



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Nattilik)
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(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Community and Government Services

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(Baker Lake)

James Arvaluk
(Tununiq)

Steve Mapsalak
(Akulliq)

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk
(Amittuq)

Hon. Levi Barnabas
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(Nanulik)
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Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Finance; Chairman, Financial Management Board

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, May 27, 2008

Members Present:

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

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Peter Kilabuk)(interpretation): Thank you. Good afternoon, Members. I would like to ask Mr. Alagalak to say the opening prayer. Mr. Alagalak.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, Deputy Premier, Ministers, Members, and our visitors in the Gallery. Going to the Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 181– 2(4): Premier Okalik Absent from House

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon and welcome to the visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to advise all members that the Honourable Paul Okalik will be absent from the House from May 27 to May 30, 2008. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Human Resources, Minister Barnabas.

Minister's Statement 182 – 2(4): Job Description Review for Government of Nunavut Positions

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I send my regards to my constituents, as well as my wife and children.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to inform my colleagues about the recent completion of a review of qualifications contained in all Government of Nunavut (GN) job descriptions.

Mr. Speaker, this initiative has been an ongoing priority for my department as it responds directly to *Article 23* of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* which requires the GN to

take measures designed to remove systemic employment barriers. Eliminating these barriers can increase beneficiary employment and development within the public service.

Mr. Speaker, my department reviewed over 3,400 job descriptions by documenting existing qualifications and comparing these qualifications to the nationally accepted standards for the type of position. The review resulted in the identification of 110 job descriptions that contained over-inflated education and/or experience requirements.

Mr. Speaker, the results of the job description review are currently being shared with departments and we have been very pleased with the action being taken thus so far to revise job descriptions based on our analysis.

Mr. Speaker, this type of initiative demonstrates our commitment to achieving a workforce that is representative of Nunavummiut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth and Finance, Minister Tapardjuk.

Minister's Statement 183 – 2(4): Arctic Winter Games 2008 Hodgson Trophy Winners

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. Before I begin, a long-term government employee in the Department of Finance was transferred to the Department of Community and Government Services last week, Roy Green. His father just passed away. We remember him and his family and will remember them in our prayers. I would just like them to know that we empathize deeply with the loss of a loved one.

On a less sombre note, my Constituency Assistant, Diane is celebrating her birthday today. I would like to wish her a very Happy Birthday so that the members will know it is her birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to rise today to update my colleagues on Nunavut's performance at the 2008 Arctic Winter Games in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories that took place in March 2008.

Nunavut sent a total of 280 athletes, cultural performers, coaches, managers and mission staff to these games through funding from this government.

The team has increased its performance steadily since we started competing as a separate territory in the 2000 Arctic Winter Games in Whitehorse, Yukon.

This steady increase in performance has resulted in medal counts of 25 bronze, 27 silver and of particular note, 15 gold medals, the highest gold medal count for Nunavut ever at the Arctic Winter Games.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, while these medal counts are very important to our team's success and serve as motivation for future participants, an equally important side effect of these competitions is the development of community-based sport and recreation programs.

Of special note, Team Nunavut was awarded the Hodgson Trophy for the third time in the five Arctic Winter Games we have participated in. This award is given to the contingent whose athletes best exemplify the ideals of fair play and team spirit.

On behalf of all Nunavummiut, I would like to express my gratitude to all the participants on winning this very prestigious award and to all the volunteers that devote their valuable time to enable the youth of Nunavut to reach their dreams. They are an integral part of the creation of healthy, active communities within Nunavut. Please join me in thanking them for their hard work and commitment.

For those members who would like to view the picture of the Hudson Trophy Award, it is in the lobby of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 441 – 2(4): Mining-Related Training Initiatives

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say hello to the people of Baker Lake and it was very good to be back in Baker Lake and to have my wife recognized by the community. When she was awarded recognition, it caused my wife to both cry and celebrate intermittently.

(interpretation end) Mr. Speaker, it's good to be back in the House.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to again address the issue of mining-related training for my constituents in Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking the Minister of Education for having helped to arrange for a number of my constituents to attend heavy equipment operation training at the Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario.

I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that many graduates of this course were subsequently able to find work on the road to Meadowbank project.

Mr. Speaker, as I have said on a number of occasions, a pay cheque is always preferable to a welfare cheque. Good jobs and meaningful employment are the most effective tools for addressing the social problems facing our communities.

Mr. Speaker, the pace of mining development in my region is speeding up and my constituents must not be left behind.

I look forward to many more training initiatives in the months and years ahead and I look forward to working with the minister and my community to look at ways of accelerating and enhancing training opportunities for the residents of Baker Lake by taking advantage of such facilities as our own community learning centre. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Peterson.

Member's Statement 442 – 2(4): Visit to Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform the House about an important visit to the communities of Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet that took place earlier this month.

Mr. Speaker, I have raised concerns about the condition of the housing in these two communities on many occasions during the last few years. The residents have asked me to request the Nunavut Housing Corporation to help them with repairs and improvements to their houses.

Mr. Speaker, I accompanied three technical staff from the Nunavut Housing Corporation to the two communities to inspect the condition of the housing. We flew down on a Health and Social Services charter. It was a very informative and productive visit and the residents welcomed us with their famous hospitality.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of these two communities haven't asked for much help from the Government of Nunavut over the last decade. They are used to making do with the resources that they have available to them, including housing that has clearly suffered from a lack of professional upkeep and maintenance.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Housing Corporation technicians noted that most of the houses they inspected required levelling, upgraded cribbing foundation, flooring, replacement chimney stacks, stoves, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, fresh paint, and some need new windows.

Mr. Speaker, one house that was inspected in Umingmaktok displayed evidence of soot on the ceilings and walls. The elder who resides in this house has her entire family history pictured on the walls and does not want to be relocated to Cambridge Bay.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Housing Corporation will now review their 250 pictures and pages of notes to prepare cost estimates to undertake the repairs to the houses. The residents are looking forward to the day when their houses are upgraded.

Mr. Speaker, I was also impressed by the level of medical care that the Cambridge Bay nurse and community health representative provide to the residents in both communities. It is difficult for the elderly residents at the best of times to make the long, arduous trip to Cambridge Bay. It makes more sense to make regular medical visits to the two communities.

Mr. Speaker, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association board member who represents these two communities recently informed me that the KIA would be sending a letter to the Government of Nunavut calling on them to recognize Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet as communities and provide them with a reasonable level of government support.

Mr. Speaker, in the meantime, the residents are thankful that the Nunavut Housing Corporation and some Government of Nunavut departments are doing what they can now to improve the lives and living standards of the residents in Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 443 – 2(4): Congratulations to Grade 12 Graduates

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the high school students in the three communities comprising my constituency who are graduating this year.

In the community of Grise Fiord, a graduation ceremony is being held on June 2 at the Umimmak School. With the local population hovering around 150, it may be more or less as I do not have the figures in front of me, out of that small population base, there will be five graduates completing their grade 12 courses this year.

I would like to congratulate the following people for successfully completing their high school courses: Russell Atagootak, Benjamin Audlaluk, Robert Flaherty, Melissa Patty and Lisa Kiguktak. I would like to wish them success in the future.

In Resolute Bay, from the Qarmartalik School, there will be eight graduates this year as well. I would like to congratulate the students from Qarmartalik School. This year, there are a record number of graduates completing their education from the school. The graduation ceremonies are being held in Resolute Bay on May 29 and I would like to extend congratulations for all of the following students: Absalom Manik, Philip Manik, Inuutiq Manik, Sharon Kalluk, Sylvia Kalluk, Pilipuusi Iqaluk, Amelia Aqaatsiaq, and Christian Hunter.

I would like to congratulate those graduates and I am very proud that they have completed their high school courses and graduated. I wish the people of Resolute Bay a very good year.

Lastly, I would like to comment on the students who will be graduating out of my home community of Arctic Bay.

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

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

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

In my home community of Arctic Bay, a fairly large contingent of students will be graduating from the Inuujaq School and the ceremonies will be held in August 2008. There will be 13 graduates this year of which I am proud to state and I wish to congratulate the following students in Arctic Bay: Nathaniel Chouinard, Sheena Makpah, Tagoona Willie, Ryan Willie, Edward Qaqqasiq, Imo Kilabuk, Johnny James Kilabuk, Angela Alurut, Adrian Qaunaq, David Uujukuluk, Dorian Iqaqsaq, Angus Hughes and Samantha Eecheak. I would like to congratulate them for completing their high school courses.

I am quite proud of the recent graduates from my entire constituency as well as from my home community. Although there are a lot of distractions and hardships throughout the year, these individuals continued to attend their classes to finish their courses. Personally, I know that springtime is a perfect time to go hunting and a lot of Inuit students have a difficult time keeping their attendance rates up when the weather is so nice. However, these students have shown their commitment towards their education in that they completed their courses, even though the spring weather was surely a distraction.

I would also like to encourage all of the students to continue on with their studies this year and to work towards completing their grade 12 courses and try to emulate the graduating students who have passed this part of their lives.

I would like to encourage all of the graduates and remind the students that graduating from high school is just one small step towards higher education and it opens up opportunities. Therefore, I would like to tell all of the students not to quit school and continue their education. All courses or school years eventually finish and people with education have more opportunities to acquire jobs. It opens up a career path if you continue down the road to a higher education. It expands their horizons when their minds are opened and graduating from high school also assists your self-esteem and pride in yourself. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 444 – 2(4): Regulating the Assignment of Rights under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement

Mr. Curley (interpretation): That was quick. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today to state that just recently, Mr. Speaker, we have heard and we are aware that the 15th anniversary of the signing of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* just passed. It was signed in Iqaluit in May 1993 by the Government of Canada and the body representing Nunavummiut which were comprised of Inuit.

Let's take a look at what has transpired in the 15 years. Some of us can state that this was quite some time ago, while others can state that this is fairly recent. However, all of us have to realize that, 15 years ago, Nunavut did not exist. The Nunavut Government did not exist then.

We did not have 19 Members of the Legislative Assembly from Nunavut and the elected Members of the Legislative Assembly in the NWT were not comprised of that many members. As a matter of fact, we only had ten members from the Eastern Arctic and we had members from the Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtaaluk altogether.

Inuit people have progressed quite quickly since we had the signing ceremony in 1993. I wish to thank all of the people who worked on the land claims, but this is a very important event to me, personally, because Inuit, without realizing it, have never congratulated and thanked themselves when our progression as a people has moved forward after 15 years. We have to be proud of our own accomplishments and I congratulate all the Inuit people.

I would like to mention James Arvaluk as I am proud that he was involved in the initial parts of the creation of Nunavut. James can speak to this matter himself, which I am alluding to. James stated that he did not believe that the creation of Nunavut would ever happen and he has made comments previously to that affect, but when he changed his mind and started to believe in the dream, he and I gave our full support to Nunavut.

Based on this anniversary, I would like to thank all of the Inuit listening to the proceedings. As well, we also received rights contained in the NLCA, which included Inuit hunting rights. These are our rights. There was a meeting held today down by the beach in regard to hunting rights because there are still some aspects that we have to flesh out. We need to work harder on this, Mr. Speaker.

I read rights that Inuit can assign in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. This shows that the Inuit had feelings for their relatives because some Inuit beneficiaries knew that they would not have an Inuk spouse. These beneficiaries would assign their rights to their spouse who is a non-beneficiary so that they can feed their families. These are rights we can be absolutely proud of.

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

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues.

I want to make a statement on that because if Inuit were not sensitive about the fact that some of our Inuit beneficiaries were and are in mixed marriages, whether that spouse be female or male, we would not have added assignment rights. Some women do not have the equipment, time, or resources to go out hunting for their subsistence.

In a particular section of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, you can assign your hunting rights to a spouse or relative. Personally, I am satisfied of this right of assignment because Inuit can assign their rights to a non-beneficiary, but non-beneficiaries cannot assign their rights to us, and. Inuit have had to fight for their rights.

In regard to a right outlined in Section 5.7.3 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, it states where an Inuk beneficiary or an HTO are given the power and authority to assign their rights (interpretation ends) with conditions or without conditions (interpretation) to non-members.

However, Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to the issue. The section based upon goodwill seems to be abused today. The way it is now, they are assigning their harvesting rights to trophy hunters. Let's take musk oxen as an example. When a sports hunter is assigned the right to a musk ox, they search for the biggest horned specimen they can

find. Why? It is like this now: conservation officers have been given the administrative oversight for this and they are now administering this right.

There is a form out there in use that states that if a person is a non-beneficiary and they are my spouse, let's just use a woman as an example to highlight this, a woman can assign their harvesting rights to their spouse by just signing this form and that is the current practice. However, under Section 5.7.3, they are not adhering to the section that states that the HTO can assign the rights "with or without conditions."

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the minister responsible for wildlife should make sure that this assignment right is not being abused and that we set up a better system so that it does not cause conservation issues due to its misuse. Inuit beneficiaries can assign their harvesting rights and where they have assigned their rights, let's make sure it is used properly because this right was originally for subsistence purposes and not sports hunting. Our wildlife has been given to us for our sustenance and not for sport, so let us deal with this before it causes further issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 445 – 2(4): Mining Operations in Nunavut

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today being the 15th anniversary of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, as our colleague, Mr. Curley, has just mentioned, it's something we ought to be proud of.

When it first started around 1970, we used to be negotiators arguing Inuit rights to the government negotiators and we would hold quite a few caucus meetings amongst ourselves to determine how to reach our objective of becoming self-governing. This is not the first time I have met Tagak, we were quite young when we were involved in this process.

I would like to rise today to mention, Mr. Speaker, last week, we read in the news from the Keewatin region that NTI will be among the owners of the uranium exploration company and they will be involved in the sale of uranium. The announcement states that if they're going to be taking part in the mining sector and own the company, they cannot collect the royalty. I think we clearly understand that right away.

And in Mary River, Baffinland is mining in that area and they're just waiting for anyone to take part in that venture. I'm sure this will make money for 30 to 100 years before it is depleted. It is for that reason that the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation now has a contract with them in that mining area and they can take part, assuming the board members agree to it. I feel this is dangerous, not just for beneficiaries to own part of the company but that they would lose royalty sharing.

What I'm trying to show here, Mr. Speaker... I have run out of time, so I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We should share the same clock. Sometimes it goes really fast but sometimes it goes really slow, it should be consistent.

What I am trying to talk about, is the fact that although Inuit own that parcel, both surface and subsurface, if any of our Inuit corporations are involved, the royalty would no longer be paid to Inuit. The communities of Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet, Igloolik, Hall Beach, and Clyde River would lose out on the benefits.

I will be asking questions to the government regarding their involvement or lack thereof on the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement during the negotiation process to protect Inuit so that they are not caught unaware. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 446 – 2(4): Annual Anglican Synod

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome to Iqaluit over 100 guests and visitors, participants and community activists that have travelled to Iqaluit from across the north, from the Western Arctic, and indeed, Mr. Speaker, from many locations down south.

Mr. Speaker, they are all here to attend the annual Anglican Synod. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Anglican Diocese of the Arctic. His grace, Bishop Andrew Ataguttaaluk, lay persons, deacons, reverends, and delegates will be meeting in Iqaluit all week to discuss and raise community issues and the overall direction of the diocese.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you would join with me in welcoming the delegates and wish them the very best in their deliberations and discussions this week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. I would also like to welcome all those Anglican delegates. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Ms. Brown.

Member's Statement 447 – 2(4): Rankin Inlet Army Cadet Ceremony

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to thank the members for allowing me to attend a show in Rankin Inlet when I was invited by the cadets. They had a great show and many cadets were recognized and awarded. There were 16 cadets rewarded in total. I also attended the annual ceremonial review. It was very interesting and very good to see.

I would like to congratulate the Commanding Officer, Dorothy Atuat-Tootoo. She was promoted to lieutenant and earned more stripes. There were many people attending that gathering and there was a standing ovation when they introduced Dorothy for her promotion.

Also, the cadets are increasing in numbers in our community and we're very proud of that, and I wanted to report this to the Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Brown. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 448 – 2(4): Congratulations to Aqsarniit Middle School French Students

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank Ms. Brown for recognizing my aunt. Everyone knows Lucassie, who would probably say that she shouldn't be a first lieutenant, she should be a general.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the French students at Iqaluit's Aqsarniit Middle School on their fund-raising efforts and wish them a very good trip to la Belle Province of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, the students in the French program have been very active in their fund-raising efforts over the last few months for a trip to Montreal and Quebec City. They have raised a grand total of a little over \$47,000, which I believe is a tremendous accomplishment for them.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the community of Iqaluit for its generosity. A number of individuals, businesses, and organizations donated money. First Air provided a very reasonable rate for the airline tickets and I would like to thank the many others who contributed by eating chocolates, buying raffle tickets, and getting their vehicles washed over the weekend at the Fire Hall.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge a constituent of mine, Ms. Geraldine Penny, for the hard work on the fund-raising activities, as well as all the other parents who contributed their time and efforts.

I would also like to thank all levels here of the Assembly - the first floor, second floor, and third floor - who all contributed as well. I know I was selling chocolates and I know Annie Akoak was selling chocolates and her husband, David; everyone was selling chocolates, so I'm glad it's done because I can't look at chocolate too much anymore. I appreciate everyone's support.

Mr. Speaker, 29 students will be travelling with their teachers, Linda, Candace, and Byron, to Montreal tomorrow for their six-day trip. They will visit a number of sites, such as the Biodome, the Olympic Stadium, the IMAX Movie Complex, the Botanical Gardens, and when they travel to Quebec City, they will visit the Aquarium, the Citadel, the Chateau Frontenac, and the Civilization Museum, amongst others. Opportunities such as this are a wonderful experience for our students. They have been studying the French language and will now have the chance to be immersed in its culture.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the students of Aqsarniit a very good trip and a very positive experience. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. You were right on time. Members' Statements. Member Natilik, Ms. Aglukkaq.

Member's Statement 449 – 2(4): Congratulations to Lillian Aglukark on Passing the Bar Exam

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual this afternoon. I received an email from her this morning and she is no longer a resident of Nunavut, but I think it's worth noting her accomplishment and to offer her our congratulations. My good friend, Lillian Aglukark, passed her bar exam in the Northwest Territories.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: I received an email from her. I'm so proud of her. Lillian, if you're listening, there are many people here who are also very proud of you.

I know it was hard work for her. As well, in between her studies, she had a healthy baby boy and resulted in a slight pause in her studies. At the end of the day, she refocused back to her studies and wrote her exam and passed.

I just want to, on behalf of Nunavummiut, offer her my congratulations and that we're very proud of her. I also know that she just learned this morning that she is also moving to Edmonton, so I would also like to wish her the very best in her new home in Edmonton. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. (interpretation ends) We also forward our congratulations to Lillian. Members' Statements. (interpretation) If there are no more, Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure today to recognize a couple of people in the Gallery that I've had an opportunity to work with since 1999 and they are Rob Vandersanden and Aaron Rutherford. They are principles with the firm, Hewitt and Associates. I would like to welcome them to Iqaluit and to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation ends) Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have noted many times over the years, it's not very often I get to recognize visitors to the Gallery from my riding of Cambridge Bay.

I'm very proud today to recognize two pages who have been working with us this week, Jordan Lyall, sitting over there in the corner.

>>Applause

And Noelle Ehaloak, I think she's probably in the back getting water for somebody. They're students at the Kiilnik High School. Their chaperone is Mr. Greg Hoosier. I just saw him leave the room for a while, and sitting right behind me is Jordan's mother, Bernice Lyall. She was the page in the NWT days.

>>Applause

I would like to welcome you all to the House. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish all the members to welcome this individual, whom I believe a number of members here went to school with in Churchill, Manitoba.

In Churchill, while we were attending our classes, he got married, moved to Baker Lake, and became a real in-lander. That is why I refer to him as *Inuktuarmiinnaqattaq*. Mr. Speaker, he will be our Sergeant-at-Arms, John Avaala from Baker Lake. I would like everyone to welcome him to the House.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to recognize an individual from my constituency of Rankin Inlet, who is one of our pages, Jamie Shawn. Welcome. She is also the daughter of Shawn Maley, who is our long time friend as well as an ADM for Community and Government Services.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Welcome to the Gallery. (interpretation) Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. If there are none, Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 551 – 2(4): GN's Involvement in Regulatory Process (Answered June 3, 2008)

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Deputy Premier.

On more than one occasion last year, I raised the issue by posing questions with respect to Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement and how Inuit are affected by mining development and oil exploration projects. One of the rights of Inuit in the NLCA states that the Inuit have ownership of certain lands. However, organizations that hold these lands in trust are only paying lip service to this ownership by Inuit.

I would like to ask the minister how we can get transparent and effective agreements that people can peruse. The only response from the government has been that this is outside the purview of the GN and that it is the NTI or DIO, Designated Inuit Organization, who have the responsibility, along with the federal government, to negotiate these agreements

with mining companies. When will the Government of Nunavut start participating in these talks to protect the interests of the people of Nunavut? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Deputy Premier, Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not fully versed on these issues, so it's difficult to answer when asked about them. Basically what I'm saying is that I will have to be briefed on the matter. Based on what I have heard previously, under specific provisions of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, the roles and responsibilities of the RIAs and NTI include this right to negotiate agreements, so basically only Inuit organizations have that right.

I share your feelings in respect to this, that the Government of Nunavut should be participants and should be included at the table when agreements are being negotiated and in discussions. I do know, however, that the government has had discussions with NTI and KIA regarding the issues surrounding projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Deputy Premier. Your first supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to the House, Deputy Premier. It was aired on the news that Nunavut Tunngavik will be a partner in the mineral exploration and advanced mining development projects in the Keewatin area. By virtue of this interest in the mining project, it is quite obvious that they may be in conflict when they are trying to protect the rights of the Inuit under the Inuit Impact and Benefits Agreement. The issue is that they may be a partner in several projects and indeed, according to that newscast, they are already a partner on one project.

Who will we regular folks in the communities be able to approach if we have concerns about the development projects, particularly those of us who utilize the area around Mary River? Who can people turn to, to help advocate their rights under the agreement? All we can do is watch the events unfold as the mineral property is being developed right under our noses.

Can you tell the House, as the Deputy Premier, whom the people of Pond Inlet, Igloolik, Hall Beach, Clyde River, and Arctic Bay can turn to, to represent and protect their rights in regard to the mining and oil development, particularly when their own representatives from Inuit organizations own an interest in these projects? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Deputy Premier, Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm well aware that this is a very important topic and he is raising very good issues for consideration. What I would like to do at this time is to take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The question has been taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Uqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

Question 552 – 2(4): Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday during Committee of the Whole, based on one of the questions asked by another member, more questions arose in my mind, so I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance.

My colleague from Rankin Inlet North was questioning the minister and he asked a question about the folk school to be built in Clyde River. His line of questioning included references to the Auditor General's recommendation to only approve funding for projects that have legislation, policies, or regulations via the Government of Nunavut, so it seemed like he did not want to see that cultural centre approved prior to legislation, policy, or regulations being established.

He wants to see the \$8 million deferred until there is such a piece of legislation to cover the funds which are to be used for all of Nunavut. Will our Five-Year Capital Plan be affected by this requirement? As an example, if we are to follow that line of reasoning, the \$34 million allocated for the healing facility and \$9 million for the trade school facility in Rankin Inlet do not have any legislative basis either, so does that mean that the funding for these facilities will be deferred? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to the cultural or the heritage school, it was one of the priorities of the Members of this House when we first sat as a government and we are trying to make it a reality based on its priority status.

We are still looking at the options at the ministerial level to debate some issues in the Cabinet, issues such as what type of corporate structure we should have, whether it will be independent or a part of the Nunavut Arctic College. So these are issues we have to submit for discussion at the Cabinet. The options paper is now in front of the Cabinet and once we have identified which options we will use and the type of corporate structure to be utilized, we will see.

With respect to the supplementary appropriations we are requesting, the money will be used for the architectural design and other pre-planning stages. We also require managers and other operational staff and these funds would be used for these purpose. We are just starting the design phase of the cultural school. We have regulations and policies under the Department of Education and we don't foresee any problems in regard to requesting that \$8 million for this fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the similarly dressed minister. The reason why I asked that question is because we were told by the Auditor General not to approve building capital projects when there is no legislation, policies, or regulations as a foundation for the project.

From what I heard, we are to pass legislation, policies, or regulations prior to approving projects. Does this mean, even though there is no legislation, policy, or regulatory foundation for the cultural school and other capital projects in the Five-Year Capital Plan, that these projects which are highly anticipated by Nunavummiut will not be deferred? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): From what I understand, we have to get all of the requisite paperwork done prior to getting the Legislative Assembly to approve the budget or the supplementary appropriations. There are pieces of legislation that speak to the operational requirements prior to passing financial appropriations. We're just going to follow the process. There isn't going to be any change and I don't think it will have any impact on the present Five-Year Capital Plan we approved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 553 – 2(4): Dealing with Addictions in Nunavut

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

Mr. Speaker, earlier I spoke of the desperate need for support and services to help people in dealing with their addictions. The Hamlet of Arviat's Wellness Committee received some funding to address health and wellness issues, but they're given no direction or guidance from the minister's office on how to deliver addictions related programs.

Can the minister clarify what kinds of specific guidelines and directions are available from her department to assist community groups and organizations in setting up effective and appropriate addictions programs? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Health has been working really hard to try and address the whole issue around developing a framework related to addictions and mental health issues. Back in 2002, the government produced a

Nunavut Addictions and Mental Health Strategy and we're in the process of updating that report and the recommendations arriving from that.

Part of the work that we're engaging is trying to build up the resources at the community level for support services, for instance, the training program for the mental health workers in every community. The first graduates were last year and the program continues. Part of the work that we're also looking at is better support to the A&D workers at the community level. The Government of Nunavut currently provides resources to municipalities, but at the same time, there is a bit of disconnect between the Department of Health and the community-based service model.

The work that is underway now is to put that framework in place around how we can better provide services at the community level at the entry point of services needed, what territorial programs we can develop, and what after treatment support systems can we put in place. Part of the delay in addressing some of that work has been our challenge in trying to hire the Director of Addictions and Mental Health. It took a good two and a half years to find a person, but we recently filled that position in December, who is now in the process of working that framework out.

At the same time, we will also be hosting a conference with community-based A&D workers on how to improve that support system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) There are many dedicated volunteers who want to take on the problem of addictions in our communities. For example, a number of individuals on committees want to focus on decreasing the amount of illegal substances coming into the community.

Can the minister provide an update on how her department works with other departments, such as the Department of Justice and the Department of Education, to control the flow of alcohol and illegal drugs? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As it relates to the enforcement of law, that would fall under the Department of Justice. What I can speak to, from the Department of Health and Social Services' aspect, are the services and support systems that we have in place to try and promote healthy lifestyles.

Under our Public Health Strategy, we have in place information programs available to young people, not only on alcohol and drug addictions but tobacco addictions, and so on, in trying to keep people well through healthy community initiatives. We also have programs on FASD which is a result of drinking while you're pregnant, prevention programs around that area, and the impact of illegal drugs on your body. So there are

programs available to communities where we try and educate people on the effects of alcohol and drugs on individuals.

So from that perspective, I can speak to the initiatives we have undertaken under the Public Health Strategy in partnership with the Community Health Committees, as well as hamlets and CHRs at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In September of 2007, the Nunavut Government Cabinet issued a press release stating that the staff had been directed to plan for a Nunavut Alcohol Abuse Treatment Facility and programs. Can the minister update this House on what progress has been made in planning for this facility and related programs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my first response, I spoke to some of the work that we're undertaking within the Department of Health.

One is that the 2002 recommendations around mental health and addiction strategies, we're updating that and we will be sharing that with the members in this House. At the same time, within the Department of Health, to put a framework in place on the programs and services that we can offer in Nunavut, stressing the roles of A&D workers at the community level, mental health, and so on, and how we can better integrate those services at the community level.

One of the other areas that we're also exploring as a department is the delivery of 28-day addictions programs. One model that we are working with as an idea is the model that has been delivered for the last four years in Cambridge Bay, and looking at that type of service where we can deliver addictions at the community level and not be restricted to a building *per se*, but rather flexible in that we can travel with the program to various regions or communities where there are facilities that we can use, for instance, the residence for Nunavut Arctic College in Rankin Inlet or here. So we're looking at that option as it is right now.

At the same time, in our business plan, we are looking at developing a centre of excellence and those are some of the ideas that are being explored as we move forward in trying to define what will be under that centre of excellence as it relates to addictions treatments for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Once the plans for the alcohol abuse treatment facility have been finalized, knowing that Arviat being one of the largest populated communities in Nunavut, will the minister commit to putting forward the community of Arviat as a possible location for the new facility? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I answered part of that question before in that the Department of Health is looking at ways to deliver addictions programs with the flexibility of moving the program around throughout Nunavut.

In terms of the building itself, that's going to be an item that we will discuss once we look at what the framework will look like, but what I would like to see the department move forward on is not to wait for a building to be constructed to deliver the A&D program.

I think it's important that, as a department, if we can use a model like Cambridge Bay's addictions program in other communities without having to wait for a building to be constructed, that that is an option that we need to explore first and foremost, particularly around the fact that we are stretched with our capital dollars.

So I'm looking at both options, but I would like the program development part to continue and not wait for buildings to be considered before we can deliver the program side because I think that there is an opportunity here to deliver programs without having to construct a building. So once we're there, I'll be able to update the member more. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 554 – 2(4): Services for Senior Citizens of Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education, who is responsible for low-income seniors.

Mr. Speaker, a few months ago, the minister announced the coordination of the delivery of benefits to Nunavut's low-income seniors and I was reminded about this when I visited Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet earlier this month. They have many seniors down there who receive benefits from the federal and territorial governments and I appreciate what the Department of Education does to help the folks down there.

I was wondering if the minister could explain to me how the seniors of Bathurst Inlet and Umingmaktok can benefit from the new system that he is talking about if they don't have

direct access to monthly counselling or Government of Nunavut officials when they have to complete the paperwork. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been a lot of enhancements for the seniors' programs and senior benefit programs over the past several months. We have done some, I think, really good announcements on, for example, the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program, extra money for the seniors.

We have looked at monies that had been allocated through the federal government and tried to combine them in the program. So specifically, we have moved I think very aggressively on some of these files, especially in the needs under income support for seniors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. I appreciate the information that the minister provided but I don't think he answered my question. If he could be more specific, how will the seniors in Bathurst Inlet and Umingmaktok benefit from this improved service if they don't have direct access to his department in Cambridge Bay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the member is trying to get some type of commitment out of the government with regards to those residents who are living in those two areas. They are not considered to be communities and don't have some of the infrastructure that other communities would have.

So, for example, when we talk about the electronic case management system, which I think is what the member is referring to, how we are able to track a lot of the programs that are income support and so on, they probably would not be accessible to some of the residents there. However, after saying that, that would not be any different than some of the residents that are in outpost camps in different places in Nunavut. What I can say to the member is that I do know that the Department of Education, through our Income Support program, we do have follow-up. This is, of course, with the residents.

As the member indicated just now, there was actually a charter to the community. And a good example again is that community where the people are living doesn't have any type of regular scheduled airline service, so the only way to get there, as the member has indicated, is by charter. We try to facilitate that type of support to the member's constituents by accessing that type of transportation, as well as doing on-site visits and

other types of communications, whether that is by, for example, mail or phone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. I appreciate the work that the income support people in Cambridge Bay do provide to the communities. It is very difficult at the best of times, but again, I'm not confident that the seniors or elders down there are receiving all of their benefits.

I'm wondering if the minister could tell me how, through this program, the seniors/elders in these two communities can be assured that they are receiving all of the benefits that they are entitled to, as he mentioned in his Minister's Statement, from both levels of government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is correct again. I think our people, under income support through our office in Cambridge Bay, do well in servicing the constituents at Bay Chimo and Bathurst Inlet. I think the point is that they are well-versed in the program's policies that we have under the Income Support program and when they go into those areas, they do have checklists, as it were, to see if there are programs and services that the constituents are eligible for, and then they would assist and help facilitate the people being able to apply for those programs.

If the member is aware of any specific program where his constituents have not had an opportunity to have uptake on it, if he would let me know in writing, then I will have our income support people follow-up. It is my understanding that any benefits under the Income Support program that would be available to anyone in Nunavut are universal and it doesn't matter if you're in those two communities, or in Clyde River, or Whale Cove, those same benefits apply and that's what we're trying to do. If there has been a misstep on that and the member is aware of it, then I will take action on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the answer. Mr. Speaker, I have learned in the last few years, in working with seniors and my mother, when you're applying for federal government programs, there are countless programs; you don't know what programs are available. Sometimes they tell you about them years after you have started applying for other programs. It's very important that we have someone who talks to the seniors in our communities about the available federal programs and the Government of Nunavut programs.

We're very lucky in the Kitikmeot, in Cambridge Bay in particular, there is the Service Canada Office right in Cambridge Bay located right in the minister's own department. It would be very easy for his officials to coordinate with Service Canada folks there to make sure that the folks in Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet receive their federal government programming, and it's subject to access to information, I guess, and protection of privacy.

My question for the minister: given that there are a number of federal and territorial government programs, for income tax purposes, how are the seniors taxed on the merged benefits from the two governments? In other words, do they get one tax receipt that combines all the programs, or do they still get two, or three, or four receipts from the different programs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member raises a good concern and that is there are different programs that provide income assistance to our elders. For example, if the elder is a beneficiary under the land claims, then there are monies that are payable under the land claims for our elders and those would be tax receiptable, meaning that that program would send them a tax receipt.

When we have monies that are available through the Income Support program, they would receive that type of income tax receiptable information also. But if there is a concern with the filing of the income tax, then again that's assistance that we have been able to help out and support with our income support people in the community.

I'm not aware of any issue where, under old age security, the guaranteed income supplement, as well as the Nunavut territorial senior benefit, that comes out now in one payment and we have actually merged the payments from those, with our federal partner, so that that is also on one cheque, and that's been in place since January of this year and that's what the member was referring to in his statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 555 – 2(4): Replacement for Conservation Officer for Sanikiluaq

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for Environment. I send my greetings to all of my relatives and to my son who is out whaling. My son helps out in any way he can when he is asked to assist.

Mr. Speaker, we learned that our wildlife officer, who was just hired this winter to work out of Sanikiluaq, will be leaving our community this week or next due to family reasons. Can the minister state whether or not his department will expedite the hiring of a new wildlife officer for my constituency? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My staff is working with the Department of Human Resources as this is the usual procedure for hiring new staff. We will try to expedite the hiring of a wildlife officer for Sanikiluaq with the Department of Human Resources. Thank you.

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

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. This is a critical issue since a lot of people do not have options to supplement their income and rely on sealskin revenues coming from the wildlife office.

This wildlife officer position in Sanikiluaq might take a long time to be filled. So I'm wondering if it would be possible to have my community visited by a wildlife officer from time to time until our wildlife officer is hired. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have already directed my staff to visit any community that doesn't have a wildlife officer. I will also direct them to visit the community of Sanikiluaq, perhaps with set times, so that people requiring assistance will not have to wait for a long time between visits. We will ensure that available officers are sent down from time to time. Thank you.

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

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just for clarification, the wildlife officers in the communities that he is talking about, is he referring to wildlife officers from the communities or from Iqaluit? Can the minister clarify from which community the officers will be from? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm talking about wildlife officers from Iqaluit or other communities that are available to visit the people of Sanikiluaq if that officer were to leave his community. Thank you.

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

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you. I believe the minister's commitment to doing as much as he can, but for his information, that wildlife officer has already left Sanikiluaq.

We no longer have a wildlife officer in my constituency. This is only a comment and not a question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kattuk. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Evyagotailak.

Question 556 – 2(4): Update on Suicide Prevention Strategy

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for allowing the members to raise questions in the House. My questions are for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

(interpretation ends) In June of last year, the government announced its new Suicide Prevention Strategy. I would like to ask if she could tell this House today which minister is responsible for implementing this strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is taking the lead on that file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. In February of this year, questions were asked in this House about the status of establishing an office to implement the strategy. At the time, the Premier said that GN officials were preparing a document on this issue to present to Cabinet. Can the minister indicate when this document will be finished and tabled in this Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please wait a moment.

Thank you, Members. I will have the Minister of Health and Social Services respond to that question. Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not to speak on behalf of another department, but as it relates to that strategy, I understand it was supposed to be tabled in May. Again, EIA is taking the lead on it, so I can't add anything more to that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Madam Minister. Earlier this month, I held a constituency meeting in Kugluktuk. People told me that suicide prevention is a

major priority for the community. Can the minister update me today on what plans the government has for suicide prevention initiatives in Kugluktuk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a very difficult question. I have said three times now that EIA is taking the lead on this file. I don't have access to the information that's available for what's outlined in that plan per community. I understand the plan will be tabled in this session. So once that information is available, I can commit to providing that information to the member.

But I can speak to some of the initiatives that we have undertaken within the Department of Health related to supporting the Embrace Life Council initiatives. Through that process, there are a number of projects that are supported by the government based on proposals received at the community level. As well, through our Vote 4 funding, we support the community-based initiatives at the community level. As it relates to providing support to individuals who require counselling, and so on, the Department of Health does provide counselling services through mental health, and so on, at the community level as well. So those are the types of services that we currently provide as a department for individuals requiring assistance in counselling and so on.

I can speak to some of that, but by community, for what the member is asking for, I would have to get a copy of the report from the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs who is taking the lead on this file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Members, I would like to remind you that in regard to minister's portfolios, sometimes they are not in the position to answer a particular question. Please be mindful of that.

Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Question 557 – 2(4): Mining-Related Training Initiatives

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Education.

(interpretation ends) In my Member's Statement today, Mr. Speaker, I spoke about the continued need for innovative approaches to mine-related training for residents of Baker Lake and indeed the Kivalliq. In March of this year, the minister announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Nunavut Arctic College and a number of organizations in the Kitikmeot to develop mine-related training partnerships. And that was indeed a very important announcement.

Can the minister update the House today on the status of his initiatives for the Kivalliq in the area of mine-related training? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Minister of Education and Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're quite excited with the many opportunities that the mining industry is presenting right now and in the future for Nunavut residents. The member is correct when he stated that the opportunity to earn that pay cheque is very important to us and it brings some real opportunity.

What I can say and very quickly, we're moving on several different fronts within the Department of Education with regards to mine training specifically. As the members know, we should be in the position in about a year to a year and a half to open up a new mine trade school which will specifically be looking at different types of mine trades.

We have been graduating record numbers of people out of Morrisburg, Ontario, completing the Heavy Equipment Operators Training Program, and indeed, of the graduates, I think there are over 80 percent of them, as soon as they graduate, are moving forward into employment. And that means they're graduating, Mr. Speaker, with their red seals. They can go anywhere in Canada, inter-provincially, so that's great. The need for heavy equipment operators is huge.

We're moving forward right now with our plan to begin the Millwright Program, which is a direct mine training program that will be based in Cambridge Bay but it will be open to residents from across Nunavut. We hope to have that in place in the next 12 to 14 months.

Again, Mr. Speaker, under the Labour Market Development Agreement with Canada, we have put extra money into mine training specifically. When we talk about mine training, we're not just talking about picks and shovels; we're talking all types of areas because our mine sites need all types of skilled trades, whether that's carpentry, plumbing, electricity, administrative people, heavy equipment operators, and so on.

So hopefully that helps provide the member with some information on where we are right now on training specifically throughout Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the 2008-09 Business Plan of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation indicates that it will, and I quote, "support the Department of Education in the development of a mine training facility in Nunavut." Can the minister update the House today on the status of this project and confirm for the record its location? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to clarify. When we say mine training facility, we mean mine training facilities, plural, with the “s” at the end because when we’re looking at mine training, as I said earlier, it’s not specific just to mine training. We’re looking at all construction trades, for example, administrative positions, and so on.

The trade school will be in Rankin Inlet and that will be a conduit for all of Nunavut. At the same time, we have included monies in the budget, and we have talked it earlier when Mr. Peterson mentioned it, where we have actually put extra dollars in Cambridge Bay. We’re looking at the opportunity of providing infrastructure in Cambridge Bay to be able to develop and to deliver the Millwright Program and that is a specific mine training program. In the Baffin region, through the auspices of Nunavut Arctic College, we have been working on a carpentry shop where we are able to do some of the skilled construction trades.

So when we’re talking about mine training and mine training facilities, we’re actually talking about the three facilities under the umbrella of Nunavut Arctic College. I know it’s quite exciting and I think we’re actually about three months ahead of where we had planned to be, so we’re trying to be as aggressive as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All Nunavummiut eagerly look forward to the opening of Nunavut’s new trade school. However, if we can find ways to deliver training to our residents now, we should do so. Can the minister indicate to me what discussions his department, Nunavut Arctic College, and Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited have had with respect to training for residents of Baker Lake? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated, we have trained over 175 heavy equipment operators alone in the last couple of years who are actually out there working and Inuit who have graduated have national certification, so I think we have been pretty aggressive.

We have just introduced in the capital budget the opportunity of moving forward with the new community learning centre in Pond Inlet specifically to deal with the training needs out of the Mary River mine. That’s moving forward.

Specifically in Baker Lake, many of the residents of Baker Lake actually have been graduates and some of the strongest graduates that we’ve had have come out of Baker

Lake, out of Morrisburg, for example, to work in the affiliated work with the mining groups.

Through the Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Speaker, we've had good discussions with the Agnico-Eagle Mining Company. We're looking at opportunities for advanced training within the framework with Mr. Ittinuar, who has been working in the region there aggressively. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The people of Baker Lake that want to take further training, rather than just heavy equipment operating, in other areas related to mining are getting quite impatient. They know that the minister has been sitting on an invitation from the hamlet since last December to come and meet with them about mine training. He made a commitment to me in March that he would be in Baker Lake as soon as the session was over.

The people of Baker Lake and I are still waiting for him to come into Baker Lake to meet with the hamlet council, the DEA, and other organizations in Baker Lake that are getting very anxious. Can the minister give me a firm date some time before the end of this week as to when he would be able to come to Baker Lake for those very worthwhile meetings? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, I look forward to going into Baker Lake and I have been to Baker Lake many times and I have attended graduations there as the Minister of Education, and so on, so I do look forward to going there. I have not been able to logistically work it out. As the members know, I was in Kugluktuk last week, I was in Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet the week before, I have been trying to get out to as many graduations as I can and I haven't been able to logistically work out that trip specifically.

Right now, we're tied up here in the House until about June 6 and I'm booked right up until June 9. So I would be able to communicate with the member and I would hope that, some time after June 9, to be able to go to Baker Lake and meet with the hamlet on specific training needs.

I did have an opportunity, as the member knows, to meet with several of the mining companies, including the mining companies involved in Baker Lake, here in Iqaluit during the Mining Symposium just a few weeks ago and we did have some very good discussions on training and training opportunities, and I think we have some good news to bring forward to not only Baker Lake but the mining industry. We're open for business.

If they have specific training needs, then we will try to meet them. If I can't deliver the program here in Nunavut, Mr. Speaker, then we will buy those seats in another jurisdiction where we need them and we have done that with Morrisburg. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 558 – 2(4): Report of the Auditor General on the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, in my Member's Statement yesterday, I expressed concerns with the observations in the Auditor General's Report on the Nunavut Housing Corporation. In her report, she stated, and I quote, "We noted that the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Trust Delivery Strategy is kept informed with updated briefing notes. However, we found that the notes did not include information about the challenges the Corporation faces or the corrective action it takes." This is a very serious statement, Mr. Speaker.

Can the minister clearly explain to the House today why he allowed his officials to keep him in the dark and indicate what he has done to include himself in the loop on very real challenges facing the corporation and Nunavut? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) He caught me before Question Period was over.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Auditor General's report, I think, is a really good report. I have read it and I find it very interesting. I think we can run with this to the federal government and leverage more funding to address our severe housing shortages in Nunavut.

As for the member's question, the Auditor General's report indicates that this report goes up to the end of December. Mr. Speaker, I was appointed this portfolio at the end of December. Since that time, I have been actively involved in the Nunavut Housing Trust programs and the president keeps me up to date on a regular basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his confidence as to what's happening there. I believe the statement by the Auditor General is quite important and she indicated that she had not been able to find records about the very real challenges facing the corporation other than the good news stories.

I have been raising concerns for some time about the manner in which the NHC changed its approach to the marshalling and shipping of housing material. The Auditor General's report indicates that by December 2007, the corporation had cancelled its contract and had incurred more than \$500,000 in additional costs to move material which had been left behind in Montreal to the new contractor's premises.

Earlier this year, the minister announced a new contract with Illamar Marshalling of Ontario. What assurances can the minister provide to the House today that critical housing supplies will be delivered to our communities on time and on budget this year? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the fiasco over the recent marshalling contract, we had to take it away from them in order to make sure that the delivery went in a smooth manner and that is why we incurred the cost. Otherwise, we would have had millions of dollars worth of inventory sitting at that place of which we would have had no access to and that is why we incurred that extra \$500,000.

As for the material going into the communities, I think, from the last briefing, most of the material has been shipped to or airlifted to all of the Nunavut communities and we expect to start construction very shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that the Auditor General is very specific when she deals with a number of problems that are arising within the particular agencies and departments. I believe that she is alluding to the fact that it's not just the marshalling contract that creates problems; it was way in which the materials were purchased and shipped to the marshalling site.

The Auditor General's report also concluded that the NHC, and I quote, "does not monitor the activities of its community partners well enough to ensure that they comply with its policies and procedures in delivering the Public Housing Program, nor does it adequately monitor the maintenance of public housing units and the overall condition of its housing portfolio." Can the minister explain why the Nunavut Housing Corporation failed in this area and indicate what direction he has given to the corporation to address this issue? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With 23 vacancies of the 89 positions that the NHC has, and on page 25 of the Auditor General's report, they had found that the discussion CEC, which is the managing directors, I quote, "In fact, we found that CEC discussions and decisions mainly dealt with operational issues, such as capital acquisitions, fire damages, etcetera." It's because of the lack of staff, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Auditor General's report recommends that the Nunavut Housing Corporation should review the mandate and terms of reference for the Corporate Executive Committee to determine whether any changes are needed.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated yesterday in my Member's Statement, I believe that the corporation needs to go even further - change of senior management, clean house, and put in effective management. Will this minister do this? If not, why continue with a system that doesn't work? Thank you.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the senior staff of the Nunavut Housing Corporation has done an amenable job in keeping our housing issues addressed at the level they are. With the 23 vacancies that we have, I think they have done a great job in terms of delivering the housing projects and Mr. Speaker, I will not ask to replace the senior management of the corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 559 – 2(4): GN Response to Government Operations Committee Report on Auditor General's Report on FANS Program

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I ask my question, I would just like to say hi to my good friend, Brian, and direct my question to our good friend, the Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Mr. Speaker, on November 7 of last year, as the Chairperson for the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability, I presented a report on the Auditor General's Report on FANS, Mr. Speaker, and I'll quote myself. On that day, I said, "Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Rule 91(5), the standing committee formally requests that the

government present a comprehensive response to this report within 120 days.” Mr. Speaker, that 120 days ran out on March 6 of this year which is past. So I’m just wondering if the minister could let us know why he hasn’t tabled that report yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member’s and the House’s support on the FANS program, and indeed, we have addressed many of the issues within the FANS program.

Specifically on the report, I actually drafted a letter and sent it to the member and the committee several months ago now that they have received. I have been in communication with the Clerk’s Office here. It is my understanding that I will just take that report, change the format of it, and I’ll table it in the House and make it a formal report which will suffice, I think, for the member.

So there is no mystery. He has seen the report, it’s out there, and I’ll just format it and put it before the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for letting the member let people know that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess as the minister did to my colleague earlier, Mr. Simailak, it just proves that myth, or concern, or guess that people had out there when they say, “What they say isn’t really what they mean.”

Mr. Speaker, that letter that the minister was talking about was the letter that was sent to me as the chairperson of the standing committee from the deputy minister. It was just a status report of where they were at on their action plan. It is not a comprehensive response to our report and I’m sure that the minister, as experienced as he is, has seen many responses to committee reports tabled in this House over his tenure.

I certainly hope that he doesn’t just try and pass off a status report, change the name on it, and table it and call that a comprehensive response to our report. So when will he commit to providing, as required under our Rules, an adequate response to the standing committee’s report on the Auditor General’s Report on the FANS program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the member had referred earlier to some Brian person or something, and I suggest to you that there is no one in this House, Mr. Speaker, there is no one in the listening audience, and there is no one in Nunavut, who has been watching Mr. Tootoo since 1999 in this Assembly, who would definitely question his ability to read.

And I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, when I provide that report to the member and table it in the House, even Mr. Tootoo will be able to see the comprehension and not only the comprehension but the actual verbiage, the articulation of words in that report that he will be able to treasure in the next three to four days. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am certainly looking forward to more verbiage from the minister.

>>*Laughter*

I think he has a bit of a reputation for verbiage. I would like to ask the minister, he said he's looking at tabling it in the next three or four days, but can he explain why, pursuant to our Rules, he hasn't tabled it as was required by March 6? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do know the Rules; I think if the member would look at the Rules and see what it actually says, the timeframe given, I believe he would understand then what the concern was.

There is nothing being hidden here. I had the deputy minister write a report basically giving the overview of the information that was requested to the standing committee because I had been travelling, and I will prepare a tabling document and table it formerly in the House. I think we will meet the member's requirements as well as the standing committee's earlier questions. So there is no mystery, there is no controversy, and there is no big issue here, other than probably some misinformation, I guess, on when it should have been tabled.

Yesterday, our office here in the Assembly tabled the report over the last few days of a whole bunch of documents that need to be tabled and filed at a given time, and as House Leader, I have been going back and forth to our minister and colleagues making sure that happens. So there are some delays in filing reports in the House and I think the information the member wanted, he has received and I'm sure he shared that with his committee, and we will table it and make it a tabled document in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister indicated that he knows the Rules very well, which is why we had to do that motion yesterday to formally withdraw a bill from the House that he thought he could take out with a Minister's Statement.

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, my question, and I can read, too, the rule states that the response to this report must present a comprehensive report within 120 days and as I stated earlier, that ran out on March 6. I know he has indicated that it's coming forward, and I'm not saying, I don't know why he would think that I would be implying, that he is trying to hide anything.

But just from the committee's point of view and after his Minister's Statement last week on the FANS program, I'm interested to see the rest of the response from the government to the committee's recommendations. I know that the status report was just dealing with a certain area in the report, but there were more issues to that report than just referring to the status page that he is talking about. Again, can I ask the minister why he has been delayed, delinquent, and late in tabling that report before the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister of Education, Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member knows full well and the House knows full well that, in the past, when bills have not gone forward, they fall off the Order Paper. It was the first time in this House and actually, it was a bit of a precedent when the House Leader moved to put the bill back into the House when it was reported back. The House Leader used our Rules and we had to review those Rules, and said, "Well, maybe you should have given more notice of the motion." So what the House Leader was doing at the time was quite intriguing.

Yes, I would be able to report back to the House in a couple of days, Mr. Speaker, and the information will be available. The reason for the delay is we have only been sitting for three days, I have committed to table that report before the House, and we have several more days to do that.

The member and the committee have 99 percent of the report that they have received in letter form from the deputy minister. All they will receive now are probably some salutations with a little bit more of a comprehensive report that he has requested. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. I could have said something about the motion, but I won't.

>>Laughter

(interpretation) Going back to the Orders of the Day. Question Period is now over. Item 7. Written Questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 014 – 2(4): Attendance and Graduation Rates in the Kitikmeot

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a Written Question for the Minister of Education on attendance and graduation rates in the Kitikmeot.

- 1) Within the meaning of section 27 and section 28 of the current *Education Act*, how does the government define, measure and track student attendance at Nunavut schools?
- 2) Sections 27 and 28 of the current *Education Act* specify the requirements for attendance at school as well as the consequences for non-attendance. Since April 1, 1999, has the department received any reports or queries from schools or district education authorities on the implementation of these sections of the Act, and if so, what action was taken?
- 3) Broken down by school year, from 1999 to the present, what were the attendance rates for all Kitikmeot schools?
- 4) Broken down by school year, from 1999 to the present, what were the graduation rates for all the Kitikmeot high schools?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on Review of Bills. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills**Committee Report on Bills 012 – 2(4): Bill 26, Securities Act (As Amended)**

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 26, the *Securities Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit*, and the bill as amended is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 26 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) to have Bill 26 moved into the Committee of the Whole for today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Bill 26 will be moved into Committee of the Whole.

Item 12. Report of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Mapsalak.

Committee Report on Bills 013 – 2(4): Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit*, and the bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 27 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. The member is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 27 moved into Committee of the Whole for today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Bill 27 will be moved into Committee of the Whole.

Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation and Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Netser.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents**Tabled Document 238 – 2(4): Ministerial Meeting Report – F/P/T Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety, April 2008 from Dept. of Economic Development and Transportation****Tabled Document 239 – 2(4): Northern Connections: a Multi-Modal Transportation Blueprint for the North**

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table two documents. One is the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministerial Meeting Report for the Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety, and the other one, Mr. Speaker, is Northern Connections, a Multi-Modal Transportation Blueprint for the North. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We will just have those documents brought forward to the table, please.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Brown.

Tabled Document 240 – 2(4): Dry Cargo Resupply Program - Activity Summary Shipping Year 2007

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Dry Cargo Re-supply Program Activity Summary of Shipping Year 2007. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We will just have the document brought forward to the table, please.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. If there are no more, Item 14. Notices of Motions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 038 – 2(4): Appointment of Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole – Notice

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 29, 2008, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Quttiktuq, that Peter Kattuk, Member for Hudson Bay, be appointed a Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.

At the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Tapardjuk.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 34 – Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund Act – Notice

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 29, 2008, I will move that Bill 34, the *Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Education and Energy, Minister Picco.

Bill 31 – Legislative Assembly Statutes Amendment Act, 2008 – Notice

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 29, 2008, I will move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that Bill 31, the *Legislative Assembly Statutes Amendment Act, 2008*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Education and Energy, Minister Picco.

Bill 32 – An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act, No. 2 – Notice

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 29, 2008, I will move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Nunavut Elections Act, No. 2*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. (interpretation) Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. If there are no more, Item 16. Motions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Mapsalak.

Motion 038 – 2(4): Appointment of Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole

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

WHEREAS sections 42 and 43 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provide for the appointment of a Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairpersons of the Committee of the Whole;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make an appointment;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Quttiktuq, that Peter Kattuk, Member for Hudson Bay, be appointed a Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

>>Applause

Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in the Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30 with Mr. Arreak in the Chair.

Before we go into Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:32 and Committee resumed at 15:59*

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

Chairman (Mr. Arreak)(interpretation): Thank you for returning. (interpretation ends) In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Evyagotailak.

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of Bill 29 and the supporting documents, followed by the review of Bill 30 and Bill 28. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Evyagotailak. Are we in agreement we first continue with Bill 29?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 29 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2008-2009 –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. Is the committee agreed that Minister Tapardjuk and his staff can go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister and his officials in.

(interpretation ends) Thank you. Minister, for the record, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is Peter Ma, my Deputy Minister for the Department of Finance, and on my right is Diane Moebis, Manager of Budgeting Development with our Expenditure Management Division.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. We are on page 5 of the capital estimates. Bill 29, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2008-2009*. We had Mr. Alagalak asking questions where we left off yesterday. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The last question I had was not responded to by the minister. I was asking about the Nunavut Heritage Centre and the amount of \$2,774,000 that you are requesting was agreed to last year and it was carried over from last year. There must be a breakdown of that amount of money and what it's going to be used for. I would like the breakdown of that amount. Do you have that

information now and do you have any funding allotted for the design and others? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We thought that we had lost the money we had planned to spend. As it turns out, we want those funds to be carried over from last year and use them as seed money now that we have a contract in place with a firm to do fund-raising.

We also have a working group comprised of members from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Heritage Trust, as well as from the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. The working group is in existence right now and the money that we're requesting for this year is mainly for continuing the search for more funding.

We now have an agreement to collectively come up with \$20 million in funding and so we have been working hard to raise funds for the Nunavut Heritage Centre. That is what the funding is earmarked for, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This project is going to continue for some time and it's going to cost a lot of money. With everything becoming very expensive, such as fuel, oil, gasoline, and construction materials, the contract for the construction of the heritage centre will most likely increase significantly.

How will you use the funds that you are asking us to approve? What are you going to be using that amount of money for? Would you be able to provide some information to this House on what kinds of things you are going to use it for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I will be able to provide you with the information on the breakdown of the amount of money and what it's going to be used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I asked a question already, but I will have questions when we get to the capital estimates of CGS.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister some questions on the two things that we're looking at right now, one being the Nunavut

Heritage Centre. You have contracted a firm to raise funds for this with your other hat. Has that firm informed you of any funding sources besides NTI at the moment? (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The federal government will have to be asked for some funding as well because they originally agreed to provide some funding. We would like to be able to use the money wisely and we expect that the federal government will be able to provide some funding for the Nunavut Heritage Centre, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, if you could get the minister to provide more detail. Have you found some more funding sources and who could be potential contributors? I'm sure there are a number of sources out there waiting to be approached. Is the firm that you have contracted to look for more funding achieved any success to date? Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, the firm that we have a contract with has had success and know what is needed. They have met two times and have given us a report on the planning that they have put together.

We anticipate that building the Nunavut Heritage Centre will be quite expensive. If we can obtain more funding from the Nunavut government, we feel that would facilitate finding third party funding. If we already have some funding in place, we feel that we could leverage more funding from third parties. We have prepared plans on how we will find more funding and the firm that we have contracted is doing a great job. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister: yesterday there was a question from one of the members in the House and the minister stated that it might reach \$65,000 and possibly more. For that reason, \$5 million seems like a lot of money for planning and design. Where are you at with the planning and design of this project? (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had a consultant working on the design of that project, which was Lord Consultant. They drafted the initial designs and the cost estimates, so we're considering those at this time.

We have been looking at the project to see whether we could build it for less, perhaps build it in phases - build the storage spaces first and once that's completed, we would build the display areas and the areas where visitors would go. Those are the types of things that we have been looking at and we feel that this project has to start as soon as possible, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I just want to get some clarification. The people who are looking for funding, are they solely looking for contributions or do they have to decide on whether or not there can be investors for the project? I know that there has to be legislation in place in order to have investments. If there is no legislation, they have to be able to borrow funds from elsewhere.

It's going to cost about \$50 million or \$65 million, so it would appear that fund-raising alone would not result in sufficient funds. So I wonder what the minister's thoughts are on including an investment component. It appears that they can include an investment component in there but only if it's identified in legislation. Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The working group comprised of NTI, Heritage Trust, and the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth are constantly looking at sources of funding. I'm sure that they're doing the best that they can to try to do some planning to build the heritage centre. They have given us some information for our consideration on the Nunavut Heritage Centre project, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, it was mentioned earlier that even if there is no legislation, the government said that the project would continue. As I just stated, having investors for the project would really help to expedite this project. You should amend legislation, policies, or guidelines to be able to do that because I think there are individuals waiting for you to see how it will be set up and it would expedite everything else.

Yesterday, I asked a question on an issue separate from this particular question, the \$14 million for the folk school. We were told that there has to be a process in place and priorities set, in other words, we have to have legislation in place. It's apparent that the lack of plans and legislation in place is holding up the heritage centre project. Are you consulting with your staff to ensure that there is a governance structure in place for the Nunavut Heritage Centre? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Curley. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. The working group is looking at whether the heritage centre is going to have its own board members, what that structure is going to be with that board, if it's going to be at arms-length from the government, and how it will be operated.

The working group will be making a presentation to us. Once that presentation is given, we will seek Cabinet approval for the operation of the heritage centre and whether or not it's going to be run by a board. All of that is being reviewed by the working group.

They will then provide us with recommendations on the best way to set it up, so that's what we're waiting for. Once we receive their report, we will have to seek approval of Cabinet on how the heritage centre will be operated, who will run it, and where the members will come from. All those structures will be within that, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the minister for his response. Can I ask the minister, if he could respond, I would appreciate it, when does he expect to have the governance structure completed for the Nunavut Heritage Centre? (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I believe the working group will be able to provide us with a governance structure some time within this fiscal year, 2008-09. The funding that we want to utilize is going to be very useful for planning purposes, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Curley. We're on (interpretation ends) page 5. Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Capital. Directorate. Not Previously Authorized. Total Directorate. \$10,864,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Department. \$10,864,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 6 and 7. (interpretation) They are together. (interpretation ends) Department. Education. Capital. Corporate Services. Not Previously Authorized. \$45,486,000. Any questions? Total Corporate Services. \$45,486,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Department. \$45,486,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 8. Health and Social Services. Capital. Directorate. Not Previously Authorized. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps just for clarification purposes, I am not sure about page 8 regarding the (interpretation ends) Pond Inlet - Health Centre Replacement for \$40,000. How do you replace a health centre for \$40,000? I don't know. The health centre is only five years old and five years ago, it cost approximately \$14 million. Can you explain to me a little bit more on how you will replace a health centre \$40,000? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. I will have the Minister of Health and Social Services Minister to respond. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe the title of that is just a continuation of how it was described in the capital estimates when the project started. The \$40,000 is being carried over to finish off the roof and the building deficiencies that we were not able to complete in the 2007-08 main estimates, so we're carrying it over to this fiscal year to finish it off. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So I understand then that the health centre, when it's still new, has deficiencies. An example, it's the same design as Igloolik; Pond Inlet has the same design and has the same deficiencies. They tore up the whole side and worked on the insulation and piping or something along that line, the electrical, so I guess the design is okay. Is that what it is? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is correct. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. (interpretation) Mr. Arvaluk, are you finished? (interpretation ends) Page 8. Health and Social Services. Capital. Directorate. Not Previously Authorized. Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question that is not contained in here, if I could ask my question with your indulgence.

Mr. Chairman, for many years now, there have been complaints made annually with regards to the elders' 24-hour care facility in Baker Lake being too hot in the spring and summer. The building is so hot for the elders and the windows that can open are about this size, they are very small. They have made complaints about this issue many times.

What's the status of it? Have you looked into that? It's not written in the capital estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Mr. Chairman, we're dealing with the supplementary bills for existing projects, not any new projects at this point in time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Are we going to be dealing with supplementary appropriations so that Mr. Simailak's question can be answered? Thank you.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I don't quite understand what the question is. Can he clarify his question, Mr. Chairman?

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can read the page we're on, Health and Social Services. At the top, it says, "Government of Nunavut." At the bottom, it says, "2008-09 Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) No. 1." As the Health Minister said, when we start dealing with supplementary appropriations, then she will be able to respond to that question.

What we're dealing with has the same title. I saw a health centre replacement for \$40,000. Perhaps it's the same explanation because they're using the old title from the first time and we're just doing the carryover, so I would like a response on that. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Please provide clarification, Minister Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My response related to the fact that in the description for the supplementary appropriation for capital, it states under Directorate, "to provide funding of \$13 million for the carryover of project money from the previous fiscal year," and so, to answer the situation related to Pond Inlet, my response to his original question was we're carrying over old money into the new fiscal year to finish off the Pond Inlet Health Facility.

Now, the member's question from Baker Lake related to new capital projects, which is not part of the carryover supplementary bills and I don't have that information. I do know that the capital estimates for 2008-09 were discussed and debated in the legislature in

November. So that was my response to the member from Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. (interpretation ends) Health and Social Services. Capital. Directorate. Not Previously Authorized. Total Directorate. \$13,279,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Department. \$13,279,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 9. Environment. Capital. Program Management. Total Program Management. Special Warrants. \$1,463,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Not Previously Authorized. \$272,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. Special Warrants. \$1,463,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. Not Previously Authorized. \$272,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 10 and 11. Community and Government Services. Capital Planning. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 10, Capital Planning, Community and Government Services, Capital, on the second line, it says, "Gjoa Haven - Emergency Water Line Repairs." My question is: for \$907,000, if it's an emergency, why is it carried over? Why didn't you deal with the emergency right away if it was an emergency? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. (interpretation) I'll have the Minister of Community and Government Services respond to that question. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have to use this funding for emergency work and... just a moment. I don't understand why it was carried

over, but there was emergency work in December and we had to utilize the funding in Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it was an emergency in December, in Gjoa Haven, then why do we say, "To provide funding of \$7,716,000 for the carryover of the following capital projects"? On the bottom it says, "The net effect on government operations will be nil, as funding is being transferred from prior year capital appropriations." I understand the minister's answer is that something happened in December in Gjoa Haven where we had to do some work real quick and we spent \$907,000. It seems to...

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for waking me up.

>>*Laughter*

It seems that there is a conflict between the minister's answer and this page. Perhaps the Minister of Finance can help me understand that. Was there emergency spending required, and if so, why is it called a "carryover"? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister of Finance, Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I will have my deputy, Mr. Ma, respond to that question, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the member himself just put it, it was an emergency that needed to be dealt with in I think early January. At the time, it was dealt with and the repairs were done.

The reason why it shows as a carryover is that there were no monies in place for this particular project, so it was approved to put money towards fixing the water line problem and because of that, we need to bring forward what's called a carryover or sup bill to deal with that particular amount of \$907,000. To my knowledge and recollection, that water line repair has been dealt with as of today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Resolute Bay, the immediate repairs requirement, \$109,000, is a similar situation in Gjoa Haven; that money had to be spent. If so, why is it not listed under Special Warrants and not as a carryover? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I will have my deputy minister respond to that question.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Ma.

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Actually, there were a number of emergency repairs that all occurred right around the same time. Resolute Bay and Gjoa Haven were two that occurred at the same time. Because there were no monies in place for those two particular projects, we approved the money and now, we're coming to the House to get the supplementary appropriation for those two particular repairs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Then if there are other sup bills on this page that I did not catch, it simply doesn't say emergency or immediate repairs requirement. There may be some others, for example, in Arviat - Maintenance Shop Fire Damage. Was that also money that had to be found right away before the Legislative Assembly opened for \$182,000?

Can these be listed in a different category so that I'm not fooled, or my constituents are not fooled, that these were monies that was not spent last year and called carryovers, maybe for future reference, when we are dealing with capitals? It's very hard to identify which one is new money that is needed and which one had money but had to be carried over because the work was not done. It is very hard for me to tell the difference, it's so bad I guess I can't tell the difference. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I will have my deputy also respond to that question.

Chairman (interpretation). Thank you, Minister. Mr. Ma.

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member raises a good point. I do have to check my recollection but we may have brought some of this forward in the February-March sitting in the case of Gjoa Haven and Resolute Bay. I do believe there was a sup bill for 2007-08 and I think we actually identified it at that time, but because of the short timeframe between the end of the fiscal year and when that sup bill was brought forward, I believe that's why it's a carryover. I would have to check my memory.

But that said, the member does raise a very good point in terms of the descriptions and I do have to apologize on behalf of the department. We normally, as you know, have these sup bills near the tail end of our proceedings here, but we're at the front end, so we were

a little bit pressed for time, I do apologize to the member. We will make a better effort to identify those types of situations in the future to the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that answer and perhaps I should have been with the substantiation sheet and maybe it's explained there, but sometimes it's not there either. So it's fairly important that we get these columns of different categories and what the importance is, and what money is needed for emergencies and what was not done last year that had to be carried over, etcetera.

My last question, Mr. Chairman, is on the Pond Inlet Community Hall. I think the minister will appreciate that he came to Pond Inlet with our invitation. We really appreciated his attendance there when we opened the new community hall because it was completed. However, there is a carryover of \$71,000 from the previous year. What is that for? Is that for the new baseball diamond I have been barking about?

>>*Laughter*

If not, there was a gentleman's agreement between the hamlet and the government that if the government were to build a community hall on the baseball diamond, then they would build a new baseball diamond beside the school. We have been waiting for a baseball diamond for two years now and it's very important for the community, not just young people but adults, too, especially young people in the spring and summer, there is adult participation by coaching, the RCMP and other adults are doing that, to help the kids with their summer community activities.

Can she clarify to me what this \$71,000 is for? Will the baseball diamond be funded elsewhere and on which page will that be listed under? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. We're on page 10 and 11. If you have any questions on page 10 and 11, please feel free to ask. I will have the (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services (interpretation) respond to your question. Ms. Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regards to your question, this figure of \$71,000 was used by CGS to pay for the contractor and the contractor has been paid.

For your other question regarding the baseball diamond, I clearly remember that there was an agreement between the government and the hamlet to build a baseball diamond. It is currently in the works and we will identify where the baseball diamond will be located this coming summer. The regional staff is currently working with the people of Pond Inlet to identify where the baseball diamond will be located. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Just for further clarity, I believe there was a gentleman's agreement between Community and Government Services and the hamlet.

When the minister arrived to our community, the hamlet didn't mind if the baseball diamond was built in front of the school. Has there been a change of plans? You're indicating that you're looking at where it would be located and you said that the regional staff is currently up there looking for an appropriate location. Has there been a change in the agreement? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information that I have from my briefing notes and from the staff from CGS is that the community of Pond Inlet had requested funding to assist in building a new baseball diamond this summer. The department had agreed to this request and will work with the community to locate a site and build a new baseball diamond for community recreation use.

(interpretation) It will be up to the people of Pond Inlet as to where the location of the baseball diamond will be. CGS will be working with the hamlet council, and once we find out where the location will be and if it's approved or agreed to, I would most certainly go along with it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will approve of it as long as it's not on top of the runway. Thank you, Minister. Of course, it will cost money and I'm sure that it is going to be a small amount. It will have to show up somewhere in the supplementary appropriation. Where will the figure be written on Page 10 or 11? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I asked a question as to why the figures weren't here. I was told that it was under \$30,000 and it would be under small capital. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. (interpretation ends) Pages 10 and 11. Community and Government Services. Capital Planning. Not Previously Authorized. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A quick comment first that the Pond Inlet Community Hall for \$71,000, I believe that the warranty expenditure was \$71,000. It's warranty for one year maybe or five years. To build a baseball diamond, it's \$30,000. It seems like it's cheaper than the paperwork.

On page 11, is that similar? Maybe I should ask the Minister of Finance, Qikiqtarjuaq - Fuel Spill, we didn't clean it up right away and we're going to clean it up this year for \$46,000. Is that the similar explanation that we cleaned it up when we had no money, so we're now asking you for \$40,000 but we are calling it a carryover? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I'll have my deputy respond to that question.

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

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My recollection with respect to Qikiqtarjuaq is because it's under \$50,000 and the money hasn't been spent, we have to specifically bring it back in the House because it's under \$50,000 to carry it forward into the next fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ma. Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Capital. Total Capital Planning. Not Previously Authorized. \$10,250,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): I gave you every opportunity, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): This will be my very last question, I promise. (interpretation ends) On page 12, it's also on Community and Government Services, Capital, Clyde River - Cape Christian Remediation for \$231,000. Are you going to get refunds from the U.S. government for making that whole mess in that area? Why does the GN have to clean it up when the U.S. government made the whole mess? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I'll have my deputy respond to that, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to attempt to answer it and if I am off base, I'm sure that the Minister responsible for CGS will correct me.

As I understand it, there is an agreement in principle between INAC and CGS to initiate the remediation of Cape Christian. I think there's a contract that's already in place, they're going to mobilize I believe this summer to start the work on Cape Christian, and

that part of it will be funded through INAC. I believe I'm correct in saying this and if I am incorrect, I'm sure the Minister for CGS will correct me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ma. Minister Brown, (interpretation) do you wish to add to that? Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you. INAC and CGS are working together for federal funding. Since we have started working with INAC, we have been able to make much more progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I fail to understand this. We should be suing or at least taking the U.S. government to court for messing up our land and waters during that time, they did not pay for their mess. That's the part I don't understand. Why does the GN even have to pay for their mess? Is it because we agree with the federal government? Shouldn't we be suing or at least taking them to International Court in The Hague for messing up our land? I don't get it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I'll have my deputy respond.

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

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure all members would agree with what the member has just said.

If my memory is correct, I think some years ago, our federal government, on our behalf as Canadian citizens, reached an agreement with the U.S. government. I don't exactly remember the details of it, but we were sort of given credits to buy other U.S. military equipment and I believe that's how the whole issue with the DEW line sites was set.

If I recall correctly, Cape Christian was one of the DEW line sites that was here in the 50s, as the member has quite correctly said, and that came Cold War era. But if my recollection is correct, the federal government, on our behalf as Canadian citizens, reached an agreement with the U.S. government on these sites. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you. (interpretation) That's it.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 11. Total Capital Planning. Not Previously Authorized. \$10,250,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 12. Community and Government Services. Petroleum Products Division. Total Petroleum Products Division. Not Previously Authorized. \$373,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. Not Previously Authorized. \$10,623,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 13 which includes page 14. Economic Development and Transportation. Capital. Transportation. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 14, Iqaluit - Airport Safety Improvements, I just need clarification on that one. I hear that it is a federal airport because it's an international airport. Why is the GN paying over \$1.7 million for improvements? Are you going to get the money back from the federal government after you get the work done? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Maybe the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Netser, can respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. I'll have the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation respond to that question. Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bear with me as I go through my notes. If I remember correctly, Mr. Chairman, I think we were short by that amount when we made improvements to the airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) I didn't get a proper response. Was the funding from the federal government short by that amount for airport improvements? Is it because they were short that the Government of Nunavut is responsible for paying that \$1.75 million? (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) I believe Peter Ma would like to respond to that question.

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

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try to clarify what Minister Netser has already said. Because of the recent changes in operations at the airport, because of Canadian North expanding its operations, it has raised a number of safety concerns. So we're trying to address that as a government and still provide service to people coming to and from the airport.

This particular project, actually, is a project that would qualify under the Building Canada Fund, and that's the federal program that was announced about a year ago under their Federal Budget 2007, so this is actually our 25 percent share of that. So I hope that clarifies it for the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Then is the arrangement with the federal government and federal programs? For example, our contract with the RCMP, we pay 70 percent and they pay 30 percent. Do international airports in different provinces operate the same way, that we pay 25 percent under the Building Canada Fund? Do they have an arrangement right across Canada for international airports where provinces pay 25 percent of it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. I will have Minister Netser respond to that question.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) I'm looking at my notes. There was a lot of air traffic at the Iqaluit airport on April 1 and they didn't have enough room for the planes, so we wanted to work on the Iqaluit Airport Master Plan. We are requesting funds from the Building Canada Fund and we can get that 25 percent according to their policy to complete the Iqaluit Airport Master Plan. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not asking about necessities to improve the airport, I agree with that. It needed the improvements, it was very crowded. All I am saying is the financial arrangement with the federal government, when, in fact, it is considered as an international airport, and I think it's certified as an international airport, so it is 100 percent federal responsibility.

What are we doing expending the money? Why are we using the Building Canada Fund for the federal government's airport? We should be using the Building Canada Fund for our communities like community freezers and whatever the communities' infrastructure

needs are, leave the federal matters alone. We're not going to go to war in Afghanistan for 25 percent of our funds and the federal government pays 75 percent, it's a federal responsibility and so is this airport.

Why do you justify or substantiate the justification of us doing the federal airport on their behalf and we pay 25 percent? We could have been using the Building Canada Fund for very worthwhile programs in other communities, especially smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just because the Iqaluit International Airport has that title, it doesn't mean that the federal government should fund it. We have that responsibility, it was transferred over to us in 1995, I believe, when the Government of Nunavut took over the operations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So we have the responsibility for the airport here, I thought we were only responsible for the management of the operations - security, airport management, leases, etcetera. I didn't know we were responsible for the capital side of the airport.

Is this arrangement the same as in other jurisdictions? The Mirabel Airport and Pearson International, are these held by the provincial governments for their capital and operations, at least 25 percent of it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I really don't give a hoot of what the Toronto Pearson International Airport is responsible for, but we are responsible for the safety of the Iqaluit airport and like I said earlier, it was transferred over to our responsibility back in 1995 or pre-Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to be off-track, but it's just that I give a hoot because I don't want to pay unfairly with the small funds that Nunavut has. A very small portion of the Building Canada Fund that comes to Nunavut is very small compared to other provinces and I don't think they pay a penny for the upkeep of those international airports.

I think we should revisit our arrangement with the federal government to ensure we're not unduly or unfairly treated, or treated lesser than other provinces where federal responsibilities are concerned in jurisdictions including Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this is more or less a comment by the member. But I do not think we are wasting precious funds in terms of addressing the safety issues that are occurring at our airport here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for that second opportunity. I'm not arguing with the minister on the requirement and the necessity of improving the airport here in Iqaluit. I applaud the minister for that.

All I'm saying is the funding arrangement could have been done differently with the federal government, especially with the federal government. The Building Canada Fund could have been used for... you know, \$1.7 million is only 25 percent. The rest, the 75 percent, is quite a bit and the small communities really need that precious money.

The financial arrangement with the federal government and Nunavut was made to make improvements for the Iqaluit airport. That's all I am saying, that we should have explored different ways of improving our airports here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was just a comment (interpretation) and that is all I have to say.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. That was just a comment. We're on (interpretation ends) page 14. Economic Development and Transportation. Capital. Total Transportation. Not Previously Authorized. \$11,685,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. \$11,685,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go back to page 2 of the bill. Schedule 1. Capital. Total Capital Appropriation. \$98,208,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to Bill 29 in your legislation binder. It's your white binder on your desks. Bill 29, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.1, 2008-2009*. Clause 1?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page two. Does the committee agree to clause 3?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now, go to page 2. Schedule. Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2009. Vote 2. Capital. Total Capital. \$98,208,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Total Supplementary Appropriation. \$98,208,000. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now, go back to page 1. Clause 4?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: And clause 7?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Is the committee agreed to Bill 29 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 29 can immediately be placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) That's it for Bill 29. Now, Bill 30. (interpretation) We will continue on with Bill 30. I would like to ask Minister Tapardjuk if he has any opening comments for Bill 30.

**Bill 30 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1,
2008-2009 – Consideration in Committee**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill 30 appropriates \$7,818,000 for 2008-09 supplementary appropriations and maintenance funds.

The funding will provide for items such as:

- \$4 million to establish the Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund;
- \$800,000 to provide transitional assistance to communities and individuals in Nunavut's mining industry that are impacted by changes in the commodities markets;
- \$427,000 for Nunavut Arctic College information technology infrastructure;
- \$2,292,000 for interdepartmental transfer of the Fisheries and Sealing Division from the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to the Department of Environment;
- \$500,000 to provide funding to the Hillside Co-op retrofit project; and
- \$2,091,000 to cover the costs of the Rankin Inlet power outage.

\$3.8 million of the funding for the first two initiatives that I mentioned will come from the federal government's Community Development Trust. Monies for the Nunavut Arctic College initiative is from the federal government's Post-Secondary Education Infrastructure initiative, while monies for the Hillside Co-op retrofit project will come from the federal government's Affordable Housing initiative.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments on Bill 30. I would be pleased to answer any questions that members may have, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Would you like to have the same witnesses who are with you now or would you like to bring in different witnesses? Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, my witnesses will remain at the witness table, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): For the record, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is my Deputy Minister, Peter Ma, and on my right is Diane Moebis, Manager of Budgeting Development with our Expenditure Management Division.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Before we proceed with Bill 30, I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken.

I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the government's mandate. Do members have any general comments? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I get into general comments, I would just like to ask the minister a very general question. In his opening comments, he indicated that Bill 30, it says, "This funding will provide for items such as," and the first bullet there is "\$4 million to establish the Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund." I'm just wondering if the minister could let us know if that is in fact the Act that he gave notice to do first reading for on Thursday. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I stated in my notice for first reading that I would be giving the members information on the Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund on Thursday, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Given that, I do have some concerns and believe me, it's more of a procedural concern. I don't think there will be any opposition to the Act, but I guess my concern is that we're being asked to vote an appropriation for an Act that doesn't exist yet. It hasn't been passed and it hasn't been set before the House. I think we're voting on an appropriation for something that is going to happen. I know we're not allowed to ask hypothetical questions here in the House, but to me, this kind of sets a dangerous precedent for that.

I would suggest maybe we look at deferring the bill until the appropriate legislation has been passed before the House and that way, we would cover ourselves off as well. We're being asked to approve funding for something that doesn't exist and I'm a little worried about that. I'm not anticipating any opposition to it but to me, it potentially sets a dangerous precedent for the future.

I'm not saying we don't disagree with it. I think it's a great idea and everything, but I think procedural-wise and precedent-wise, it would be more appropriate for this Assembly to vote on something that's there and not for something that's non-existent right now. It's just a matter of next week ... I don't know if you do the first reading on Thursday... it's how quickly the government can move forward and get that done, but I think it just makes more sense to do it that way.

That would be my suggestion and I ask the minister if he would agree with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We knew that that would be a concern and we have discussed it already. For clarification, I will have my deputy elaborate on that, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member does raise a good point in the fact that normally, we would do the appropriate Act first and then we would have the supplementary appropriation done near the end.

However, because of time, obviously, we're doing the sup bill first in this particular instance. I should point out to the member that if Bill 30 is passed and the *Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Act* is not passed, obviously, that money would then just lapse, I mean it would just not go anywhere.

The money has also not been specifically appropriated to the fund. It's actually been specifically appropriated to the Department of Finance to Centrally Administered Funds. So if the Act is not passed, simply, the money would just die and would just come back into this House.

The other thing I should also point out to the member is that this funding is actually coming from a federal program, as he quotes it himself and said it during his response to the minister's opening comments. It is, in fact, coming from the federal Community Development Trust program.

So I understand his point about setting a precedent. I'm obviously not a legal expert but from my perspective as Deputy Minister for Finance, the money would simply lapse if the Act itself, as he refers to, is not passed by this House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know, when we approve monies, this would be money that would go into the Department of Finance's O&M budget and we all know that, and I'm not saying it would happen here, the minister and the Cabinet have the ability to transfer funding within the O&M section. Again, I'm not saying that it would lapse. I said the intent is there that if it doesn't go through, it would lapse, but there's also a mechanism to move that money potentially. I'm not saying it will happen but I'm just worried about the precedent of it.

The other concern I have is that it presupposes a decision of the House and I have concerns with that, too. I think bills are important things, and to Mr. Ma's earlier comment, the only reason that we're dealing with the supplementary bills first is because we've got nothing else to do, it's not because of timing. The government wasn't ready to bring in any other bills. We had nothing else to look at, so we had to do what they do best which is sup bills.

For those reasons, when presupposing a decision of the House and the fact that it's appropriating funding to something that doesn't exist, again I would like to ask the minister if he would reconsider in dealing with this bill, that bill that he gave notice for today, and I believe it was called the *Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund Act*, once it has been approved by the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. At our last session in March, it was identified in the Budget Address that Nunavut outfitters need support since they can't afford insurance or liability protection.

The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, Chuck Strahl, had announced that the funding will be provided by the federal government. As a result, we were able to submit the bill for your review now that this funding is expected to go ahead within this fiscal year for outfitters' liability protection, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this might be one of the few times in history where money actually moves faster than legislation. Usually, legislation is in place and you're trying forever to get the money to go along with it, especially coming from the federal government.

Mr. Minister, like I said, I'm not arguing the merits of the bill or the funding and the need for it. What I'm saying is right now, you're asking us to vote on funding to a fund that doesn't exist yet, and I know that, like you say, it could lapse and I'm not saying that it wouldn't, but there is also a mechanism in place where the government can transfer money within. So once it's approved and it's in your budget, you can decide tomorrow after it's approved that, as a government, we want to transfer that money some place else. You can do that.

I'm not saying that that would happen, but the possibility for that ever happening is there and I would rather be sure. I don't anticipate any opposition to the legislation. I don't know why, as you correctly stated in your Budget Address, that that was something that we're going to come forward with. So what's taking so long?

We finally had first reading. If the bill was such a priority and urgent need for the government to do, it should have been announced first reading on day one, or notice of

motion for first reading on day one. For that reason and for the reason that it's presupposing a decision of the House, and I'm not saying that there is going to be any opposition, I totally support the concept, but more from a procedural thing, I don't believe that we should deal with that right now until the appropriate legislation is passed.

And obviously, if you don't want to go along with that and if you don't, I would be prepared to move a motion to defer it until that appropriate legislation is passed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I don't really understand the procedure myself, so perhaps I will need the assistance of our House Leader as to how we could best proceed with this. Maybe I could ask the House Leader to elaborate on how we will deal with this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The House Leader will respond to the question, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We became aware of this as a government yesterday that there was a concern with the way that the supplementary appropriation and the dollar values were brought forward.

This morning in Cabinet and again, during the CCL meeting, I had asked our legal officials, because I was aware of the concern to our justice people and to our lawyers:

1. Are we circumventing or breaking any law by doing this?
2. Are we setting some type of precedent when we are bringing this forward within the supplementary appropriation? And probably more important;
3. Is there anything in the *Financial Administration Act*, or indeed, the Financial Administration Manual, or any other legislation or financial instrument that would be a cause of concern?

The answer back to us was no, that wasn't an issue. The government has the opportunity and the right to bring forward dollar values to be spent. Indeed, if monies still aren't spent for a specific purpose, then they are lapsed.

If the government tried to take those monies that were identified within a piece of supplementary appropriation for an insurance deal, or for a pair of glasses, or for something else and we decided not to use it for that, although it was targeted for that, we would have to come back to the House and have that spending approved saying, "No, we don't want to spend that on glasses now, we want to spend it on cups and saucers," then that approval would still have to be sought from the House. So the concern that money would somehow would be approved or appropriated by this House and then used for some other reason is without basis, I think, because of the checks and balances that you have in place.

At the same time, I do understand the concerns of the member, but we feel that with this legislation, we want to ensure that the legislation goes through. If, for whatever reason, we get to a point where we're not able to complete the session in two or three days, and we have a lot of other legislation coming forward, and something happens, we pray to God it doesn't, I can't see into the future if something happens that we're not able to get the legislation passed. Although we have earmarked the money through this supplementary appropriation process, and then the summer is upon us and our outfitters and so on are out, there could be a problem because of the insurance issues.

So should we hold up the bill and the approval today because there's a concern that the money is not being used appropriately, according to the legal opinion that we have had and I have asked for it, my colleagues were in the House this morning and we heard from the Department of Justice saying, "No, there were no legal ramifications." Could we do it? Yes, we could. Is it outside of something that has happened in the past? Probably, but does that make it wrong? No, it doesn't.

I think the member has done an excellent job of informing the House and the people in Nunavut that the legislation has come before the amount in the supplementary appropriation, but that doesn't mean it shouldn't be spent. But if something does happen, and again I don't know what it could be, it could be anything, and we get to the point where this supplementary appropriation is delayed, or it doesn't get passed, or we lose quorum for whatever reason, then that money is not in place. If there is an issue with anyone's outfitters and insurance hasn't been approved in this Assembly, it could be a concern. That's all I'm suggesting to the House.

If it's an issue where somehow we're breaking the law, it's not the opinion that was given to us. Could we have done it a little bit better and been more expedient about it? Yes, the member is correct. Should that stop the bill from being approved right now and having Mr. Tapardjuk and Mr. Ma and some of our senior officials explain the bill? No, that should slow down that process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Committee Motion 016 – 2(4): Deferral of Consideration of Bill 30, Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2008-2009

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the House Leader for that and maybe just say, as he said to my colleague earlier, "When we say this, we really mean this." Hopefully this isn't another one of those incidences.

Given that, I don't anticipate any problems. It almost seems like it's a scare tactic when they say, "They won't be able to get the funding if we don't approve it right now." I have a hard time swallowing that one.

The other concern I have and that I mentioned is that it does predetermine a decision of the House and I don't think that that's appropriate. Given that and given, again like I said, it's not our fault that the bill wasn't brought in and done before, I mean it's the government that has to bring that forward, it's not us. So don't be pointing the fingers at us and saying, "We didn't approve the funding." Well, you need the bill.

If you look at the same thing that the minister has been saying on education, they have \$14 million there but they can't put that money in place until we approve the bill. It seems okay if they use that argument in that case, but in this case, it's, "No, we can approve the money. It's okay and then we will do the bill after." That's what we're being asked to do here.

Given that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to move that Bill 30 be deferred until the appropriate legislation establishing the *Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund Act* has been approved by the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Tootoo, please provide a copy of the motion to the table.

Thank you. Since the motion is not translated into Inuktitut, we will take a short break to have it translated.

>>*Committee recessed at 17:30 and resumed at 17:45*

Chairman (interpretation): We can now proceed. The motion is in order. (interpretation ends) Before we proceed with debate on the motion, I have a few comments to make as to procedures. Every member has a right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply which closes the debate.

As I said, the motion is in order and I'll repeat the procedures. Every member has a right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply which closes the debate. To the motion. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't need to go on and repeat everything that I said earlier. I think everyone was here when we were being asked, in Bill 30, to vote on an appropriation of funding for something that doesn't exist yet, for that reason, and also the fact that by doing that, it's predetermining a decision of the House.

So with that, I know the Minister of Finance gave notice today for first reading on Thursday and I would encourage him to ask for consent to deal with that motion under First Reading of Bills maybe tomorrow. We can get that done tomorrow; it could be done in two days.

But I mean the fact that the legislation should be in place before we asked to vote on something there and then the fact that it is the precedent of predetermining a decision of the House, I've got no problem with the money, but I think this is more of a procedural thing, that the way that we're being asked to do this is like putting the cart before the horse. I don't think that that's appropriate, and like the Deputy Minister of Finance indicated, this is a pressing issue.

I don't anticipate any opposition to it, but I think as the Minister of Education has said many times over the last little while, even in responses to questions to my colleague from Rankin Inlet North, they have \$14 million set aside for the Department of Education, and asked him to move it forward, the minister said, "No, he can't do it until the legislation is in place."

So for those reasons, I would like to move that we defer the bill until that legislation is approved by the House, which could be in a couple of days. It's more of a procedural and a precedent thing that concerns me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. To the motion. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I'm not going to try to debate the merits of the motion or what have you. We have a consensus form of government here, it's not supposed to be parties, we're supposed to be working conciliatorily together and that's why members see legislation even before they come into the House. You don't do that in other southern jurisdictions. And that's why the members have a chance to see the budgets, the business plans. No other jurisdiction does that other than the Northwest Territories.

So the situation here is our system is completely different than others. However, in the Westminster form of governments, there are precedents and we do follow the Westminster form of government.

Any Legislative Assembly - this one, the next one, the one before this one, and the one after this one - has the opportunity and the right to vote for monies to supply bills and vote in the House. That's the privilege of the members. As Mr. Tootoo has just said, they can come forward and say, "Let's vote \$6 million for Education." That's true, you can do that. You can vote \$ 4 million for an Outfitter's Trust Fund. That's true, you can do that. There is no precedent there.

In this case, and the member is correct, maybe the introduction of the supplementary bill could have been done two days from now and the introduction of monies for the Outfitters Bill could have been done and introduced and passed, and then we could have brought forward the O&M bill, and there wouldn't be any concern, if that's really what you're worried about.

You said not to get into the blame game, I don't think I have ever stood in this House, and I have heard very few members in the House blaming someone for something, it's

not something wrong or right. It's our job as legislators to pass legislation on behalf and for the people of Nunavut, and I think we have all had some experience at that.

So I want to say for the record that there is no law being broken here and there is no precedent being set because the appropriate legislation is that the Legislative Assembly itself can't pass money. Yes, there was a mistake made and the mistake is that yes, we should have had the Outfitters Bill two days ago and passed before the O&M bill came forward. If that's what you want to hear, then yes, that's probably true. At the same time, that wasn't necessarily what you needed to do because you can vote money for specific items in the budget.

Now, what would happen, the worst case scenario, if we approved the O&M sup budget for the monies for the insurance and the Outfitters Bill never went through, then that money would lapse because you have approved the money in the House for specific line items. If we tried to take that \$3 million or \$4 million and spend it on something else, we would have to come to the House and identify that.

I'm not trying to debate the merits of it, the yes or no. All I'm saying to the member is we can and have the right to approve money in the House. The order in which you're doing it is no precedent. You're not breaking any laws doing it this way. I understand that this member and some Members of the House may have a concern with the process, then that's fine. My job as the House Leader is to try to get our legislation through the House. In the next election, in six months time, many of the members across the floor will have an opportunity probably to do the same thing, and you will be in the same position. It would be interesting to see how you feel about moving it back and forth then.

So with that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to see Bill 30 move forward. I think it gives an opportunity for Nunavummiut especially, and Iqalumiut in particular because they have an opportunity to watch this on TV or at least hear it on the radio, to get a feel for some of the work that goes on in the Assembly. Sometimes there has to be precedents set and sometimes there are no precedents set. Sometimes you have to be able to cut through what the verbiage, the actual words that are being said, and actually what's being meant.

Chairman: Mr. Picco, thank you. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: I don't care and I don't mind that I've had an opportunity to do this many times. If you don't like what a member is saying, that's great, but at least show them some respect. There are other people here, there are staff, there are constituents, and yes, that's great, you have a time clock, I have a clock. Keep biting at your papers. You like that? Good. Put it on the record. At least show some respect that someone...

Chairman: Can we have order in the House, please? Order. You may proceed, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All I am suggesting to you is that I don't mind having an opportunity to express an opinion and each member is given a certain

time limit to do that. And if you don't like what someone is saying, then that's great, but I don't think that this is the place. We have young people here, students and pages, who watch what happens and what goes on. It would be nice to be a little bit different than some of the Assemblies we see down south and show some decorum and some manners.

So with that, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the members listening and I had a difference of opinion and that's healthy for democracy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Picco. (interpretation) Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm really trying to understand exactly what the House Leader was saying. Maybe he can repeat his statement. I didn't understand a word or the principle of what he was saying. Honestly, I'm not trying to demean him or anything.

I think he could helped us to move this process along because the other day, he said there were priorities and processes when I raised questions about why he couldn't spend part of this \$14 million and use it towards educational projects that critically need funding. He said there are processes and priorities that have to be dealt with first, and I believe this motion is saying exactly that, that there must be processes and priorities before funds can be expended. That's what he said to me yesterday. Now, today, he has changed his mind, Mr. Chairman. I completely fail to understand him.

So he could have helped us move along because I believe we already have a notice of motion enabling legislation that would oversee the Nunavut Outfitters Liability Protection Fund. I believe the minister, at least the Government House Leader, could have helped us out and told us that within a couple of days, the particular bill would be debated and passed. But from the statement that I got from him, I'm not sure whether it will be proceeded with. That would be the only reason that Bill 30 would not proceed if the enabling legislation for outfitters liability is not proceeded with.

So I have a problem with the motion as well and I indicated that to the mover because it's holding some of the funds that are available to Rankin Inlet, particularly one related to an emergency situation that occurred this winter in excess of \$300,000. But I believe that once the legislation is moved by the Government House Leader to oversee the Nunavut outfitters... this particular bill must proceed immediately and for that reason, I will be supporting the motion. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation) To the motion. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As it relates to this motion, I just think it is redundant and just another way again to delay the much needed resources for our outfitters.

If we're worried about approving funding before legislations are in place, let me give you one good example of funding that has been approved time and time again in this House without legislation, which is before this House for debate, and that's the midwifery legislation. We have the Nunavut Arctic College Midwifery Training Program, we deliver midwifery services without legislation in place, but this House has committed funding to support that initiative while the legislation is before standing committee.

So the motion here is redundant and if you want to say there is a precedent set, we have done it in the past, why not in this case?

An Hon. Member: For example?

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: I have given an example.

So to me, it's a redundant motion and it's just another way of delaying much needed funding for the outfitters of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Aglukkaq. To the motion. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are two confusions here. I think we should clarify that one.

The Minister of Health has stated it's redundant and it's one of the ways to delay some funding that is required here under Bill 30. The reason that we're dealing with Bill 30 is because it has been delayed for one year and that's why we're doing carryovers. We are talking about, I think, a couple of days here, not one year like the government, maybe more than a year for some of them, but that's why it's being carried over.

The second point is I think we have to make it very clear now for Nunavummiut that when the Minister of Education stated that if we pass Bill 21, we will have another \$14 million to carry the bill, but we cannot... I remember the debate between Mr. Tootoo and Mr. Picco that as per your existing bill, the Education Bill, you can spend it.

Mr. Picco said that there are procedures to be dealt with and that is why we need legislation in order to spend the \$14 million. So I told my constituents that the Minister of Education stated that it will have to be like that. So here, we're following that principle, the principle of the bill, the principle of the motion is to be consistent with what the Minister of Education said before.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Mr. Arvaluk: Let's have legislation and then we will spend the money or authorize the money to be spent. So I will support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I'm supposed to inform the committee that I have no more names on my list. Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): I had my hand up a while ago, but I think you were looking in the other direction. I wanted you know that.

I have a concern because we have never seen this kind of bill. It's unclear if it will have to be funded annually or if it's just one-time funding. I have never heard anything about funding being sought and how much they have to earn because there are a lot of people that we have to support. It was compared to the Nunavut Arctic College's Midwifery Program. We have to use that money for their training and also for nurses because they're there for the benefit of all Nunavummiut. There's really no other way but for these programs to continue.

However, looking at this bill with the big amount, these are for very few outfitters, not for all Nunavummiut. I don't fully understand what, if any, eligibility criteria will be in place. That and other policies and information will have to be established by the Nunavut government

I fully support this bill in principle. I have experienced it personally and represented them. Outfitting businesses find it hard to expand their operations and have been unable to get insurance and liability coverage. They have to do a lot of work and if it's going to be annual funding, then it should be clearly stated in the bill.

I am very much in support of the motion in principle. I am confident that the drafters of the legislation can make the appropriate changes promptly. Then we can go ahead with it before we go back to our homes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. I will allow members to speak to the motion even though it's past our adjournment time; I believe it's ready to be voted on pretty soon. I don't have anyone else on my list. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply. Please proceed with your reply, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be very brief. I would like to thank my colleagues for their comments and I agree with them wholeheartedly, which is why I put forward this motion.

We don't want to delay it but we need the bill. It's not us that had delayed bringing the bill forward. Like I said earlier, it was mentioned in the Budget Address. If it was such a priority for them, they would have had the legislation ready to come forward.

In just echoing the words that the House Leader himself said, this isn't right, this is wrong the way we're doing it. It's the wrong process, it's the wrong thing. It's as simple as that. It's got nothing to do with disagreeing with the concept behind it and everything, it's just process. Due process needs to be followed.

I respect the comments that everyone has made here. Like Mr. Picco said and I have said it many times before, I don't have to agree with or like what another member is saying, but you know what? They have a right to say it and to listen to it. I have never nay'd anyone from asking for extensions and that's courtesy. Whether I agree with what someone is saying, or like it or not, we all have a right to say it here in the House.

So I just wanted to make that point and I again ask everyone to support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. The debate on the motion is now closed. We will now vote on the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hand. All those opposed, please raise your hand. All those abstained, please raise your hand. The motion is carried. Now that it is carried, I will recognize the clock and I would like to report progress to the Speaker.

However, I would like to thank the Minister of Finance and his officials, Mr. Moebis and Mr. Ma. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Members. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. (interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Arreak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 29 and Bill 30, and would like to report that Bill 29 is immediately ready for third reading and that one committee motion was adopted. And, 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. Mr. Arreak made a motion to have his report agreed to. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

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

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder for meetings for tomorrow, the Standing Committee on Health and Education at nine o'clock in the Tuktu Room and at ten o'clock, the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* in the Nanuq Room.

Orders of the Day for May 28:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements

4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 26
 - Bill 27
 - Bill 28
 - Bill 30
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
 - Bill 29
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Members, this House stands adjourned until Wednesday, May 28, at 1:30 in the afternoon.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:14*

