? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, no one's trying to deflect the process. A contract is only in place when two parties have signed. That's what you call a contract.

Right now, that contract is not complete because the signatures have not been signed. Once two parties agree to an agreement then we have a contract in place. That's what we're waiting for through this RFP process. Once we have that completed, we will be able to talk about the contract because the contract is only when two parties have signed an agreement. That's where it's at.

The process that I speak to is managed by CG&S and they're more familiar with the process of that RFP than I am, so this is why we refer to CG&S in terms of process. Yes, we were a party to it, but the RFP process, as technical as it is, is managed by the Department of CG&S. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think my colleague was asking how many people applied for it and not how many people were awarded the contract, and they don't even want to divulge that information.

As the minister indicated, they did have officials that participated in the process, so the minister should be familiar with what went along through that process. Can the minister indicate if there were any pre-meetings with all the interested parties prior to or after the RFP was issued so that if they had any questions and that, they would get clarification on things in regard to the contract that took place? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Mr. Chairman, in terms of the process and managing the RFP process, again that question should be directed to the Department of CG&S that manages the RFP process. We don't manage the process; the contracting managers of CG&S manage the process. So CG&S should be answering that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information that was provided by me by my officials is on medical travel on RFP and contract processes, and this is dated

on March 6. And furthermore, I can't speak on the contract itself because it's not signed. The role of CGS' Procurement Department is to ensure an open and fair contracting and procurement process is followed.

In any RFP process, the issuing body, in this case it's the GN, has the duty to be fair to all proponents. The courts have upheld the duty of fairness consistently in many parts in past court examples. This public process was conducted in accordance with approved procurement policies and procedures, including public advertising and the NNI Policy.

An open, fair, and transparent process was followed:

- all proponents had access to the same information at the same time;
- all proposals were evaluated based on the same published evaluation criteria as outlined in the RFP document;
- RFP processes, while they contain language that allow for a process to be cancelled, can only be cancelled for objective business reasons only, otherwise the government is exposed to legal risk;
- modification of evaluation results were sent to the proponents;
- proponents were notified on January 25, 2008;
- draft contracts have been prepared by CGS and reviewed by Justice;
- draft contracts have been sent to Finance; and
- draft contracts have been sent to proponents for their feedback.

As of today, I don't want to be guessing but there were Kivalliq Air, Calm Air, Jimmy Onalik, Nunasi, Canadian North, and First Air. Those are the airlines that I know who we sent information to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That doesn't answer my question at all. My question to the Minister of Health was if there was a meeting prior to or after the RFP was issued, where all of the proponents, if they had any questions, or concerns, or clarifications to be sought on the contract, on the RFP. Was there a meeting like that held and were any of her officials in attendance at those meetings? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Our Rule 70(2), allows the minister to refer the question to another minister and I believe that has been followed this morning. Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Again, the process is managed through CG&S. If there were meetings of that nature, the Minister of CGS would respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Brown.



**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): We were following the procedures and policies accordingly, and we met together as Cabinet Ministers and we heard what we had to do at the same time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know why anyone here doesn't want to say they were at a meeting to answer questions and clarifications by any of the proponents. Maybe the Minister of Health can ask her deputy if she or any of her staff were at a meeting to clarify any questions in regard to the RFP after it was issued but before it closed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I already mentioned the people involved in the contract, including CGS from I heard from my officials that were involved at the meeting with the airlines that were involved. I mentioned that six airlines were involved. If there were any other airlines that were involved, I apologize if I didn't mention any others.

I'm aware of whom CGS sat with, with the people involved in the Health Department. I wasn't there because as ministers, we are given reports from those meetings so I'm trying to tell you what I have heard from the staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That still doesn't answer my question. So I would like to ask the Minister of Health if her deputy or any of his staff were at a question and answer type meeting with the proponents that applied to the RFP or the package and were interested in bidding for it to get any clarifications that they may have had in regard to it. That's all I'm asking. What's so hard about answering that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Perhaps if I speak in English. My minister said that there was a meeting of all the proponents together to get the information, ask questions, and they were all given the same opportunity. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I understood that but my question was: was the Deputy Minister of Health or any of his officials in attendance at that meeting? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Deputy Minister of Health was not at that meeting. The RFP process consisted of representatives from CG&S, who managed the RFP process, and two weeks ago, as I mentioned in the House through Question Period, ED&T was part of that committee as well as Health, but my deputy was not at that meeting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Which officials from the Department of Health were there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** The Assistant Deputy Minister of Health, Dave Richardson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would assume that the deputy minister and the minister would have been advised of what went on at that meeting by their assistant deputy minister.

Can someone indicate if, in fact, that the proponents were all told that the contract, as stated, starts April 1 and if there were any questions raised in regard to what would happen if any proponent that bid on it and was awarded it wasn't able to deliver the service as of April 1? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Mr. Chairman, it's very difficult to answer questions when I'm being asked questions that are what if, what if, what if; we're going on the basis of assumptions here. I don't know what was discussed at that meeting. I do know, from what my ministerial colleague had mentioned, is there is a process in place. That process was followed; it was Q's and A's from the airlines and those were answered through the process.

In terms of any clarification they needed, everyone, from what she said, was treated fairly, was given the same information, the same questions, and so on. That process happened. I cannot answer questions on anticipated outcomes of decisions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. As I stated earlier, we must not ask hypothetical questions in the House. When we start the meeting, we always state Rule 77(2) and we need to ask questions following that. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think it was a hypothetical question. I was just wondering if the proponents were informed if there would be any penalties or if anything would happen in the event that they couldn't fulfill their commitments under their proposals on the effective date of the contract. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Levinia Brown** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to review what is not here, even though it says I have to refer to the material handed out here. Let me put on my glasses (interpretation ends) the new contracts will cover all of Nunavut.

I'm sorry but I don't have the information that the member is seeking. I can only go with the briefing notes that I have. This is all that I have for today and nothing more has been given. I'm not going to say anything more that I am going to mislead the House because I don't want to have to do that. The contracts to be awarded are for three years with two additional one-year options to extend the contract. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would appreciate if the minister could provide that information and also assure us of what all of the proponents were told, if you want to call it the rules of the game and how it would be played and that, upfront that the government hasn't changed any of those rules throughout the process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** We would be putting ourselves in a liability situation if we were to change the rules in mid-process. So all of the processes were followed and everyone was given an opportunity to bid and respond to the RFPs. We're awaiting the signature of these contracts so that we can disclose them. So I think that we have explained what we could and what we can disclose at this point. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the RFP process is different than a tender process; it allows for objectivity and discretion on behalf the government to pick and choose what it wants and not necessarily going with the best price.

Can someone in the government assure us, as my colleague pointed out, to ensure competition, that that was a factor taken into account and that they don't just hide behind the fact that it was the best price? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, we know that this is a difficult one for everyone and we would love to see more competition throughout the territory so that our constituents can pick and choose the best services and the best prices. So that's one of the primary reasons why we go through the RFP process - to allow everyone an opportunity to bid and succeed and allow for more competition throughout Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess we will have to wait until our spring sitting to deal with this because the government doesn't want to seem to give us any information now.

As I mentioned to the motion earlier, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister or her officials to give us a rationale as to how they came up with an additional \$1 million for medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation) The motion was already carried and I had allowed the members to speak to the motion. I allowed the members to speak when the motion was moved, so I will disallow your question because I already allowed questions to be posed at that time. Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Questions on H-7. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With that motion, I guess what I'm getting at is they increased the budget by \$1 million. When asked about it, they seemed to give an indication that they would speak to it with the officials and their chair of how they came up with that amount. I indicated that I still didn't feel it was an adequate amount, so I would like to hear how they came up with a new amount for medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. As I said, the motion was already carried and I gave us time to speak to the motion. I still declare the question as out of order. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It seems very pathetic that this government does not want to explain how they come up... I mean we're here to ask about the budget. They got a new amount in the budget now of, if I understand it correctly, \$44,959,000, so I would just like to figure out how they came up with that number. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** The motion was already approved and like I said, it was discussed. I will use my discretion and recognize only those who have not asked questions to this page.

Order in the House, please. I reminded you that I will use my discretion. We're on Branch Summary. Health and Social Services Treatment. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. New figure as per amended. Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Yes, I never did ask this question. Mr. Chairman, my question is to the Minister of Health. In evaluating the bids from those airlines, we're not sure how many participated and we're not 100 percent sure exactly which airlines participated yet, I would like to ask the minister: were the airlines clear when they teamed up as partners in submitting a joint tender? Was that also evident that there may be one bid from more than one airline?

So I would just like to get the minister to clarify for us because receiving two proposals when they're partnered together does not necessarily mean that competition is being applied if the contract is awarded to that joint proposal. Can the minister clearly explain that that may be happening in the Kivalliq region? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. You may not have asked this question but you already had your chance on this page. As I said, I was going to be using my discretion for members to ask questions. You used the ten minutes allotted time on the page and as I already made my ruling, I will not allow the question to be answered.

Treatment. Mr. Curley, are you challenging my ruling? If you are, I'll... Mr. Curley.

**Mr. Curley:** Mr. Chairman, you allowed me to ask a question and I did, and therefore, your ruling appears to be contradicting what you just provided me with.

I believe the minister heard the question and she should be given an opportunity as I was given the opportunity to ask a question without preconditions and the minister simply should respond because for me to exercise my privilege to challenge would be just a delay tactic right now. So I think the minister can simply indicate whether or not there were joint proposals submitted. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. As I mentioned, you appear to be challenging my ruling and I rise to report to the Speaker. We will have a short recess.

*>>Committee recessed at 10:03 and resumed at 10:26*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Can you speak to the challenge to the ruling during the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Arreak.

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to make a complaint.

*>>Laughter*

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I wish to report a matter which arose during proceedings in Committee of the Whole this morning.

I exercised my discretion pursuant to Rule 77 and limited members to one opportunity to speak to a page of the main estimates for a maximum of ten minutes.

I recognized the Member for Rankin Inlet North and provided him with an opportunity to speak. When provided with such an opportunity, he asked a question on a page on which he had previously asked questions.

I ruled the question out of order. The Member for Rankin Inlet North stated a disagreement with my ruling. I viewed this as a challenge to my authority as a Chair. I am reporting this matter to you to deal with as you see fit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### **Speaker's Ruling**

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak and Members. I have received the report from the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. I note that the Chairman exercised his discretion pursuant to our Rules which are intended to provide for the efficient use of time and to maintain order in the House.

(interpretation ends) For that reason, I uphold the Chairman's ruling and find that the question posed by the Member for Rankin Inlet North was out of order and the Committee of the Whole will now resume its deliberations with Mr. Arreak in the Chair. (interpretation) Thank you.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

**Chairman** (interpretation): We will resume. (interpretation ends) We're on page H-7. Branch Summary. Treatment. A Point of Order has been called. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Point of Order**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Point of Order is the fact that my question on how they came up with the total amount of medical travel and transportation budget was ruled out of order and I was told that the motion was already passed.

Mr. Chairman, my point is the motion was just for that \$1 million to be added to the Main Estimates of the Department of Health and Social Services under Treatment Branch. My question was on the total amount and not the \$1 million, so I would like to get a ruling on that, Mr. Chairman. I don't think that it should have been ruled out of order because the motion was under \$1 million and my question was on the total amount. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. As with my first ruling, he appears to be challenging my ruling, so I rise to report to the Speaker. We will take a few minutes break.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Members. I would like to ask the Member for Uqummiut and the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Arreak, to make his comments.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to make another complaint.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the ruling that I made in the committee was challenged by the Member for Iqaluit Centre. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### **Speaker's Ruling**

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak and members. Earlier in today's proceedings, the Member for Iqaluit Centre asked a question regarding the rationale for the motion moved by the Minister of Finance to increase the budget for the Department of Health and Social Services by \$1 million.

The question was ruled out of order by the Chairman on the basis that members had been provided with an opportunity to speak to the motion at the time it was made. I had the opportunity to view the proceedings as they were progressing.

I would like to add that when a motion is before the committee, the members are given the opportunity to speak to the motion and state the reasons as to why they support or do not support it. No member is required to speak to a motion.

The motion which was dealt with this morning is somewhat unusual in that the matter is now being discussed by the committee as part of the Main Estimates of the Health and Social Services. However, I note that the Member for Iqaluit Centre has already spoken to matters on this page of the main estimates and he is bound by the ruling pursuant to Rule 77 that members will be allowed to speak only once to this page for a maximum of ten minutes.

Accordingly, it is unnecessary for me to rule on whether or not the question was in order. (interpretation ends) The point is moot as the member has used his allotted time and is not allowed any further questions on the page currently before the committee. However, I remind the House that when the Committee of the Whole returns to page H-3 of the department's main estimates, all members will have a further opportunity to ask questions for a maximum of ten minutes. (interpretation) Thank you.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

I'm sorry, Members. You will resume your committee meeting from here.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We're back again. We're on (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Health and Social Services. Treatment. (interpretation) Does the committee agree to bring in the minister's officials?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you. (interpretation ends) Page H-7. Branch Summary. Treatment. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. New figure as per amended. \$138,236,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Page H-8. Health Insurance Programs. Are there any questions on this page? Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe we will get some answers on this page, I hope. Mr. Chairman, can the minister indicate if the money that they pay individuals that take in boarders because the boarding homes are full comes through this program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Yes, it does. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** It felt good to get an answer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister indicate how that works if a client comes down let's say here to Iqaluit and is going to be boarded rather than going to the boarding home? What processes are in place or could you explain how that whole process works? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the boarding home is full, they make an arrangement for private accommodations for the patient. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Who makes those arrangements; is it the Department of Health or the individual? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Mr. Chairman, the boarding home makes the arrangements, if they're full, to go to private accommodations and sometimes, the department also does that for the patient. Thank you.

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



**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister: are there any forms that are required to be filled out by anybody in that process? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I don't know if there are any forms filled out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would assume there has to be. If people get paid, they have to have some kind of paper trail. So I'm just surprised the minister doesn't even know if there are forms required to be filled out for that, so maybe if she can find out for us and let us know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My employee in the audience said that there's a form that's filled out. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can they indicate what's on that form? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I can get that in a few minutes. I'm assuming the name, date of arrival and departure are on the form but I'll just get the note from my employee and share the rest if there's anything beyond that. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question but I want to get the response from the minister with the information first before I continue with my questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Minister, do you wish to bring in a witness?

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. If members will allow, I'll ask Kevin to come here to answer what's on the form. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Does the committee agree to bring the witness in?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister, please introduce your witness.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Kevin Compton and he will answer the question.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Welcome, Mr. Compton. Mr. Compton, do you have information as requested? Mr. Compton.

**Mr. Compton:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. The information that's listed on the travel warrant includes the name of the individual, the community in which they would be travelling from and to, the date of their appointment with the doctor, and the estimated date of return back to their home community.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that's the travel form. I'm just wondering for the boarders. Are there any forms that they have to fill out and what information goes on there? That's what I was getting at and I'm sorry if I didn't make that clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I'll get Kevin to answer that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Compton.

**Mr. Compton:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The only form that has to be filled out by the person travelling is the travel warrant as completed by our travel personnel that's making the travel arrangements for the individual. All the other documentation that's required is completed by the boarding home.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if the boarding home would receive or handout and receive some type of confirmation to the people that are taking on that boarder as far as enabling them to get paid. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I'll get Kevin to answer that.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Compton.

**Mr. Compton:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information that's completed by the boarding home is then passed on to our Department of Finance for payment, which would give the name of the individual, where they stayed, and the length of their stay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'm glad to find out where that comes from now. The point that I want to make is it was mentioned yesterday that some of the people who are taking in boarders, and I know it's the practice that's just been started in the last two years, are getting, over certain amounts, taxed on it.

Could the minister or officials ensure that whoever, if it's the boarding home, is making individuals that are taking in boarders aware that that could be deemed as taxable income and that they would get taxed on it? I don't believe that that's happened to date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I'll get Kevin to answer that.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Compton.

**Mr. Compton:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the individuals are paid, it's the requirement by the Canada Revenue Agency that anybody who receives income has to be issued an information slip, and therefore, once the information slip is issued, then it has to be reported to the Canada Revenue Agency as taxable income. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that but I mean the people who are taking in the boarders don't know that ahead of time. I just want to make sure that the department could commit to making sure that those individuals that are taking in boarders are aware of that prior to them agreeing to take in boarders. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Compton:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is my understanding that the Department of Finance has taken on the responsibility to notify people that they will be issued T-slips after receiving income. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That doesn't help those people. I mean, the Department of Finance doesn't find out until after they have done it.

What I'm trying to get at is that those individuals are made aware of that fact prior to them taking in boarders because, for some people, they may know, "If I'm going to get taxed on this, the \$50 that I get is going to turn into less than that and I'm going to have to pay on it at the end of the year," that may affect their decision on whether or not to take on a boarder.

My question was: would the department commit to making sure that people, when they're asked if they want to take in a boarder, are made aware that it would be deemed as taxable income and that they would be getting a slip from Finance after it was processed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I'll get the deputy to answer his question. Thank you.

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

**Alex Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, the department will commit to preparing an information pamphlet that we can share with the clients who are boarding at the boarding homes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. We're on page H-8. Branch Summary. Health Insurance Programs. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$54,228,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Go back to Page H-3. Department Summary. Health and Social Services. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. New figure due to amendment. \$252,388,000. Does the committee agree? Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Speaker mentioned in his ruling, maybe this is the opportunity to get an answer to my question that I raised earlier - if they could indicate how they came up with that extra \$1 million for the budget. It doesn't say specifically in the motion where it's going other than the Treatment Division, so if I could get a clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I'll have the deputy minister answer that. Thank you.

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

**Alex Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The extra \$1 million that we're asking for to be approved by the members is as a result of fuel price increases that occurred last fall. We're taking that into consideration as part of the projections for next year for a total of \$44 million for medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the minister, herself, stated before that the best and most accurate number they could use to project their budgets on were actuals, the latest numbers that they have.

Based on the Supplementary Appropriation Bills that are before us, I think there's another around \$4.5 million for medical travel and that's still about \$2 million or \$3 million less than what they have in their budget now for the 2008-09 year. So I'm just wondering if I can get an explanation: how come it's different than what she had indicated that the best way to go is with what they spent from the previous year, which they know now to be about \$49 million? Why are they budgeting less? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Mr. Chairman, during the first five days of Committee of the Whole, I had indicated that we would be increasing the medical travel for 2007-08 by \$4 million. I'll say that for the record again and I'll get the deputy to elaborate a little bit more on the question. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The current projection for 2007-08 is to spend about \$46 million for medical travel. Based on that information, we have made some calculations including the \$1 million that we're asking for, the \$44 million revised budget for medical travel would be sufficient for the next budget year.

We're also taking into consideration some of the discussions that we've had this morning regarding the scheduled medical contract. We are hopeful that through that process, there will actually be some savings to the government as a whole on initiating that process with the airlines. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When they went back and re-looked at their numbers, was that just something that the Department of Health did by itself or was there any involvement from the Department of Finance as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** I will get my deputy to answer.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, we do have Finance as a resource to our department. We also have financial experts in the department that provides advice to us on some of the trends that have been happening in the medical travel. So we also use the Department of Finance as a sounding board to provide the necessary advice for the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering, from its review, if the \$1 million amount is the amount that the department brought forward that they needed an increase for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** The increase for the \$1 million for fuel increase was calculated by our department in consultation with Finance. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand it was calculated there, but was that the number that was brought forward both by the department and by Finance for approval? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Yes, that was my answer. Yes.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The deputy indicated they feel it's sufficient but it's still a few million dollars less than what they actually spent this year. Given the track record of the medical travel numbers and costs going up - when you look at 2005-06, I think it was \$39 million and now we're close to \$46 million for next year, and we have spent close to \$50 million this year - would the minister commit to providing regular quarterly reports on the medical travel to the Members of the Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In my letter to the members dated March 5, I committed to doing that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Are you finished? (interpretation ends) Page H-3. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. New figure due to amendment. \$252,388,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Are you agreed that the Department of Health and Social Services is concluded?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Thank you, Mr. Compton. (interpretation) Do you have any closing remarks? Minister Aglukkaq.

**Hon. Leona Aglukkaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my deputy minister, as well my assistant deputy minister and Kevin for their support, at the same time, the staff at Finance and HSS, with this process and I would like the members for their questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Members, go to Bill 23 in your legislation binder. Bill 23.

**Bill 23 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009 –  
Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Finance, (interpretation) would you like to go to the witness table?

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Yes.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Do you have any witnesses that you would like to bring to the witness table?

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): That's the only way. Yes, I do.

>>*Laughter*

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

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you, Minister. Welcome. Please introduce your officials.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my left is my Deputy Minister, Peter Ma and on my right is Roy Green, the Director of Expenditure Management.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. (interpretation ends) Bill 23 in your legislation binder. *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009*. Clause 1. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 2?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 3? Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The clauses are from one to 11. Is there a 12th on there where it shows the purposes and departments? If we have any questions on any of those, under what clause do we ask? Is it those clauses, or where do we ask those questions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Can you please repeat your question? Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're on clause 3, the appropriation where it has the total amount. I note that there's \$10,225,000 for the Department of Health that was not previously authorized. Of that, there was \$4.3 million in there for agency nurse contracts. So I'm just wondering if I can find out what the original budget for that amount was if there's \$4.3 million plus. What was the original budget was for that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. We're dealing with Bill 23, *Appropriation (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2008-09*. Clause 3?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** There is a motion. Minister Tapardjuk.

**Committee Motion 014 – 2(4): Bill 23 Amendment to Operations & Maintenance 2008-09 Main Estimates Schedule**



**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Under the *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009*, I move that the schedule to the bill be amended by:

- (a) striking out “\$251,388,000” in item 8 and substituting “\$252,388,000”; and
- (b) striking out “\$970,252,000” wherever it appears and by substituting “\$971,252,000”.

That is my motion, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. (interpretation ends) To the amendments to the schedule. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** The motion is carried and clause 3(1) is amended. Minister Tapardjuk.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): I don’t understand what you said. What’s your direction?

**Chairman** (interpretation): Minister Tapardjuk, do you have another motion?

**Committee Motion 015 – 2(4): Bill 23 Subclause 3(2) Amendment Strike Out  
\$970,252,000 Substitute \$971,252,000**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that subclause 3(2) of the bill be amended by striking out “\$970,252,000” and by substituting “\$971,252,000”. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. To the amendment. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. The motion is carried and clause 3(2) is amended. To the clause 3 as a whole as amended. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 4?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go to page 2. Schedule. Amounts Appropriated for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2009 as amended. Vote 1. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$971,252,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Appropriation. \$971,252,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Back to Clause 3. Clause 3 as amended. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 4?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 5?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree to Bill 23 as amended?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 23 as amended can be immediately placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you.

>> *Applause*

(interpretation) Go back to Bill 24. (interpretation ends) Bill 24, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*. I would now like to ask Minister Tapardjuk if he has opening comments.

### **Bill 24 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008 – Consideration in Committee**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the consideration of Bill 24, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-08*, the total amount we are requesting is \$57,062,000. Here is the following breakdown of the funds:

- Repairs to Inuujaq School in Arctic Bay due to water damage;
- We required an adjustment to correct a clerical error in Supplementary Appropriation, No. 2, with respect to Qikiqtani General Hospital in Iqaluit;
- Internal reallocation of funds from Vote 2 to Vote 1;

- Funds and increase in construction costs for Cambridge Bay Wildlife Office Building; Internal reallocation of funds to Vote 2 from Vote 1;
- Repairs to the maintenance garage in Arviat due to fire;
- Water treatment and water tank repairs in Gjoa Haven and Resolute Bay; and,
- Construction of 195 public housing units.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Please finish your opening comments.

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Bill 24 is done and I would like to speak on Bill 25, whichever you want. Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We're on (interpretation ends) Bill 24, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*. (interpretation) We will conclude that bill first. (interpretation ends) Page 4. Education. Capital. Corporate Services. Special Warrants. \$950,000. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just one quick question here. Can the minister indicate whether this contract that was issued for that was sole sourced or put out for tender or RFP? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): The Minister of Education will answer that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed. Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe, because of the issue with water leakage and the work time, it will be done expeditiously. I believe that contract may have been negotiated with a company but I would have to confirm that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will the minister commit to, when he finds out that information, provide it to the members? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Ed. Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Page 4. Corporate Services. Special Warrants. \$950,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Corporate Services. \$950,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. Special Warrants. \$950,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 5. Health and Social Services. Capital. Directorate. Not Previously Authorized. \$22,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Directorate. \$22,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. \$22,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 6. Environment. Capital. Wildlife Operations. Not Previously Authorized. \$450,000. Mr. Peterson.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us what the total capital budget is for that project now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): My deputy will respond to that question, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Because of this supplementary bill, it will increase to \$1,380,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Environment. Capital. Wildlife Operations. Not Previously Authorized. \$450,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Wildlife Operations. \$450,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. \$450,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Page 7. Community and Government Services. Capital. Capital Planning. Not Previously Authorized. \$2,015,000. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It indicates that the \$2 million is a transfer from O&M to Capital. Can the minister where in the O&M that that money was coming from? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Ma will answer that question, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe most of this was coming from Compensation and Benefits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are the amounts that are there not used because of vacancies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Ma will also answer that question.

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

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it would be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Community and Government Services. Capital. Capital Planning. Not Previously Authorized. \$2,015,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Capital Planning. \$2,015,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Department. \$2,015,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 8. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Capital. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Not Previously Authorized. \$53,625,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. \$53,625,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. \$53,625,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Go back to page 2 of the bill. Page 2. Schedule 1. Capital. Capital Appropriation. \$57,062,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go to Bill 24 in your legislation binder. Bill 24, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*. Clause 1?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 2?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 3?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go to Schedule on page 2. Schedule. Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2008. Vote 2 Capital. Total Capital. \$57,062,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Supplementary Appropriation. \$57,062,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 6?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 7?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree to Bill 24 as a whole?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 24 can be immediately be placed on the Order Paper of the day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Bill 25. Minister Tapardjuk, do you have any opening comments?

**Bill 25 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3,  
2007-2008 – Consideration in Committee**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill 25 on the 2007-08 budget is \$15,360,000. It will be used for the following:

- Funding that is moving from Vote 1 to Capital;
- Reallocation of funds to O&M for the Cultural School;
- Disabled victims' shelters;
- Nurses and medical travel;
- Reallocation of funds from Vote 1 O&M to Vote 2 Capital to fund and increase in construction costs for the Cambridge Bay Wildlife Office Building; and,
- Reallocation from Vote 1 to Vote 2 Capital to fund the repairs to a maintenance garage and water treatment and water tank repairs.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening statement to Bill 25.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Go to (interpretation ends) Bill 25, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*. Go to page 4. Finance. Operations and Maintenance. Policy and Planning. Not Previously Authorized. -\$100,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Policy and Planning. -\$100,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. -\$100,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 5. Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Operations and Maintenance. Directorate. Not Previously Authorized. \$200,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Directorate. \$200,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. \$200,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Page 6. Education. Operation and Maintenance. Total Adult Education and Post Secondary Services. Not Previously Authorized. -\$200,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Adult Education and Post Secondary Services. -\$200,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. -\$200,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 7. Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Healthy Children, Family and Communities. Not Previously Authorized. \$1,500,000. Does the committee agree?



**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Healthy Children, Family and Communities. \$1,500,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Treatment. \$8,725,000. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I'm the only one to get the wrong bill number; the question I was trying to ask earlier is here.

Mr. Chairman, there's \$4.3 million in there for agency nurse contracts to offset projected year-end budget shortfalls. I would like to ask the minister if he could indicate what the original budget amount for that line item was. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Let us find it. I will have Roy answer that question, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Green:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Based on the January 31, 2008 variance report delivered by the department, they projected a budget of \$7,856,000 for March 31 and their actual projected expenditures were \$15,021,583. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So they have pretty much doubled what they had originally budgeted. Is that correct and where did the rest of the money come from because there's only \$4 million of it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Green will also answer that question.

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

**Mr. Green:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Based on the variance report, the department was projecting that approximately \$5 million or \$6 million will be accessed in Compensation and Benefits. Those monies will offset some of the additional costs to fund the agency nurses, unfortunately due to the department's inability to recruit at the full staffing level. The remaining \$4.3 million was required to offset the projected expenditures for March 31, 2008. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Green. Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Page 7. Treatment. \$8,725,000. Does the committee agree? Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's how it's done on the first part but on this part, the \$4,425,000 for medical travel, I just want to get a confirmation on what the total projected budget amount for medical travel would be with that supplementary appropriation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Ma will answer that question.

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

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If my calculations are correct, it is \$46,524,000 with the supplementary amount included. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know in the revised 2007-08 estimates, in the main estimates, it was \$44 million and if we're giving another \$4.4 million, it is \$48 million or \$49 million. I'm just wondering if they can explain the difference there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Ma will also respond to that, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe the Deputy Minister from Health and Social Services indicated the reasons during the Committee of the Whole on Bill 23.

Even though the budget for 2008-09 is lower than the budget we're going to be reporting now for 2007-08, there are a number of reasons why. First of all, he indicated that with the new medical travel contracts that are about to be issued, there would be some projected cost savings in that area. The second reason would be that the department has worked hard to control its expenditures and they believe they have made some progress in that respect. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry, I didn't clarify my question. I wasn't asking about the difference for next year's amount.

The revised amount in the main estimates for 2007-08 is \$44,674,000 and then if you add this \$4,425,000 on there, that makes it a little over \$49 million. Mr. Ma indicated earlier that the amount was \$46 million, so there's between \$3 million and \$4 million difference, and that's what I was looking for a clarification on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Ma will also answer that question.

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

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are two components in the medical travel budget. The first component has to do with what we call the client medical travel component. That number with the supplementary bill here of \$4.4 million would bring that total to \$46,524,000, which is the number indicated earlier to the member.

In addition, there's a second component which takes into account travel by the medical professionals within the Department of Health and Social Services. That number I believe is \$2,282,000 and that then brings us to the number that the member is referring to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With all the flying in and out of agency nurses, is that in that \$2 million or is that included in the Contract Services? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Ma will also respond to that question.

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

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that amount comes out of the Contract Services part of the budget for Health and Social Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Page 7. Treatment. \$8,725,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Treatment. \$8,725,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. \$10,225,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 8. Environment. Operations and Maintenance. Wildlife Operations. Not Previously Authorized. -\$450,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Wildlife Operations. -\$450,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. -\$450,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Page 9. Community and Government Services. Operations and Maintenance. Directorate. Not Previously Authorized. \$7,230,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Directorate. \$7,230,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Community Support. \$40,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Capital Planning and Technical Services. I'm sorry. Capital Planning and Technical Services. -\$1,585,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Total Capital Planning and Technical Services. -\$1,585,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Department. \$5,685,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Back to page 2 of the bill. Schedule 1. Operations and Maintenance. Operations and Maintenance Appropriation. \$15,360,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go to Bill 25 in your legislation binder. Bill 25, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*. Clause 1?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 2?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 3.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go to Schedule 3, please. Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2008. Vote 1 Operations and Maintenance. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$15,360,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Total Supplementary Appropriation. \$15,360,000. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go back to page 1 of the bill. Clause 4. Does the committee agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 5?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do you want to take over?

**Some Hon. Member:** No.

**Chairman:** Clause 6?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 7?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree to Bill 25 as a whole?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 25 can immediately be placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you. Bill 22. I would like to ask the Law Clerk to join us at the table. Do members agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

### **Bill 22 – Engineers & Geoscientists Act – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman:** Welcome. I would now like to ask Minister Okalik of the Department of Justice to make his opening remarks. Minister Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to have reached this historical point. I would first of all like to recognize an individual who is an engineer and who helped us in the NWT and Nunavut, Natalie Plato. I would like to welcome her first.

>>*Applause*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to introduce her first. I am very pleased to introduce this bill. (interpretation ends) The bill will replace the *Engineers Geologists and Geophysicist Act* with a new Act that updates terminology and references to the name of the governing association. The definitions of professional engineering and professional geoscience will be changed for greater clarity and consistency with national guidelines.

We share with the NWT one association that governs these professions, the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

In both the current *Nunavut Act* and Bill 22, the legal body created by NWT legislation is the specified body responsible for the self-regulation of professional engineers and geoscientists who work in Nunavut. It is the *Northwest Territories Act*, however, that sets out the powers of the legal body and that sets out how the association regulates the professions. The *NWT Act* also gives the association the power to act in Nunavut, but this power is subject to Nunavut laws.

In late 2006, the NWT passed a new Act to change the names of the Act and the governing association, and to update the law of self-governance for these professions. Once it is brought into force, the new *NWT Act* will:

- set the powers of the association to manage its affairs, including the powers to hold property or money, make by-laws, and elect its governing council;
- set up the mechanics for the registration of members, licensees, members in training, and permit holders, and provide for the payment of fees to NAPEGG for registration;
- set out rules respecting various aspects of professional practice, including the use of titles Professional Engineer and Professional Geoscientist, and the use of stamps;
- set out the procedures for the discipline of members, including the resolution of some disputes by mediation; and
- authorize NAPEGG to continue to regulate professional engineers and geoscientists in Nunavut.

Both Nunavut and Northwest Territories have had the benefit of working with NAPEGG on this new legislation, and in fact, it is NAPEGG that initiated the process for legislative change in the two territories after tracking legislative development elsewhere in Canada.

I would like to thank the committee for the consideration of this bill and I am open to receiving comments and questions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Before we proceed, we need to take a break, so we will take a five-minute break.

>>*Committee recessed at 12:12 and resumed at 12:22*

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you for coming back. Minister Okalik, do you have witness you would like to bring to the witness table? Minister Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Yes, I do. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Of course. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you and welcome. Minister, for the record, please introduce your witnesses.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me on my right as you know is my Deputy Minister with the Department of Justice, Markus Webber, and on

my left as you also know is our Legislative Drafter, Thomas Druyan. They will be here with me today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome. Does the Chairman of the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* have any opening comments? Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very happy that I will probably be home tonight. I would like to thank our very capable researcher, Leetia, and our interpreters who can make things much clearer.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak to Bill 22, the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. This new Act will replace the *Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists Act* and will develop a regulatory body that will allow engineers and geologists to practice in Nunavut and to discipline any misconduct that may take place.

Mr. Chairman, similar to the Workers' Compensation Board, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories share the association that governs professional engineers and geoscientists in the two territories. This body is called NAPEGG, the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. I would like to take this opportunity to thank NAPEGG for its written submission to the standing committee on this bill. NAPEGG was in support of the bill.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee supported the bill at the clause-by-clause stage of its review. A minor amendment was made to add a missing provision.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening remarks. The committee recommends the passage of the bill to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Are there any general comments? There being none, we will now proceed with a clause-by-clause review of the bill. Bill 22, *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. Re-Print. Clause 1?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 2. Clause 2?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 3?



**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 4. Clause 4?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 5?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 6?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 5. Clause 7. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 8?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 9?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 10?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 11?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 12?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 13?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree to Bill 22 as a whole?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 22 can immediately be placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Thank you, Members. Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Webber. Thank you, Mr. Druyan.

>>*Applause*

We have no more bills to go over. What is the wish of the committee? I repeat: what is the wish of the committee? Minister Akesuk.

**Hon. Olayuk Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Report progress, please.

**Chairman:** I still don't hear a motion. Mr. Okalik.

>>*Laughter*

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** I move to report progress. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman:** That's better. Thank you. There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Members. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

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

**Mr. Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for allowing me to make complaints again to you.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 22, 23, 24, and 25 and would like to report that Bills 22, 24, and 25 are immediately ready for third reading, that Bill 23 is immediately ready for third reading as amended, and that three committee motions were adopted. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Minister Brown. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Premier Okalik.

### **Item 21: Third Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 22 – Engineers and Geoscientists Act– Third Reading**

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Quttiktuq, that Bill 22, the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*, be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 22 has had its third reading.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Tapardjuk.

#### **Bill 23 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009 – Third Reading**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Iqaluit East, that Bill 23, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 23 has had its third reading.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Tapardjuk.

#### **Bill 24 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008 – Third Reading**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Quttiktuq, that Bill 24, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 24 has had its third reading.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, and Human Resources, Minister Tapardjuk

**Bill 25 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3,  
2007-2008– Third Reading**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nattilik, that Bill 25, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 25 has had its third reading.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Order of the Day. Before we proceed with the Orders of the Day, Mr. Clerk, please ascertain if the Commissioner of Nunavut is ready to enter the Chambers to give assent to bills. Mr. Clerk.

**Assent to Bills**

**Bill 22 – Engineers and Geoscientists Act – Assent**

**Bill 23 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009 – Assent**

**Bill 24 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008 – Assent**

**Bill 25 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3,  
2007-2008 – Assent**

**Commissioner Ann Meekitjuk Hanson** (interpretation): Members of the Legislative Assembly, please be seated.

As Commissioner of Nunavut, I hereby assent to the following bills:

Bill 22 – *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*

Bill 23 – *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2008-2009*

Bill 24 – *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*

Bill 25 – *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2007-2008*

My work is done for now. Thank you and I wish you a safe trip back home. It's obvious that you are all tired. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you members. Going back to the Orders of the Day. I would like to take this opportunity... my apologies. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like unanimous consent of this Assembly to go back to Item 2. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 2. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Premier Okalik.

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

#### **Minister's Statement 173 – 2(4): Date of Nunavut General Election**

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I had indicated that I wanted to make a statement at the end of our sitting.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give notice and advise you and all Nunavummiut of the decision of government to set a date for the next Nunavut General Election.

On February 16, 2004, we were all elected to serve Nunavummiut as Members of this Legislative Assembly to represent our constituents as legislators.

At full caucus, we all agreed that the next election should not be held during the months of winter. We all know that weather in Nunavut during the winter months can be unpredictable and fairly cold in some parts of our territory.

The commissioner will give instructions by a proclamation that the next general election will be held on Monday, October 27, 2008.

The proclamation will instruct the Chief Electoral Officer to issue a writ of election to the returning officer of each community where an election is to be held and to issue the writ of election on September 22, 2008.

Good luck to all of you. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Before we adjourn, I would like to remind all of you that we will need to support the people of our communities that are disabled and are unable to help themselves. I would like to thank all the people who assisted us in this session. I would especially like to thank the Women's Auxiliary Group from Iqaluit for making bannock. We thank them.

>>Applause

Also, we all know our interpreters are tireless and we would like to thank them all and our staff. You can see that they're tireless. We thank them.

>>Applause

Last but not least, we all know there are young people that we are trying to teach and they have been here learning as our pages. The people that have assisted us are: Samantha Giroux-Weber. Thank you.

>>Applause

Margo Crawford. Thank you.

>>Applause

Thomas Ford. Thank you.

>>Applause

And finally, our very good friend, Bradley Nutarak. Thank you.

>>Applause

Thank you, Members. We will get back to our constituencies and go back home. We are pleased that the sitting went well.

I would like to ask the Clerk of the House to say the Orders of the Day.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the Day for May 22:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions

9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Members, we stand adjourned until May 22, 2008, at 1:30 in the afternoon.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*Session adjourned at 12:45*

