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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Peter Kilabuk

(Pangnirtung)

Hon. Olayuk Akesuk

(South Baffin)

Minister of Environment; Minister of Health and Social Services

David Alagalak

(Arviat)

James Arreak

(Uqqummiut)

Deputy Speaker; Chair of the Committee of the Whole

James Arvaluk

(Tununiq)

Hon. Levi Barnabas

(Quttiktuq)

Minister of Human Resources; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Levinia Brown

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)

Deputy Premier; Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Tagak Curley

(Rankin Inlet North)

Peter Kattuk

(Hudson Bay)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Steve Mapsalak

(Akulliq)

Hon. Patterk Netser

(Nanulik)

Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Hon. Paul Okalik

(Iqaluit West)

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

Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

Hon. Ed. Picco

(Iqaluit East)

Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for Multiculturalism, Homelessness and Immigration

David Simailak

(Baker Lake)

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Finance; Chairman, Financial Management Board

Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre)

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Law Clerk
Susan Cooper

Sergeant-at-Arms
Simanek Kilabuk

Hansard Production
Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	4837
Ministers' Statements	4837
Members' Statements	4840
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	4850
Oral Questions.....	4851
Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery	4872
Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills	4873
Tabled Documents.....	4874
Notices of Motions	4876
Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery	4876
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	4877
Report of the Committee of the Whole	4909
Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery	4909
Orders of the Day	4910

A.

Daily References

Monday, September 15, 2008..... 4837

B.

Ministers' Statements

214 – 2(4): Small Communities Initiative Program (Netser) 4837

215 – 2(4): Implementation of Aulajaaqtut as a Graduation Requirement (Picco)..... 4838

216 – 2(4): Women & Elections Forum in Iqaluit (Brown)..... 4839

C.

Members' Statements

525 – 2(4): Successful Bowhead Hunt in Kugaaruk (Magsalak) 4840

526 – 2(4): Appreciation to Crew of First Air Flight 951 (Curley)..... 4841

527 – 2(4): Update on the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project (Simailak)..... 4841

528 – 2(4): Congratulations to Sanikiluaq Graduates (Kattuk)..... 4843

529 – 2(4): Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Apology to Canada's Aboriginal People (Netser)
..... 4843

530 – 2(4): Rotary Fall Fair (Tootoo)..... 4844

531 – 2(4): Passing of Allyn Burrill on September 12, 2008 (Brown)..... 4845

532 – 2(4): 2008 Federal Election (Peterson)..... 4845

533 – 2(4): Annual Terry Fox Run (Okalik) 4847

534 – 2(4): Terry Fox Program (Picco)..... 4848

D.

Oral Questions

655 – 2(4): Renovations for Inuksuk High School (Tootoo)..... 4851

656 – 2(4): Update on School Issues in Sanikiluaq (Kattuk)	4853
657 – 2(4): Impact of MOU on IIBA Negotiations with Baffinland (Peterson)	4855
658 – 2(4): Who is Reviewing GN Fuel Policy? (Curley)	4859
659 – 2(4): The Need for Real Docking Facilities in Nunavut Communities (Arvaluk)	4862
660 – 2(4): What’s the No-Smoking Policy near Entrances on Public Buildings? (Simailak) .	4864
661 – 2(4): Justice Issues in Nunavut (Peterson)	4866
662 – 2(4): How Does NNI Policy Apply to WSCC? (Tootoo).....	4869
663 – 2(4): New Marshalling Contract (Tootoo).....	4870

E.

Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

017 – 2(4): Bill 7, Inuit Language Protection Act (Magsalak).....	4873
018 – 2(4): Bill 40, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act (Curley)	4873
019 – 2(4): Bill 20, Midwifery Profession Act (Simailak).....	4873
020 – 2(4): Bill 21, Education Act (Simailak).....	4874

F.

Tabling of Documents

279 – 2(4): Correspondence with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Peterson).....	4874
280 – 2(4): Metal Mining Effluent Regulations - Amendments, Canada Gazette Part II, V. 142 No. 14 (Simailak).....	4875
281 – 2(4): Letter to Prime Minister Harper from Peter Irniq re. Inuit Representation on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Residential Schools (Curley)	4875
282 – 2(4): Contract Awards for Resupply: NNI Evaluation Sheet (Curley).....	4875
283 – 2(4): Information and Privacy Commissioner Annual Report 2007-2008 (Speaker).....	4876

G.

Motions

045 – 2(4): Acceptance of the Report of the Integrity Commissioner re: David Simailak to the
Legislative Assembly – Notice (Tootoo)..... 4876

H.

Bills

Tabled Document 216 – 2(4): Government of Nunavut’s Request for Proposals for Standing
Offer Agreement for Medical Travel on Scheduled Airlines – Consideration in Committee
..... 4879

Bill 42 – Miscellaneous Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2008 – Consideration in Committee
..... 4905

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday, September 15, 2008**

Members Present:

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

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. James Arreak)(interpretation): Good afternoon. Before we begin, I would like to ask Mr. Netser to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Premier, Ministers, Members, and Nunavummiut. I would like to welcome the residents of Qikiqtarjuaq. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Netser.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 214 – 2(4): Small Communities Initiative Program

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Members of this House will recall that in 2006-07, the government made a commitment to direct \$5 million from the federal Northern Strategy funding to support economic development in our smaller, non-decentralized communities.

I want to report to members on the progress that has been made by our small communities in the past two years.

Following the government's commitment in the budget for 2006-07, my department created the Small Community Initiatives Program.

Members will recall that 14 communities are eligible for this program, which allocated \$100,000 to each community for their immediate economic development priorities, and an additional \$3.6 million for larger projects, which are approved on an individual basis.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, \$3.7 million of the funding has been committed to a wide range of economic development projects in our small communities. This leaves \$1.3 million that is still available and I would like to encourage the small communities to apply for this pot of funding.

In eight communities, floating docks will be constructed to serve local outfitters, commercial fisherman and subsistence harvesters, and to support our tourism industry. In

addition, Mr. Speaker, during the construction of these docks, four jobs will be created in each community.

Other examples of projects funded by the Small Community Initiatives Program are the construction of a storage facility in Kugaaruk, upgrades to the Ittaq Cultural Centre in Clyde River, and a test winter char fishery by the Arviq Hunters and Trappers Organization in Repulse Bay.

Mr. Speaker, the Small Communities Initiative Program, like all programs funded under the Northern Strategy, is a three-year program, and it will expire at the end of this current fiscal year.

The department this year has received expressions of interest from our small communities for more than 16 new projects. This shows us, Mr. Speaker, that our small communities do have opportunities for economic development, and the capacity to undertake new projects.

The Small Community Initiatives Program has demonstrated that even a small investment in our local economies can produce great results. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister Picco.

Minister's Statement 215 – 2(4): Implementation of Aulajaaqtut as a Graduation Requirement

Hon. Ed. Picco: Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I would like to announce to the House that the Department of Education has implemented the completion of Aulajaaqtut in grades 10, 11, and 12 as high school graduation requirements. The Aulajaaqtut curriculum focuses on Inuit values, healthy relationships, and personal wellness. Aulajaaqtut is an Inuktitut word from the Kitikmeot region which means a V formation of geese. The symbolism, Mr. Speaker, of the flight of geese connotes freedom through the support of others, supported leadership, and supported participation. Being in flight also provides an ability to see the big picture from a new perspective.

This curriculum is based on the principles of *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit* and introduces the issues relating to Inuit identity and social history, and also, Mr. Speaker, provides students with the tools to develop resilience and provide support to their peers.

Aulajaaqtut 10-11-12 satisfies a Humanities/ Social Sciences requirement for university entrance, Mr. Speaker, in more than 25 post-secondary institutions across Canada. This is

strong evidence that the curriculum we developed here in Nunavut is transferable across the country, as well as academically and personally appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, all students entering grade 10 in 2010 will be required to successfully complete all three Aulajaaqtut courses in order to graduate. The Department of Education is working closely with our schools to ensure the successful delivery of this material. This curriculum will be taught by Inuit and long-term northern educators in order to ensure a more comprehensive understanding.

Mr. Speaker, establishing Nunavut-appropriate curriculum as a graduation requirement is one step in our journey towards an education system based on the hopes of Nunavummiut and the goals laid out in *Pinasuaqtavut*. Mr. Speaker, we are indebted to the late Elva Pigalak for providing the name for this area of curriculum and for her commitment to promoting wellness here at home in Nunavut. This curriculum is dedicated to her memory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister Brown.

Minister's Statement 216 – 2(4): Women & Elections Forum in Iqaluit

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Minister responsible for the Status of Women, I would like to update the Assembly of our successful first Women and Elections Forum in Iqaluit.

The forum was a joint initiative between the GN's Women's Secretariat and the Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council, and was held in Iqaluit on June 19 and 20. The forum included guest speakers, a presentation by Elections Nunavut, panel discussions, and a mock elections training.

Mr. Speaker, the forum was very well attended, with around 30 to 40 women attending throughout the two days. The Mock Elections Training also received much positive feedback. I am very pleased to share that several participants indicated after the forum that they felt much more comfortable with the elections process and would consider running for our upcoming territorial elections.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the forum, which was considered a pilot project, was to encourage women to participate more fully in elections in Nunavut. A report on the forum is being produced, together with other materials, which will be distributed to women's groups across the territory.

Mr. Speaker, the forum is part of a broader Women and Leadership initiative which was introduced by my colleague, Leona Aglukkaq. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all the good work she has done with regards to this programming.

Plans for our Women's Leadership Conference in the fall of next year continue to take shape and we are looking at an exciting possibility for a partnership with Status of Women Canada and Nunavut organizations on this. I look forward to seeing this important programming proceed as we continue to address women's equality in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 525 – 2(4): Successful Bowhead Hunt in Kugaaruk

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to make a congratulatory announcement related to one of my constituency communities, Kugaaruk.

The community was chosen to have the very first bowhead whale hunt in our Kitikmeot region. Although it was the first hunt, their success speaks to the ability of the hunters as well as their preparation. They caught the whale 33 minutes from commencing the hunt to harvesting a whale and I believe that is the quickest whale harvest in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I especially wish to thank the people who were part of the planning committee. I wish to congratulate the chairperson, someone who is no stranger to this House, Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, and also the members of the planning group. I would also like to congratulate the Captain, Charlie Imtajuk, who coordinated the event and due to his diligence, the hunters were able to harvest the whale almost immediately after commencing the hunt.

Further, Mr. Speaker, I am extremely gratified, after having a chance to speak to them personally, that the entire carcass has been processed. There was absolutely no wastage and all edible parts of the whale were preserved and processed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people involved in this endeavour and for a successful harvest, a first in our region, and I want to celebrate this successful event that transpired in Kugaaruk with my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We congratulate the people of Kugaaruk. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Member's Statement 526 – 2(4): Appreciation to Crew of First Air Flight 951

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my appreciation to the quick actions of the crew of First Air Flight 951.

Mr. Speaker, First Air Flight 951 is a regularly scheduled flight that goes from Rankin Inlet to Iqaluit, and on this leg of the flight this Friday, an incident occurred just as it was speeding up to takeoff speed. As the plane gained speed, rocketing down the runway trying to take off, a bird accidentally got sucked into one of the engines.

There is a whole number of various birds adjacent to the airstrip, especially geese that are all over that area, in the vicinity of the airstrip. It is obvious that one of these birds strayed too close to the airstrip and almost caused a mishap.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why I rise today is to express my gratitude to the captain who had to handle this emergency as it was a sudden turn of events which were stressful, and apparently, the pilot was very quick in his actions to stop the plane. According to some of the passengers, there were some hair-raising moments and some of the passengers were getting quite concerned. However, the pilot was able to stop the plane on the airstrip, and best of all, none of the passengers were injured or hurt in this incident.

Mr. Speaker, this event caused enough damage to the engine as to cancel this specific flight. They had to order a separate aircraft from Yellowknife, which continued the trip to Iqaluit some six hours later.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the pilot and the crew of Flight 951 with their quick reactions and for successfully bringing the plane to a stop before running out of space at the end of the runway. I know that many of the passengers were a little rattled by this event, but none of them were hurt.

It is reassuring to know that the safety of our passengers are in such good hands and my wife, Sally, who happened to be a passenger, along with all of the other passengers were safe and sound and we, the flying public, wish to thank the pilots of First Air for their professionalism. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Member's Statement 527 – 2(4): Update on the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day and good day to the residents of Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to update the House on the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project. As members are aware, significant progress has been made towards the opening of the Meadowbank Gold Mine near Baker Lake. The mine is on track to starting production in 2010, less than two years from now.

Mr. Speaker, a number of events have taken place in Baker Lake over the past several months. In June of this year, the community was pleased to welcome Premier Okalik, Economic Development Minister Netser and Kivalliq Inuit Association President Jose Kusugak for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the new road to Meadowbank. KIA President Kusugak noted the signing of a Water Compensation Agreement with Agnico-Eagle. World-famous artist and Juno Award-winner Susan Aglukark performed at a community event to mark progress on the project.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I have spoken out on many occasions on the need to ensure that the community and residents of Baker Lake benefit fully from the Meadowbank project and other mining developments in our region. I also believe that it is important for the community to be kept fully informed of how the project's environmental impacts are being addressed.

Mr. Speaker, in June of this year, federal regulations were amended that concern the use of tailings impoundment areas in relation to both the Meadowbank project and the Doris North project up in the Kitikmeot. Later today, at the appropriate time, I will be tabling documents concerning these regulatory changes for the review of all members.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to take a moment to highlight for the House a portion of the regulatory impact analysis statement that has been undertaken.

It states as follows: "At the consultation meetings on the environmental assessment, government agencies and local community members indicated their support for the Meadowbank Project and the use of Second Portage Lake as a Tailings Impoundment Area."

(interpretation) I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues.

I would like to quote again. "The Kivalliq Inuit Association and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated stated that they would support the project if it is developed in an environmentally responsible manner. These organizations participated throughout the

environmental assessment process and submitted comments on all aspects of the project, including the use of the lake for tailings disposal.”

“A number of issues were identified in these comments. In a presentation at the Final Hearing, the Kivalliq Inuit Association and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated stated that ‘all of the outstanding Final Environmental Impact Statement issues identified in the written submission, including water quality and water treatment, have been resolved sufficiently for the project to proceed to the regulatory phase.’”

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all parties to work together to ensure that the residents of my community are kept fully informed of important developments associated with the Meadowbank project. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member’s Statement 528 – 2(4): Congratulations to Sanikiluaq Graduates

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I send my regards to the people of Sanikiluaq and to my grandchild, whom I will see soon.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a graduation that occurred recently in Sanikiluaq. I would like to announce the names of the graduates. First of all, I would like to thank Premier Okalik, Mr. Picco, and Mr. Barnabas for attending the graduation in my community as I am very proud of their success.

The graduates are: Lucy Appaqaq, Lucy Kittosuk, Lucy Cookie, Silas Cookie, Davideepattie Qavvik, Ilaijja Sala, Annie Appaqaq, Joe Simon Arragutainaq, and Molly Anne Takatak. I would like my colleagues to join me in congratulating these graduates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member’s Statement 529 – 2(4): Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s Apology to Canada’s Aboriginal People

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the Prime Minister for offering an apology to aboriginal people who went to residential schools.

We wish to commend the Prime Minister for that apology as Inuit can now move forward, and the request for forgiveness is a big gesture for Inuit. Sometimes we can get tied down in our problems when we cannot forgive other people. This request for forgiveness, Mr. Speaker, is a stepping stone for our people and I am grateful to our Prime Minister for his sincere gesture.

(interpretation ends) Over the years, Inuit have struggled to regain control over their lives caused by a clash of cultures, which have been very difficult to bear at times, but we have persisted and today, I like where we are. We are progressing, but we are not where we want to be. Not only are we living in a great country and resource rich territory, but we are also living in a culturally rich society which we should be very proud of.

As a race, our destiny lies within each of us, but brought forward collectively, we can make sure that the path taken is in everyone's best interest and leaves no room or need for apologies in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 530 – 2(4): Rotary Fall Fair

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to praise and promote a yearly community event that is being revitalized here in Iqaluit by the Iqaluit Rotary Club.

Mr. Speaker, the Rotary Fall Fair is a very fun event aimed at the children of our community. There are exciting games and prizes are guaranteed to be won.

Mr. Speaker, this year, the Rotary Club has invested in a number of exciting new booths. Many of the booths will be run by the Inuksuk High School graduates and the proceeds from some of the fair will be donated to this year's high school graduating class.

Mr. Speaker, I am especially looking forward to the Balloon Splash event which will give our kids an opportunity to give one of the community's school principals, you guessed it, a great big splash of water. You may also see, Mr. Speaker, the participation of one or more of this community's MLAs for a brief (hopefully a very brief) spell under the water-filled balloon.

Mr. Speaker, I know myself and my two colleagues from Iqaluit were invited by Mr. Levy to participate, I just want to let Mr. Levy know that I'll be there and I hope to see my colleagues there as well.

Mr. Speaker, this event is all in fun but it also emphasizes the value of community volunteerism. Its objectives are not only to provide an afternoon of active entertainment for the community's children but also to raise money and contribute to worthy school causes.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to come and join in the fun, participate in a worthwhile cause and be part of an excellent volunteer-run community event. This event will be held at the Arctic Winter Games arena this Saturday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statement. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Ms. Brown.

Member's Statement 531 – 2(4): Passing of Allyn Burrill on September 12, 2008

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to send my regards to the people of Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove, and say "hello" to my grandchild, Inukpaujak, (interpretation ends) Inuk Power.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Al Burrill, a long time Rankin Inlet resident and Airport Maintainer, who passed away suddenly on Friday, September 12. Al Burrill and his wife, Diane, along with their children, moved to Rankin Inlet in 1994. Al assumed the position of Airport Maintainer.

Al worked very hard on the airside operations, training local staff, and making vast improvements to the entire airport operations. Al could be seen at all hours at the airport, even four and five o'clock in the morning, ensuring that the runway was clean and bare for all of the air traffic that occurs there. Al was well known throughout airline industry as a friendly and helpful person to all. The community and the airport staff will miss Al very much.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Diane and the family, and I know the people of Rankin Inlet will support her as they always do during these difficult times. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 532 – 2(4): 2008 Federal Election

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say "hello" to the people of Cambridge Bay, the riding which also includes the two communities of Umingmaktok and Bathurst Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, I rose in this House on March 29, 2007, to offer some comments about a possible federal election that was finally called on September 7, 2008. I am pleased to

rise again today during the second week of the campaign and provide some additional thoughts and observations.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all of our Nunavut candidates, regardless of their partisan affiliation, a good campaign. I encourage all candidates to visit as many communities in our vast territory as possible. In the Kitikmeot, we are looking forward to their visiting us to discuss how they can help us in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that when most people in Ottawa think about Nunavut, they are rightly or wrongly really thinking about Iqaluit, our capital city.

When federal politicians or officials visit Nunavut, they generally only come to the Baffin. It is, indeed, a rare sighting in Cambridge Bay when an Ottawa minister or senior deputy minister visits us. We hope that this will change after this election. In fact, in the Kitikmeot, we continue to advocate for a permanent, large-scale Indian and Northern Affairs Canada presence in our region.

Mr. Speaker, the Kitikmeot has many important issues that the federal candidates should be thinking about when they come to visit us. The persistent and critical housing shortage is hurting our families. It is unacceptable that parents with young children must move house-to-house on a daily or weekly basis looking for shelter in already overcrowded homes.

An Hon. Member: Agreed.

>>Applause

Mr. Peterson: Mr. Speaker, poverty is a huge issue in Nunavut and as many as half our residents are poverty stricken. The situation is only getting worse as it becomes increasingly more expensive to live in Nunavut.

The federal and territorial government must work together to address the issue and help our residents. A further increase in the Northern Residents Deduction would help many Nunavummiut.

It is not fair to use the cost-of-living figures for Yellowknife or Whitehorse to represent the cost-of-living in Cambridge Bay.

I understand that the federal government has recently launched a review of the Food Mail Program. Improvements in the Food Mail Program must ensure that savings are passed on to the consumer.

Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to continue my statement. Thank you.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, the federal candidates need to discuss how to increase funding levels to programs that help women's groups and improve literacy in Nunavut. We have considered these important issues in our Assembly on many occasions. A serious commitment to reducing federal red tape would allow us to attract investment capital to Nunavut.

Ongoing efforts to enhance Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic must also take into account the needs and priorities of those of us who live in the region.

Mr. Speaker, we have a \$600 million municipal infrastructure deficit in Nunavut. Our candidates should explain to us how their parties will commit to help Nunavut to deal with this huge burden so we can improve the quality and standard of living for Nunavummiut to levels that most Canadians already take for granted.

Mr. Speaker, these are only a handful of issues and concerns that Cambridge Bay and the Nunavut will have for the candidates. Whoever we elect will be expected to work hard in Ottawa for all the people in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 533 – 2(4): Annual Terry Fox Run

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I think we found a Green Party candidate in our Assembly.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I'm kind of stiff today and I wish to relate a short story of what transpired this weekend. I partook in the Terry Fox Run as part of the fund-raising event for cancer patients. Terry Fox, as you know, had cancer and he inspired our country with his cross-Canada run to raise money for cancer research, but he got sick and passed away prior to his completing his run.

I was inspired by this individual and I try to attend to events that I believe in. However, yesterday while participating in the run, I was pushed hard and ended up getting tired, when my running partner and I tried to overtake one another.

The person I was running with was 16 years old and we exchanged positions back and forth, with one person taking the lead for a short while and then the other would bounce back. I found out later that this person was the nephew of one of my colleagues, Mr. James Arvaluk's nephew. He barely beat me during this race, although not by much. I was quite elated to know that this old body can still keep up with some of the younger runners.

As we were on the route back, quite a ways back, we happened to pass a runner who was still trying to reach the turning point. It happened to be Mr. Picco and I am sorry to say that we left him in our dust and I didn't even have a chance to point that out to him. I apologize that I was unable to spur him on.

However, there were not a lot of people who participated in this event this year and I hope that we can attract more people since cancer is an insidious disease that can affect anyone and everyone. We have to do our part to stop the spread of cancer in the future, especially here in Nunavut. So I wish to end by thanking the event organizers and I look forward to running with more people at future events. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 534 – 2(4): Terry Fox Program

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that I should give some real truth to what occurred yesterday...

>> *Laughter*

... or on Sunday, with the Terry Fox Run, and as the Premier has indicated, Mr. Speaker, the Annual Terry Fox Run was held yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, this is an annual event, as the members know, and indeed, Mr. Speaker, it has now become an international activity with Terry Fox Runs being held across the world, and indeed, across all of our communities here in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, members may not remember or may not know that Terry Fox's parents, Rolly and Betty Fox, had an opportunity, on a couple of occasions, to come here to Iqaluit and indeed to Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I can say without fear of contradiction that Mr. Rolly Fox and Terry's Mother, Betty Fox, were always so impressed with the work that was being carried out by the Terry Fox Program at the high school with Mr. Nick Newberry, and indeed, by the volunteers here in Iqaluit and Nunavut with supporting Terry's dream.

Mr. Speaker, as a footnote to this, when Terry Fox first started his run, I was working in at the waterfront in St. John's and at that time, Mr. Speaker, as even today, people like to go to Newfoundland and run, bike, and wheel barrel across the country and so on. When Mr. Fox came with his run, I was on the wharf in St. John's and went to see what the activity and commotion was, and I thought, "Here's another goofball trying to run across the country." It was a rainy, wet, foggy day and many people including myself thought that this guy wouldn't get very far.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, many of us in the House here will remember that when Mr. Fox started his run, he wasn't given much publicity or news, but as he started to get across the Maritimes and when he got across Quebec, and then he got into Ontario, he became nationally recognized and known. I had an opportunity to speak to Betty Fox and Rolly Fox, and indeed, go out on machines with them here in town, I told them the story of how me and, among other people, didn't see anything really occurring from this.

Mr. Speaker, I can say without fear of contradiction again that I have been able to participate in every Terry Fox Run here in Iqaluit since at least 1992 and Mr. Speaker, it was disappointing, as the Premier indicated, to see a turnout of between 14 and 16 people for our Annual Terry Fox Run here in Iqaluit. I remember walking and people running in this race where there would be 100, 150, 200 people take part and I understand, Mr. Speaker, that...

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to ask for unanimous consent to continue my statement.

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

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I understand that in our community of Iqaluit now, it is quite large and we do have a lot of competing events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Member, Mr. Okalik, and I want to say that not only did he walk but he actually ran the race, Mr. Speaker, and it is true. I was bringing up the rear and I was making sure that there were no stragglers and helping them along, as Ed. Picco usually tries to do. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Okalik blew past me, like a rabbit, like an *Ukaliq*. The sweat was pouring off his face and I thought for a while, it was because he had a Montreal Canadian's hat on, then I realized then it was actually he wasn't faking it, he was really just going.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers, and indeed, the people that did participate in the walk. I also want to send a big "thank you" to a person who's been there every time in the walk, she work's upstairs, she is known to

all the members, she is our Librarian for the Legislative Assembly, Yvonne Earle, who was also in the walk, and again, I have seen Yvonne many times participating.

Hopefully, next year, as Mr. Okalik said, we will see more people out at the Annual Terry Fox Run here in Iqaluit. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. If there are none, (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Curley.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I am pleased to see my wife in the Gallery and I would like my colleagues to welcome her. Sally, who was able to arrive today, is one of my most trusted helpers. We had an opportunity to visit our relatives here in Iqaluit and I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce my wife and have her recognized. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Quite a number of people come to Iqaluit to take courses, or to work, or to learn on the job, or to be trained as managers. However, because Pond Inlet is such a scenic and beautiful area, quite a few people return to Pond Inlet. The person that I would like to recognize returned to Pond Inlet after living in Iqaluit for quite a few years, Tim Innuak from Pond Inlet. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to recognize someone who lived in Grise Fiord and is now living here. I want to recognize Russel Akeegok, whose parents are good friends of mine. I knew him since he was going to school in Grise Fiord. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions**Question 655 – 2(4): Renovations for Inuksuk High School**

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question to the Minister responsible for Education.

Mr. Speaker, I know, and he is fully aware, of something that I have raised for some time now and it has to deal with renovations for the Inuksuk High School. And I know that there was an article in the paper over the summer indicating that a decision has been made on how to go about doing the renovations based on community feedback. I would just like to ask the minister if he could give us a timeline as to the plans for those renovations to take place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Education, Honourable Ed. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for the question. Mr. Speaker, this past summer, we actually had a public meeting here in Iqaluit at the Parish Hall and we had a good turnout with the DEA members, me, and the public at large, and went through several options that we had presented for the high school.

At the end of the day, the DEA, as well as the departmental officials and I felt that the renovation program would be the least disruptive to the students and indeed to the staff of the high school. The renovation will begin in the summer of 2009 and should take place over the next several summers, culminating in the completion of the program by 2012. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister pointed out, I would like to thank him because I know it was a big question in a lot of parents' minds is: when are they going to have this public meeting? I think the first time it was supposed to happen was early in the spring, but I'm glad it came about and the minister indicated that they did get some good feedback from the community and the DEA on that.

Mr. Speaker, my question for the minister is: the project, as he had indicated, is going to span over three years and I just want to get a confirmation from the minister that the funding for this project over those three years will be there to ensure it from start to completion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was part of the issues that we were trying to deal with. We looked at three possible scenarios and one was of a renovation of the school, and that meant doing it within a year and a half timeframe, taking the students out of the school, closing the school down, and then trying to reallocate around different

classrooms in the school. The price tag of doing that was about \$52 million to bring in portables and so on, build a new school, which was about \$54 or \$55 million, and we did not have those capital monies available.

We have, however, as the member is aware, passed in this House about \$21 million that's available to the high school project that has already been approved by the Assembly. So that money has been approved by the Assembly and indeed is in place to be able to do the renovation of the high school. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know, over the summer, they came up with that option but can the minister give an indication as to what's going to happen first, a little bit of an idea of the scope of the project over the next three years? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the next several months, there will be some very complex programs put in place looking at the actual renovation of the school, what the capital requirements are, the health and safety issues surrounding that type of program, and then to look at an actual timeframe and scheduling for the different renovations that will place in the school.

Again, we want to make sure, at the end of the day, that any type of work that goes on in the high school is the students and the staff at the school are least affected by that. The DEA has been monitoring that very closely. So in the coming weeks and months, that timeframe, schedule, and everything will be outlined through Technical Services of Community and Government Services, or CGS, as well as our own capital planning people in the Department of Education, and then that information will be brought forward to the local Iqaluit District Education Authority so that they're concurrent with it, and an update done for the parents.

I would expect, by probably early in the New Year, that most of those scheduling issues would be dealt with and we should see the contracting tenders out in the New Year so that the work on the school, the renovation itself, can begin in earnest as soon as school finishes, which is scheduled for the end June around the 26th, around there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. The minister indicated that they would share that outline through Technical Services people or develop as to what's going to be done when with the DEA and the community.

In a lot of cases, when decisions are being made, the people that they should ask for how things should be done are the people that are right there on the ground. In this particular case, it would be the staff at the high school. Can the minister indicate if they're planning on getting input from the staff at the high school on the best way to approach those renovations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member makes a good point. Any type of work that goes on in the school needs to be done in cooperation with and with the advice of the faculty and staff of the high school and indeed, the students also, and that will be carried out as we move further into the project.

This project itself, Mr. Speaker, on a single individual program, I have never seen as much consultation that has been done and indeed, I have now met with the staff and principal at least three times on the processes involved and with the full staff last spring at least twice to discuss the issues, and I believe that will continue with the department.

So I want to let the member and the public at large be rest assured that they will be taken into account and their advice sought when the renovations and the plan itself is brought forward and before the renovations begin next summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 656 – 2(4): Update on School Issues in Sanikiluaq

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure which minister my question should be directed to, probably to the Minister of Human Resources or Education. I voiced a concern last spring in regard to our community school in Sanikiluaq and today, our school is closed due to some smelly emissions. I'm not exactly sure which minister will respond to this question, but I would like to ask some questions with respect to this matter.

The school was going to be renovated once school was over for the summer. I would like to know if the renovation proceeded, whether or not it was completed, or whether it required further work. Can I get some notification as to the status of this renovation from the minister? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Education, Honourable Ed. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, let me say that I really enjoyed being in Sanikiluaq this past June with the Premier and as usual, the people of Sanikiluaq were most hospitable. They indeed donated and gave to myself and the Premier some wonderful gifts.

They gave me a mounted wolf that was done by a class in the community with taxidermy work in the class by Mr. James and his people, so I want to publicly thank the people of Sanikiluaq for that. That wolf, by the way, Mr. Speaker, is now taking habitat and living space up at the Joamie School here in Iqaluit. The Minister of Education donated that to Joamie School, so I want to thank the people of Sanikiluaq for that.

Mr. Speaker, the issue around the school in Sanikiluaq, when we had a chance to look at some of the areas of concern, there were some minor renovations that needed to be carried out in the school itself, there were problems with the doors being locked and so on. It was my understanding that some of that work has actually been carried out.

There was also the issue with odour in the school and indeed, I think we have solved that with the help of CGS. I'm not aware of why the school was closed today and that's something I will have to find out, Mr. Speaker. I don't know if it pertains to those ongoing issues or if it's something new. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is not a new issue. I received an email from the DEA chairperson stating that when the wind blows, there's a generator beside the school and the smell is probably emanating from it. Can the minister let me know what kinds of renovations were made at the school? It is closed today due to the odour in the school. Can the minister tell me if and how this problem was rectified? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we had an opportunity to be in the school in June, I had an opportunity to talk to the principal and some of the staff there. What occurred was there were actually three different issues occurring that caused the odour in the school in Sanikiluaq.

One was that it was felt that when, I believe it's the water or sewage truck, they came to the school and they were doing their fill-ups, that the motor was running and that because the air intake vent was located adjacent to the water fill pipe, there was diesel smell going into the school, and we actually had specialized equipment brought in to find the odour and so on. A lot of work was done by the CGS staff.

Secondly, as the member has indicated, there was some confusion with the diesel smoke or smell that was coming out of the adjacent power plant. And what happened was there was a problem with the reheat in that plant and then when the boilers actually came on in the school, it caused another different odour. I had an opportunity to talk to the Minister of Energy about that issue, with the Power Corporation, and had an opportunity to find out that indeed that had been rectified because they had solved the problem with the reheat.

The third issue was with the septic issue, which is a septic tank and the odour that was permeating from that area. It is my understanding again, Mr. Speaker, that was a very minor inconvenience and was solved very quickly.

So those are the three issues but they were compounding and happening around the same time, and as one got rectified, it seemed like we were having a problem with the other one. I am not aware currently, as of today, if this issue has occurred, but I do know, with the power plant, there was an issue when the wind was in certain prevailing way that there were some diesel fumes that flew toward the school and then went through the air intake vent.

But that wasn't the real issue, the real issue was because the heat from the power plant heats the school, and when that failed and wasn't working properly, the school boilers had to come on and because they hadn't been on in a while, that caused an odour in the school. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Your second supplementary, Mr. Kattuk.

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was a long-winded response to a short question. Perhaps if I just say this: can I get a commitment from the minister to provide an update on the buildings that were constructed over the summer before the end of this session or prior to the members travelling home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, as soon as Question Period is over today, I will be speaking with our staff to find out has something occurred again in Sanikiluaq and find out exactly what has occurred. Again, I'm not aware of anything as of right now. That's not to say it hasn't occurred and so on, but I will give an update to the member and to the House as soon as we break or after Oral Questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 657 – 2(4): Impact of MOU on IIBA Negotiations with Baffinland

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, I was interested when the minister made a speech entitled "Training Partnership with Baffinland Iron Ore Mine and Nunavut Arctic College."

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the minister for taking the initiative with Nunavut Arctic College and Baffinland to develop that agreement. It shows that the government is serious about working with mining companies that are making serious investments in Nunavut.

My question for the minister, Mr. Speaker: will the minister explain to the House how the Memorandum of Understanding would be implemented within the context of negotiated Inuit Impact Benefit Agreements and the available funding from the Government of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Education, Honourable Ed. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was exciting news when we made the announcement with Baffinland and indeed, we had an opportunity to meet with Baffinland on Friday here and the key people, as well as investment bankers that have been here dealing with them.

Mr. Speaker, this MOU is an exciting opportunity that brings forward the work on behalf and for Nunavut Arctic College. We have moved forward, as the members know, and we actually increased our capital budget to include fast-tracking the community learning centre in Pond Inlet. So we're actually going to be able to deliver some better vocational programs in that new space to be able to train people in Baffinland.

What we're looking at is, through the Nunavut Skills Inventory, or NCSIS, matching skills at the community level with what are needed by Baffinland, whether that's heavy equipment operator training or any of the other different positions that will be available, and then identifying people across North Baffin, and indeed, Baffin and Nunavut at large, to be able to provide and fill those positions. We will provide the seats for said programs.

Baffinland will come in with some fiscal as well as administrative resources. We will provide, more or less, logistics resources, as well as tap into other opportunities that may present themselves. I want to say that we have also done this type of an agreement with our partners in the Kitikmeot also, looking at opportunities for training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. I appreciate the details he gave and also the announcement that he's working with the Kitikmeot mining companies.

Mr. Speaker, the Kitikmeot has several major resource development projects in various stages of development; Newmont is constructing the Hope Bay Mine and we hope that will be open next year; Zinifex is involved at Gray's Bay; Sabina Minerals, I heard this morning, had just received their part 5 approval for their silver project down at Hackett River. We appreciate their significant investments in the Kitikmeot and to date, the employment that they're generating for our residents.

Just to follow-up with the minister on his comments about the Kitikmeot, can the minister tell the House what stage the Government of Nunavut and the Nunavut Arctic College are

at in negotiating similar MOU instruments with mining companies in the Kitikmeot?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is correct and I think this is one of the good news stories that we're probably not doing a good enough job of communicating to Nunavummiut. Indeed, in the Kitikmeot region, we have signed off an agreement, as I stated earlier, with the KIA, with KEDC, with Newmont, Miramar, and Nunavut Arctic College before Christmas in 2007. And indeed, that has resulted in the development of a hard rock mine training opportunity for the Kitikmeot, which is turning out to be quite successful.

Again, we're also under discussions right now with the Kivalliq Inuit Association to do a similar MOU for training and so on. And we're moving forward with the new trades school in Rankin Inlet, as well as looking at opportunities to put a mine training facility specifically for the Millwright Training Program in Cambridge Bay.

So we have been aggressive as a government, over the last 12 to 17 months, to ensure that there are not only opportunities for training but there are also facilities in place so that people can actually go to a facility within Nunavut to do that actual training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that information. It's good to know that the department is proceeding to support training in the Kitikmeot and I look forward to eventually seeing a mine training institute in Cambridge Bay. The minister mentioned the millwright program, but until then, Mr. Speaker, Nunavut requires a huge investment in training for careers in mining.

We recently heard that the Northwest Territories Mine Training Society received \$9 million from the federal government to be invested over three years in their territory. My question for the minister: can the minister explain to the House if Nunavut has received or will receive similar training funds for mine training in Nunavut, and if not, why not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Member from Cambridge Bay should be congratulated in how he can slip four questions into one - if not, why not, and explain. So I commend him on that.

Mr. Speaker, firstly, to say that I have no control over what the federal government does and indeed, what the Northwest Territories sign off, we congratulate the Northwest Territories and the Mine Training Society for being able to facilitate and indeed receive

several million dollars in training, and indeed, the Prime Minister was in Inuvik and made that announcement.

Mr. Speaker, I would love for the Prime Minister to come to Nunavut, to Rankin Inlet, to Cambridge Bay, to Iqaluit, to Clyde River and make an announcement like that. I have no word right now that that's going to occur but, Mr. Speaker, this is an opportune time. We do have some people out on the hustings with the federal election and maybe if we can impress on them that maybe mine training associated dollars should be brought up and brought forward by our federal people who are on the hustings for positions with our federal partner.

I can say that we have had discussions with the federal government about opportunities to look at our Labour Market Development Agreement, or the LMDA, to be able to use some of those dollars for mine training and we have been successful in that. We have not, however, been in a position to receive the money that the Northwest Territories have done. There is a little bit of a difference there because they actually have a Mine Training Society in place that can actually receive the money. That's something that, right now, is in the preliminary stages here in Nunavut.

I think it's important also to note that there has been 50 years of mining in the Northwest Territories and they're a little bit further ahead on the societal status, but that's something that we are working towards. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer and his earlier comment about my question, so I will try to limit this question to one question.

Mr. Speaker, the Northwest Territories Mine Training Society that the minister discussed has been very supportive of the Kitikmeot and is interested in working with the Kitikmeot on some mine training programs that will likely require some Government of Nunavut investment.

My question for the minister: can the minister tell the House if the Department of Education and the minister himself would be supportive of the NWT Mine Training Society to work with Kitikmeot organizations to develop and offer mine training courses to our Kitikmeot residents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the exciting things that we had an opportunity to do, when we were in Inuvik in June for the ITC meetings with Mary Simon and her people, was an opportunity to speak with our old friend, Nellie Cournoyea. Nellie, of course, as the members know, is the CEO and Chair of the Inuvialuit Development Corporation.

The Inuvialuit Development Corporation and the Inuvialuit Land Claims settlement area actually went out themselves as beneficiaries and actually bought a mobile training rig and put it in Inuvik. It cost about \$4 million and they did that on behalf and for the Inuvialuit beneficiaries in that region. So we congratulate them and see that that group has had some foresight in doing that because government can't do everything.

What I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, is if there is an opportunity for joint training or any type of development between the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, between the Inuvialuit or any other land claim organization or group in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, in this case being the KIA, then we will welcome that because we think it's a good way to do things.

There are economies of scale, Mr. Speaker, when we have our groups within the territories working together on these types of training initiatives and indeed, putting some of that training infrastructure in place, like we saw happening in Inuvik and indeed with some of the good discussions that are happening with the Kitikmeot and the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 658 – 2(4): Who is Reviewing GN Fuel Policy?

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to all ministers responsible for petroleum products as I believe there are three, sometimes four of them.

>>*Laughter*

I will start off with the Minister of Community and Government Services. We have heard in previous committee meetings and in our sessions that the government is reviewing the price of gas. Is that the case? Did you look into the price of oil and whether or not the pricing is following the market prices? Have you concluded the study and have you reviewed the fluctuation? Is it going to be an independent study or is it done by the government? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Honourable Levinia Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not exactly sure if there's going to be a review at this time or if there will be a study done. But I do know that our departmental staff keep abreast of the price of gas and what the price was in the last year, and I know that these are issues that are monitored. I'm not aware of any study that will be done by this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During our committee meetings, we were informed that there would be a review of the price of fuel. This review is due to the fact that it's transported from southern points to our communities.

Yesterday, during our committee meeting, we were told by your officials that they're currently looking at petroleum products and whether they will provide subsidies to the mining companies or other development companies here. I can tell you as the minister that the government ought not to even look at subsidizing the price of fuel for the mining and exploration companies. If that was the case, the price would increase and it would affect all Nunavummiut. So this requires a review.

Would the minister agree that there should be a study done to look at the fluctuation of the price? You should task your officials to look at the best method to price fuel. This requires a comprehensive review so that the residents of Nunavut pay the lowest possible price for the fuel that's transported to their communities. Thank you.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The mining and exploration companies buy their own petroleum products; they buy and ship their own fuel for their usage.

If the member would like to see a study done, I could direct my staff to look into this issue. However, it would require assistance from other government departments. I would have to include the Department of Finance and the other government departments in conducting this study. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to thank the minister. One of the reasons why we would like to see a study done is because there's going to be an instant increase that the consumer will have to pay. This summer, you bought the fuel when it was \$132 per barrel and now, it's under \$100 per barrel. There was a 22 percent increase and a 15 percent fuel rider without having any studies done.

You should inform the consumers out there because they're not able to keep up with the prices at the pump. There's also a surcharge that you should get rid of because the federal government should be paying for it. Could the minister indicate to me if they could take the surcharge off the pumps? (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Around June or July, we had no choice but to buy it at \$130 to \$140 per barrel because that's when the Petroleum Products Division buys their fuel. We were trying to buy the fuel while it was still relatively cheap and we knew that we had to purchase it before it increased further. The pundits were thinking that the price of fuel may reach \$200 per barrel. And in the midst of the uncertainty and the precarious situation, we had to buy the fuel.

Yes, the member is correct that the current price is now under \$100 per barrel, but we cannot predict whether the price of fuel may increase because the main oil refineries are in the United States. There were 26 refineries but 14 of them were damaged due to severe hurricanes, so this affected the price of fuel. This was especially the case with Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana. After the hurricanes and severe weather, the price of fuel went over \$100 per barrel. It seems that the price increases started with those events.

In the past, we paid \$29 to \$60 a barrel. So I will look into this issue as per the member's recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to hear that from the minister. There definitely has to be an independent study done. The federal government should be paying right up front and we should stop forcing the unemployed and consumers in Nunavut to pay these additional costs. I thank you ahead of time if you would initiate that study.

When it comes to government institutions such as the schools, why are the consumers charged back? You didn't have to pay when the price was at its highest. Is it possible to take out the surcharge to ensure that the best price is made available to the consumer?

As well, when this is being looked at, you should look at all options and see what can be cut, such as the operations and maintenance costs when this is being reviewed. In my opinion, the GN costs should be taken out of these figures.

Madam Minister, if you're going to do a study, you should factor in all those costs that I just outlined, especially the cost of gas that we charge back to our consumers.
(interpretation ends) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a government, with the Petroleum Products Division and the Department of Finance, we are always looking at options and means to minimize the price of fuel and petroleum products. However, Mr. Speaker, this government is coming to an end. Possibly the third government will be better prepared to initiate studies and other cost saving measures.

I could talk to our officials and also to other government departments to see what we can do further, especially the terms of reference for this study. The Petroleum Products Division and the Department of Finance have ongoing dialogue on these issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 659 – 2(4): The Need for Real Docking Facilities in Nunavut Communities

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had to clear my throat due to not speaking for quite some time. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister for Economic Development and Transportation a question with regards to a statement that he made during Ministers' Statements.

During his opening comments, in the second paragraph, he stated that eight communities would be receiving floating docks. There are people who provide outfitting, people who go out fishing, as well as ordinary hunters that need this infrastructure. I am honoured to hear the announcement made by the minister as it makes me happy.

However, the government should be considering permanent docks, not floating docks. I want to ask if this program is not designed to replace the communities' needs for permanent docks. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Honourable Patterk Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for the question. This program is intended for those eight communities and the funding is slotted for this program, which was allocated to our department. I can state unequivocally that we have lobbied the federal government for a long time to fund these docks and I can reassure the member that this program is not intended to fill the need for permanent docks. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask you this first: is this my second or first supplementary question, Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): I apologize, Mr. Arvaluk. That was the first time you asked me a question, Mr. Arvaluk. This is indeed your first supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister as well for his response. The issue, as I see it, pertaining to commercial fishermen is causing me some trepidation, primarily since the scenario we heard related to a floating dock.

If we are to get a floating dock in Pond Inlet, as soon as we get a major storm in the summer or fall, that floating dock would be spirited away. I believe that those of you who have seen the community would completely understand this. Due to the present state of affairs, is the government still discussing or negotiating with the federal government on the communities that were identified for the Small Craft Harbours Program?

To cite an example, down in our southern provinces, they have harbours stretching from the Atlantic to Vancouver. This applies both to marine and Great Lakes harbours and they have no shortage of harbours, but here in Nunavut, North of 60, our deficiencies in this area stand out since we don't even have rudimentary docks. Is the government still negotiating with their federal counterparts on our harbour infrastructure requirements? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This spring, the Senate Committee visited Nunavut to check into this matter by consulting Nunavummiut and our government and to ascertain our position with respect to the matter of the need for small craft harbours in some of our communities.

As we all know, Pangnirtung is getting an extension to their dock and I also presented the position of our government that Pangnirtung getting this harbour is not the last of our communities for which we are lobbying for inclusion into the program. We still have six communities that were identified that require docks and harbours, and that this project is only the beginning of the program.

These other communities were included in the list of seven communities and we will continue to advocate for the completion of this program by having the other small craft harbour projects completed. That is what I presented to the Senate Committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If that is the case, I appreciate your efforts to include the communities in this program. As the Premier also stated earlier, there was a protocol signed by the Nunavut government, NTI, and the federal government on an Economic Development Strategy. When I heard that, I was wondering how we can benefit from future development stemming from the focus on Canadian sovereignty these days.

Is the government providing a list of issues to the federal election candidates or parties? This issue may be impacted by the federal elections and campaign promises, so have you told them that they ought to be looking at our deficiencies in Nunavut and how these infrastructure projects can impact our future economic growth, whether it's through commercial fisheries or small craft harbours? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the federal election candidates, including one of our former colleagues, I believe that they are listening to the proceedings, we are not just advocating for small craft harbours but for all of the items listed in this document. All of Nunavut's communities are lacking in infrastructure necessities, including replacement buildings, and this is the case for all the territory's communities.

If the candidates are listening in, I would encourage all of them to highlight the gross deficiencies in basic infrastructure of our communities and to work towards meeting the very basic needs of our communities. We would prefer that all the candidates voice the infrastructure deficit we are in here in Canada's last frontier. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that point now. I assume that the candidates for the three main parties who are running in this federal election have been apprised of our housing shortage, lack of basic infrastructure, lack of schools, shortage of nurses, and that part I understand.

With respect to the leadership of these main parties, are you also highlighting our challenges that we face here in Nunavut? We all know that Nunavut's challenges will not be met through the militarization of the Arctic, but through the proper presentation of the people's needs, especially as it relates to economic development and our need to get basic infrastructure our neighbours take for granted. My question is: are you also passing along these issues to the leadership of the main parties? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. At this time, I will have the Premier respond to that question.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be working with my fellow government leaders in the North on the common concerns we share with respect to voicing them to the political party leaders and we will lobby the political parties running for election to include these concerns in their election platforms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Question 660 – 2(4): What's the No-Smoking Policy near Entrances on Public Buildings?

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the ministers rarely gets questions asked of his department, so I would like to ask him a question. There's a new Minister of the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, the old WCB.

I would like to know the policies in effect for public buildings. There are public buildings such as terminals that are occupied by a lot of people. In regard to the no-smoking policy immediately outside of the terminal, how is it being implemented? I would like to get an answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Honourable Levi Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. All the government buildings have a law whereby you have to be three metres away from the building in order to smoke outside. This applies to all of our government and public buildings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. If that's indeed the case, how do you enforce it? How does your staff enforce that policy in the communities, especially when there's no representatives from the WSCC? How does the WSCC enforce that law within a community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In all of the communities, there are individuals who are responsible for government buildings. I will take that question as notice and get back to the member with respect to his community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What if there are no individuals working for WSCC in the communities and the hamlet operates the terminal? What do the hamlets have to do? Are they collaborating with the fire and safety agencies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the hamlets that have the responsibility usually have a no-smoking bylaw for public places. All hamlet buildings are also non-smoking places, especially in public places.

With that being the case, perhaps I would have to revisit this issue with all the hamlets and deal with how these by-laws are enforced. As a government, we have already approved the policy and all public places have the three-metre zone where people cannot smoke. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's good to hear that they will be working with the municipal government in Baker Lake because it's beginning to be hazardous with a lot of people smoking immediately outside the terminal when you have to go in or out of the terminal.

Can the minister state to me if the no-smoking policy around public buildings can be aired on local radio stations or have written information for the public out there for that purpose? We have to remind the public that these policies apply to public buildings and that this has to be enforced. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will work with Minister Brown and her staff to ensure that we have information with respect to the no-smoking policy and precipitate more information with respect to this policy which has already been passed by the House. We can also make a public radio ad about the no-smoking policy and air it on local radio stating that people should not be doing that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 661 – 2(4): Justice Issues in Nunavut

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of access to the justice system is a national concern. In my community of Cambridge Bay, this issue hits home every day when residents face difficulties in obtaining legal assistance because of a lack of resources in our legal aid system. This lack of resources is particularly apparent in the area of civil legal aid and family law.

Mr. Speaker, I'm aware that there's a high burnout rate among lawyers. Government of Nunavut lawyers can earn up to \$20,000 more and housing for legal aid lawyers is non-existent. So it's very difficult to attract qualified, competent lawyers and keep them. Continuity is very important at the community level.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Justice met in Quebec City to discuss legal aid among other issues. My question for the minister: can the minister update the House on his efforts to obtain increased federal resources for our legal aid system in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Honourable Paul Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I want to thank my colleague for Cambridge Bay that this issue remains one of the top priorities for all Justice Ministers in the country. Nunavut is not alone in lobbying the federal government for additional legal aid funding and we will continue to press our federal partners to return to the days where it was a cost-shared program, where at least half of the funding came from the federal government. Today, that's not the case.

And I was very encouraged by my colleagues from all across this country in our efforts to try and get additional resources for much needed legal aid for not just criminal but also civil matters. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's answer and I support the minister and all the provincial ministers in their lobbying efforts with the federal government. It really is a serious issue in Nunavut. The government makes the laws and then people can be charged, but then they have to wait two to three years for justice to be decided on.

Mr. Speaker, an important component of a strong justice system is effective policing. In June of this year, the minister and the Chief Superintendent of the RCMP's 'V' Division were scheduled to sign a "Shared Directional Statement" on policing services in Nunavut. My question for the minister: can the minister indicate to the House what the contents of this statement are and will he commit to tabling the document in the House before the end of this week's sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Yes, absolutely, I look forward to tabling the report and I believe I was planning to do that anyway. So I appreciate my colleague's ongoing efforts in supporting, in particular special constables, which is in the Shared Directional Statement. I believe that we're getting some movement on that from our federal partners and that hopefully we can move on this fairly quickly after the elections are done.

But the number one priority is to try and get Inuit officers working either in special constables or in regular forces for the RCMP. So I look forward to more progress on this file in particular. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. Mr. Speaker, at their recent meeting in Quebec City, the Ministers of Justice "strongly endorsed enhancing Aboriginal policing capacity to ensure adequate resources to address the unique needs of Northern and aboriginal communities across Canada." The minister touched on more Inuit RCMP officers. I wonder if the minister could share with the

House today what other specific enhancements he is working to achieve in this area.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) There were some wonderful happenings that took place over the summer. There were at least over 20 young cadets at work with the RCMP in all the communities learning about policing firsthand so that they can learn firsthand about a career in policing. So those things are happening, which will help us in recruiting additional Inuit officers throughout Nunavut.

And as I said, we're working with the RCMP and making sure that the Special Constable Program is instituted once again so that it will allow for more community-based officers that know the communities and that can improve policing throughout Nunavut. So those are the biggest sets of priorities that are coming forward soon. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's answer and I look forward to further improvements in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, at the recent ministerial meeting in Quebec City, the ministers addressed the issue of organized crime. In Nunavut, the problem of drug trafficking in our communities seems to be getting worse. Hardly a week goes by where we don't hear or read in the media that there's a huge drug bust somewhere with tens of thousands of dollars in street value of the drugs. It is getting really bad in some of the communities, at least from what we hear about.

I wonder if the minister can tell the House today what specific anti-drug initiatives his department is currently working on to combat drug trafficking in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I must say that that news is very encouraging, that policing is working, but I must say that it's working where the communities are helping the police out. So the police can't do their jobs by themselves, we need the support of all communities to make these laws enforceable throughout Nunavut. So I'm very encouraged with those communities that are helping out in policing of getting rid of drugs in particular throughout Nunavut.

I must say that I have been very encouraged by the RCMP's proactive efforts in going to classrooms and teaching our students of the potential harm that these drugs can inflict on

young people. So I hope that we can continue on with additional efforts in preventing more drug use throughout Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 662 – 2(4): How Does NNI Policy Apply to WSCC?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission.

Mr. Speaker, I asked a question to his predecessor knowing that the commission is a joint commission for both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut and given that a good chunk of their operations are here in Nunavut, when they would put out... especially now that they have changed their name, they're going to have a new letterhead and all the new kinds of things like that out there.

I had asked at the time if the minister would look into the fact that for the Nunavut portion of any other promotional items or any letterhead, or anything like that, that the NNI Policy would apply. I'm just wondering if the minister can give us any update on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Levi Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We were looking at people to appoint to the board who would be responsible for those issues. We called for some names from the members so that we can form a board. We now have a board and our representative is John Vander Velde. Since he was appointed, there has been improvement to our representation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's response. I know that we have a board member now, but my concern at the time was when his predecessor said that it's something that they would bring up with his counterpart in the west. So I'm just wondering: has that issue been raised with his counterpart in the NWT?

Right now, as far as the way I look at it and my understanding of the situation is when they put out a tender for a letterhead, or calendars, or any type of promotional item, that firms from Nunavut really don't have an opportunity to bid on it because they're competing against firms from the south and they don't have a requirement, the way they are right now, to follow the NNI Policy and look at northern and Inuit businesses first.

So I'm just wondering if the minister could commit to following that up with his counterpart in the NWT to try and ensure that businesses in Nunavut benefit from the operations of the commission here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had a meeting with the new minister who is our NWT counterpart and I told the minister that I wanted to resolve all of the Nunavut related issues. I will look into the members' recommendation. I would like to ensure that we implement all of the measures that pertain to our territory so that we can make them work in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for that response. He indicated that he had a meeting with his counterpart. Was that one specific issue that he said he raised with his colleague in the NWT as the previous minister had committed that he would? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): Yes, I can table the information once I have it. However, with respect to some of these matters, we are waiting for the Auditor General to complete her assessment on the documents. We cannot control the actions of the Auditor General, but once she has completed her audit, I can put this issue forward to the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Then is the minister indicating that that isn't an issue that he raised specifically with his colleague in the NWT? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Barnabas.

Hon. Levi Barnabas (interpretation): We dealt with a number of issues at that meeting. One of these issues is indeed up in the air. Perhaps I will look into it further and make sure that the member is informed in writing about my findings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 663 – 2(4): New Marshalling Contract

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, about last year at this time, there was a lot of concern being raised over the Housing Trust's re-supply of materials that "missed the boat," I think was the actual term that was in the newspaper.

Again, something that was discussed lots here in the House is that they had issued a new marshalling contract. I'm just wondering if the minister can inform the House and the people across Nunavut that their housing materials did make the boat this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Honourable Patterk Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've had the privilege of going down to Ottawa two times to meet with the Illamar Marshalling Company and I can tell the Members of this House, and indeed across Nunavut, that the marshalling for this year is on track. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think everyone will be relieved to hear that as I know there were issues last year of materials that were supposed to go to one community ended up in another community. I'm just wondering if the minister could indicate if that's something that they have kept a close eye on this year and if he could again assure that those kinds of mistakes haven't happened again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My staff from the corporation have been, I think on a daily basis, contacting with the Illamar Marshalling Company and also, we have addressed the issues of last year's marshalling fiasco. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think a lot of people across Nunavut would be happy and relieved to hear that. The minister said that the deadline and everything was being met, but can he confirm that, in fact, all the materials that were ordered for this year's delivery were actually delivered and on the boat to wherever they were supposed to end up? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Illamar Marshalling began delivering the containers and crates to the carrier's dock as of April this spring and I can say that we are on track and we have been monitoring this contract very closely, we don't want a repeat of what happened a couple of years back. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we all know that the sealift re-supply is not finished for this season, we have two ships out in the bay here right now and I'm sure there are still trips being made to other communities. But can the minister give us an indication of when they anticipate being able to confirm that all those materials that were ordered and shipped actually made it to where they were supposed to? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Netser.

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We continue to be delivering the materials. As for the question, we have to wait until the end of the season as to what, if any, has missed the barges and we can certainly address them again if need be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please be aware that Question Period is now over. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to return to Item 5 if my colleagues are okay with that. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is seeking consent to return to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Premier, you may proceed with your recognition.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. I am taking this opportunity to recognize this individual from my executive colleague, whose constituency this individual resides in, so first I would like to thank him for allowing me to proceed with the recognition.

I would like to warmly extend my welcome to this person who used to be a Special Constable when I was growing up and who knew me from that time. He was a Special Constable then, but today he manages a Young Offenders' Outpost Camp, Mr. Sandy Akavak. I wish to thank him profusely. Welcome to the Gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. If there are no more, (interpretation ends) Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills**Committee Report on Bills 017 – 2(4): Bill 7, Inuit Language Protection Act**

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 7, *Inuit Language Protection Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit*, and that 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 7 immediately moved to Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking to have Bill 7, as amended, referred immediately to Committee of the Whole. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): The members clearly agreed, so Bill 7 can now immediately be moved into Committee of the Whole.

(interpretation ends) Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Curley.

Committee Report on Bills 018 – 2(4): Bill 40, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development, and that 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 40 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Do members agree that Bill 40, as amended, be referred immediately to Committee of the Whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Thank you. There is an agreement and Bill 40 is now referred to Committee of the Whole.

Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Committee Report on Bills 019 – 2(4): Bill 20, Midwifery Profession Act

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to see one of my relatives in the House.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee on Health and Education has reviewed Bill 20, the *Midwifery Profession Act*, and I would like to inform the House that 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 20 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree that Bill 20, as amended, be referred immediately to Committee of the Whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): The members agree and Bill 20 is now referred to Committee of the Whole. Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Simailak.

Committee Report on Bills 020 – 2(4): Bill 21, Education Act

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Standing Committee on Health and Education has reviewed Bill 21, the *Education Act*, and I would like to inform the House that 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 21 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking to have Bill 21, as amended, referred immediately to Committee of the Whole. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is an agreement and Bill 21 is now referred to Committee of the Whole.

(interpretation ends) Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

Item 13: Tabled Documents

Tabled Document 279 – 2(4): Correspondence with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table an exchange of correspondence between the Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and myself on the issue of corporation's services and facilities in the Kitikmeot. I encourage all the members to review the correspondence with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabling of Documents to the attention of the House. Mr. Simailak.

Tabled Document 280 – 2(4): Metal Mining Effluent Regulations - Amendments, Canada Gazette Part II, V. 142 No. 14

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As I indicated in my Member's Statement, I wish to table today an excerpt from part II of a recent addition of the *Canada Gazette*. This excerpt concerns recent regulatory changes that impact the Meadowbank project. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabling of Documents. Mr. Curley.

Tabled Document 281 – 2(4): Letter to Prime Minister Harper from Peter Irniq re. Inuit Representation on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Residential Schools

Tabled Document 282 – 2(4): Contract Awards for Resupply: NNI Evaluation Sheet

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table some documents, and more specifically the ones we were handed earlier, with respect to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to ensure that we have Inuit representatives to look at the Inuit language documentation. I would like to include Dr. Peter Irniq, who was a Member of the NWT Legislative Assembly and a former Commissioner of Nunavut.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to report that this legislation taken from other jurisdictions, the *Access to Information Act*, was used by the Nunavut government to review the shipping companies that were awarded the contract for the annual resupply, how much Inuit content these companies had, and with respect to the statistics, as well as the evaluation sheet used for the reviews. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Can we have those documents brought forward to the table, please?

Tabling of Documents.

Tabled Document 283 – 2(4): Information and Privacy Commissioner Annual Report 2007-2008

Speaker (interpretation): I wish to table today the 2007-2008 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 045 – 2(4): Acceptance of the Report of the Integrity Commissioner re: David Simailak to the Legislative Assembly – Notice

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, September 17, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Cambridge Bay, that the sanctions and recommendations contained in the Report of the Acting Integrity Commissioner be accepted. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to these items being approved by the House, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to return to Item 5, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. *Annuraaqatik*, Minister Tapardjuk, you may proceed with your recognition.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my *Annuraaqatik* (my dapper fellow). I would like to recognize the members of the *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* Committee, who have assisted our government tremendously over the last couple of years. They are currently in town to have their last meeting and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize them while they are visiting the Gallery.

Percy Pikujak from Hall Beach.

>> *Applause*

Right beside him is Rainee Audla from Sanikiluaq.

>> *Applause*

Winnie Uvingayak from Baker Lake.

>> *Applause*

Mariam Aglukkaq from Gjoa Haven.

>> *Applause*

Simon Nattaq from Iqaluit.

>> *Applause*

Peterloosie Qappik from Pangnirtung.

>> *Applause*

And George Qulaut from Igloolik.

>> *Applause*

These individuals comprise the membership of the *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* Committee. Please welcome them to the Gallery. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Welcome to the Gallery and I hope that you will always feel welcome to the House.

(interpretation ends) Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. (interpretation) Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 7, 20, 21, 40, and 42, and Tabled Document 216 – 2(4) with Mr. Kattuk in the Chair.

Before we proceed with Committee of the Whole, we will take a 30-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 15:37 and Committee resumed at 16:14*

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

Chairman (Mr. Kattuk)(interpretation): Thank you, Members. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. Before we begin, I have some information.

(interpretation ends) On Friday, September 12, 2008, the Member for Iqaluit East raised a Point of Order. The Member for Iqaluit East was concerned that the Member for Rankin Inlet North used the word “fraud” in discussing a specific tendering process and, in doing so, alleged fraud on the part of the government or the bidders.

In responding to the Point of Order, the Member for Rankin Inlet North stated that he had used the word “flawed” and that he was not suggesting fraud by anyone.

I found that the Member for Rankin Inlet North had used the word “flawed” and ruled that there was no Point of Order.

The Member for Rankin Inlet North then asked the Member for Iqaluit East to withdraw his comments. Essentially, the Member for Iqaluit East was being asked to withdraw the Point of Order.

The Member for Iqaluit East asked that I review the audio tape to determine the precise word used. He indicated that if he was incorrect, he would apologize to the Member for Rankin Inlet North.

I am concerned that I am being asked to essentially reconsider my previous Ruling on the Point of Order. I am prepared to do as requested by the members on this occasion, however, once a Ruling has been made on a Point of Order, the matter is at an end and members cannot reopen the issue by raising additional, related Points of Order.

I have reviewed the audio tape of the proceedings and the Blues.

“Flawed” and “fraud” are very similar sounding. Perhaps this is most clearly demonstrated by a review of the Blues where, in providing his explanation to the Point of Order, the Member for Rankin Inlet North is quoted as saying “fraud” when he obviously was saying “flawed.” The member may want to make the necessary correction to the Blues.

A review of the audio tape of the discussion that led to the Point of Order does not clearly demonstrate the use of one of the words over the other. However, when the word is read in the context of the member’s comments, it is apparent that “flawed” is in keeping with the context.

The Member for Rankin Inlet North immediately clarified the misunderstanding.

The misunderstanding having been clarified, that would normally be the end of the matter.

In this instance, the Member for Iqaluit East indicated that he would apologize to the Member for Rankin Inlet North if it was determined that the word “flawed” had been used. Although I am not directing the member to apologize, I will now give him the opportunity to do so. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I respect and accept your Ruling, and indeed, look forward to the change of the Blues from “fraud” to “flawed,” as dictated on page one of your report. At this time, I would apologize to the member in the connotation as reported by your report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Picco. In the Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Tabled Document 216 – 2(4), Bill 42, Bill 7, Bill 40, Bill 20, and Bill 21. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue on with Friday’s consideration, Tabled Document 216 – 2(4), Bill 42 and Bill 7. Also, Mr. Chairman, if we have time, we will deal with the other items in the agenda. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Are we in agreement that we first deal with Tabled Document 216 – 2(4)?

Some Members: Agreed.

Tabled Document 216 – 2(4): Government of Nunavut’s Request for Proposals for Standing Offer Agreement for Medical Travel on Scheduled Airlines – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Minister Brown, do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would like my officials to accompany me at the witness table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant at Arms, please escort the Minister and her officials to the witness table.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Minister Brown. Minister Brown, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is Mike McCulloch, Manager from Contract Services, and on my right is the Deputy Minister of Health, Alex Campbell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Brown. The person that had his hand up was Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This issue was brought up by my colleague sitting to my right with respect to First Air abandoning their flight scheduling from Rankin Inlet to Winnipeg using their jet service as a result of First Air losing out on the medical travel contract for that portion. I would like to ask this question to the minister: what about the other carriers, such as Canadian North and Kivalliq Air I believe, perhaps it's Bradley Air Services? However, one of the other carriers won that contract in that region.

Is the minister or her department aware whether or not any of the airlines stated that based upon whether or not they were successful in the medical travel contracts, that they may pull out of scheduled services or that they may wish to expand their services based on their share of the medical travel contract? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. Campbell respond to that question. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Campbell.

Mr. Campbell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) At this point in time, I'm not aware that First Air or any other airline is going to reintroduce the jet service in the Kivalliq region. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I suppose that the department is unaware of these matters and what the airline corporate plans are. However, the NNI Policy is aimed at supporting Inuit owned firms.

If a firm is 51 percent Inuit owned, it is eligible under the NNI Policy. However, I think the government knows that Nunasi Corporation and Canadian North are 100 percent owned by Inuit, 50 percent is for Nunavummiut and 50 percent is for the Western Arctic people, so it's 100 percent Inuit owned. I think we have to look at the NNI Policy again to look into these types of ownership and how this matter can be resolved.

Was Canadian North excluded because of the Nunavut Inuit ownership percentage that I just talked about, which is 1 percent shy of this number? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCulloch respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCullock: Thank you very much. The NNI Policy and the bid adjustments that were applied on the policy, as I had mentioned previously, we had sent out an addendum as a response to the questions that had come up from the bidders' conference. So we sent out an addendum that explained, in great detail, exactly how the NNI Policy would be applied.

And in fact, the method of applying the NNI Policy and the addendum that we sent out was approved by the NNI Secretariat and also by NTI. So they were in favour and felt that it was the proper way to apply the bid adjustments in these scenarios.

So in fact, the bid adjustments and the NNI Policy were applied to all of them - Kivalliq Air, Nunasi, and First Air - they all received some bid adjustments as a result of the NNI Policy. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The explanation yesterday to the MLA from Rankin Inlet indicated that Canadian North does not qualify under the NNI Policy. However, it is 100 percent owned by Inuit. Only Nunasi is qualified under the NNI Policy, so they don't qualify with that NNI Policy adjustments of I think it was 10 percent or something like that. I'm not sure, but they do not qualify nonetheless.

How do you factor in when, in fact, you have factual information that this particular airline, Canadian North, is 100 percent Inuit owned? It just happens to be owned by two different jurisdictions, both the Inuit of Nunavut and Inuvialuit in the west. How do you disqualify it when it is 100 percent Inuit owned under the NNI Policy? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCullock will also respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. McCullock, go ahead.

Mr. McCullock: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. So Canadian North did not respond to this RFP by themselves, they responded as Nunasi. So Canadian North did not respond to the RFP, Nunasi responded to the RFP. The bid adjustments and the NNI Policy were applied to Nunasi. Nunasi did receive the bid adjustments. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not get the last part because he said, "Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman." He spoke again, so I didn't get the last part. Can you allow him to finish what he was saying at the tail end of his statement? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Arvaluk. Can you rephrase the last part of your answer? Mr. McCullock.

Mr. McCullock: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry about that. In fact, then, that Canadian North did get the bid adjustment but they got it through Nunasi because Nunasi responded to the RFP. The legal entity that responded to the RFP was Nunasi, so Nunasi received the bid adjustment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is my last question in this part and it's in regard to the NNI Policy that is used by our government.

The NNI Policy was developed fully and it has admirable objectives to try and attain. However, not every business is operated similarly and with the businesses all over the spectrum, there are several fields that the government neglected to include in its application. We are not assessing blame on the government. However, when designing programs and policies, not every eventuality is foreseen. There are issues that crop up which were not even on the radar or that emerged after the policy was drafted.

To cite this example, an Inuk proprietor, corporation, or businessperson, who requires financing for their business plan, can look for funding or a partner from wherever, let's use Vancouver as an example. The reason why this policy has to be reviewed is that when a business requires funding or partnership, there are many factors to consider.

What I would like to ask is: has the NNI Policy been reviewed lately? When can we expect a report on either the review of the NNI Policy or of recommendations to that effect? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCullock respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCullock: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much for that question. There is a review committee that is in place now under the NNI Secretariat and I believe that's under the Department of ED&T, a different department. But I do know that there is a review that is being started and I can't tell you for sure when it's going to be released. You would have to speak to perhaps the secretariat about that but I know that the review is being started. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we learned quite a bit from the bills that we have been reviewing; Bill 21, the *Education Act*, Bill 7, the *Inuit Language Protection Act*, Bill 6, the *Official Languages Act*, etcetera. We learned quite a bit that the spirit and the intent of those bills are very important. Spirits and intents are the beliefs of Nunavummiut how the bill can best be implemented.

The NNI Policy, from the outset, uses a lot of figures; you know, 49 percent, etcetera. No, Canadian North does not qualify but Nunasi Corporation does. Will the spirit and intent of the policy that is being developed weigh fairly heavy so that Nunavummiut business, especially those who want to participate in the mining development and through catering services or the human resource services, etcetera, can be accommodated?

I think the accommodation for Inuit businesses is going to be utmost important when developing, rather than just the facts and figures and a whole bunch of details in the NNI Policy. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't hear a specific question posed, although there may have been a question in there somewhere. However, I'm in agreement with the member's comments as he stated them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These sections as written (interpretation ends) Section 2.2.8 of the GN's RFP indicates that "The term of this agreement will be for a period of three years with the possibility of two one year extensions." Why was this approach taken?

(interpretation) What I am trying to point out here so that the minister can understand the context is when a passenger is bumped off due to the number of passengers on the flight to Pond Inlet, someone who is trying to go home, why aren't they booked on another flight? It so happened the last time that I was booked on the Canadian North flight to Pond Inlet where we only had three passengers on the itinerary and there were quite a number of seats available on that flight. I believe that we had 12 empty seats.

The contract for medical travel is with First Air and once they have enough passengers, they bump off the medical travel patients who end up having to wait for another day's flight. This is unacceptable. It never goes well with Inuit practicality. When Inuit, who have no knowledge of the medical travel contract, ask why they are stuck in Iqaluit when there are many open seats on the Canadian North flight to Pond Inlet, it's hard to explain that it's because of the contents of the contract that they have no knowledge of.

I apologize that I used the term “okay” within the House and perhaps I ought not to have used that term.

However, why doesn't it go back to how it was running before there was a contract? Apparently, it was running smoothly when medical travel was on the free market. Will this be included in the terms of reference for the review of medical travel, or the NNI Policy, or when they are planning the next medical travel rounds? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I completely understand the context which the member is using to illustrate his point. As well, we are empathetic of our people's plight, but this will require further review and I will ask my staff to try to resolve the matter.

I will ask the senior staff to assess this so that we have a more streamlined approach and this may include meetings with the contracted airline management as well as our Health Department officials. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Brown. Is that it? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a few questions that I would like to follow-up from last Friday. I know it was mentioned that if a proponent or anyone that submitted a complete proposal was evaluated and looked at.

I'm just wondering if the minister or her officials could indicate, particularly for the route in question between Rankin Inlet and Winnipeg, if that routing, if it's all completed, or what the department saw as completed information in the proposals that were evaluated. Could an evaluation only be done on proposals that were deemed complete by the department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCulloch respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very much for the excellent question. The RFP document clearly stated that there were evaluation criteria that were required and information that was required in order for a proposal to be complete. One of those components that are very important, you can imagine, would be price. So if we receive a proposal for which price is not included for a certain portion of the market, then we cannot evaluate it. In fact, it is deemed to be incomplete.

Under procurement law, the courts have upheld, through many cases, the duty of the GN, for example, to reject non-compliant proposals. So where pricing is not included, we cannot evaluate the proposal and therefore, it is deemed non-compliant and cannot be evaluated. So that's the duty of fairness that we have to ensure that the process is properly conducted.

So in fact, if pricing is missing, it is non-compliant and cannot be evaluated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. McCulloch, for that response. So I guess the other part of my question is: were all proposals that were deemed to be completed reviewed for that particular route? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCulloch respond to that question as well. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very much for the question. Yes, we can tell you that all proposals that were received that were complete were, in fact, evaluated to the full extent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. McCulloch, for clarifying that. I'm going to jump over to another issue and my colleague, Mr. Arvaluk, was talking about it a little bit, and that is dealing with the whole NNI Policy. I know, as he said, the spirit and the intent and the goal and objectives of that program was to ensure that Inuit owned firms would get the extra edge in bidding on contracts and any jobs with the government throughout the territory.

I know that he kind of touched on it a bit, but according to its corporate website, "NorTerra Incorporated is a Canadian management and holding company, owned equally by the Inuvialuit Development Corporation and Nunasi Corporation." NorTerra, I believe, is the owner of Canadian North. They purchased it I believe in 1998 and we all know that NorTerra doesn't show up on the official listing of Inuit firms through the NNI Registry with NTI. Canadian North's own website, as my colleague pointed out, indicates that its shareholders are "Inuvialuit and Inuit of Nunavut" and the NWT.

Looking at all that, I know I had asked a question last spring and I got a response where they are showing the market share and they had a listing by region and what kind of routes, and it had indicated First Air, Nunasi/Canadian North, Kivalliq Air, and that was

it for the airlines that were awarded a market share. Later on, I got another response breaking it down even further indicating Bradley Air Services Limited doing business with First Air and Nunasi Corporation, Kivalliq Air, a division of Keewatin Air, and Calm Air International had submitted bids.

I'm just wondering why, in the correspondence that I got in April, it indicates Nunasi/Canadian North as a proponent and then later on in June, I got a letter where it just shows as Nunasi Corporation and not Nunasi/Canadian North. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These are technical questions, so I will refer them to Mr. McCulloch. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. McCulloch.

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The legal entities that responded to the Request for Proposals, for example, Bradley Air Services with First Air delivering the business, Nunasi with Canadian North delivering the business, Calm Air and Kivalliq Air are a division of Keewatin Air, I think that what was sent initially didn't have perhaps all of the details that would have made it clear.

So nobody knows what perhaps Bradley Air is but they know what First Air is, and people don't remember the last time they get on an airplane that said Nunasi on the side of it but understand what Canadian North is. And I think that the brackets and the other information that was put in a later detail were in attempt to try and clarify that.

But the legal entities that actually responded to RFPs obviously were what they were, they responded as they responded. First Air didn't respond, it was Bradley Air that responded with First Air delivering the business and it was Nunasi responding with Canadian North on the business. That's the way they responded and that's the way the legal text read.

I think that perhaps the first way you read it or the first rate information that was given to you, we tried to clarify it later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. McCulloch for clarifying that. Now, I guess it was just a little confusing. If it had two names on there, one would assume that it was joint submission. So I'm glad again it was clarified that it wasn't.

I guess what my colleague was pointing out, the NNI Policy, in order to qualify under that, you have to be at least 51 percent Inuit owned. We know that, by the looks of it, NorTerra isn't and Canadian North isn't, they are 50 percent Nunavut Inuit owned. I'm

just wondering because I had a concern and I know what that policy is meant, like I said earlier, to try and keep the benefits of business in Nunavut for Nunavummiut.

I know everybody else will know as a fact that Nunasi Corporation's headquarters are in Yellowknife. I'm just wondering if there's a different way of differentiating in there, even though it may be a Nunavut firm, qualified by the 51 percent Inuit ownership, if there's an additional requirement for being a Nunavut-based firm as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCulloch respond to that question as well.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. McCulloch.

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Tootoo, for that question. The way we apply the NNI Policy in the addendum that explains how it was done, in order to determine what the bid adjustments would be, the question in summary was: tell us the amount of money that you spend in employing Inuit employees and tell us how many Inuit employees you have as a percentage of the total of your employment.

So the only points that were applied and the only credits that they got for Inuit employment and for the NNI was where they could prove to us and show us the dollars spent and the payroll employing beneficiaries. In the section for Nunavut businesses, the question was about the detail of it. They had to fill out and "show us the dollar values and the money you are spending with Nunavut registered and NTI registered companies and what percentage of those dollars is it of the total."

We asked for the total dollars, the actual amount of money spent, names of the companies that they're spending them with, and we were quite thorough when asking so that we could determine, in fact, what the Inuit content was, so that we could ensure that it just wasn't somebody applying under a name. We wanted to make sure we knew what impact was going to be the Inuit content. Whether it is employment and doing business in Nunavut, we made sure that we knew exactly where the money was being spent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that was a pretty thorough way of looking at it but still, the fact that Nunasi was an Inuit owned firm on the NNI Registry, just that fact alone, gives them an additional credit, if you want to call it that, for a bid adjustment. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCulloch respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. In the NNI Policy, there's a difference in the way the bid adjustments are applied when buying goods versus buying a mixed goods and services contract. Where it's a mixed goods and services contract, which is what we were purchasing for medical travel, the NNI application that we sent out in the addendum specifically showed the respondents how the bid adjustments would be applied.

The fact that Nunasi is 51 percent owned by the Inuit, it was still most important that we knew exactly how many Inuit employees there were, how many they were employing, and what was that as a percentage of their payroll. So the fact that they're just an Inuit company when we're buying goods and when we're buying services does not necessarily, in itself, give them a bid adjustment. They need to tell us how many Inuit employees they've got, how much are they spending on employing beneficiaries, and how much money are they spending with Nunavut and with NTI registered companies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. McCulloch, for that response. Did Nunasi Corporation get additional offset, or credit, or adjustment on their bid just for the simple fact that they're on the NNI Registry and that they are listed as at least a 51 percent Inuit owned company? That was just my question: did they get an additional adjustment as a result of that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) The answer to the member's question is yes. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for clarifying that. Everybody knows and it was pointed out here, it is. You say that instead of just applying under a name, in this case, just by using Nunasi Corporation, they did apply under a name because they're not the owners of Canadian North and they're not the owners of NorTerra.

So I guess when I go back and look at some of the other contracts that have been let in the past, if you look at the medevac contract for example, it was another one there that they could say, "We gave it to an Inuit owned company," but that company is basically subcontracting all of the work to non-Nunavut firms - a firm based in Calgary and a firm

based out of Montreal. To me, that kind of defeats the purpose of the policy and it's like a loophole that's there.

In a lot of cases, even here, they've got it done by name. They knew individually or separately that NorTerra or Canadian North wouldn't qualify for that additional adjustment, so they used Nunasi Corporation, under that name, to put their bid in and they're just subbing it out to non-Inuit firms. Now, I understand what you said about how you looked at all of that, but I think that's just the surface of a bigger issue.

I understand that the policy is being reviewed right now. We see it is something that is being taken advantage of. I know in the one that I mentioned earlier, there was an Inuit owned business that had a significant investment to be based here that didn't get any of the work because they went to another Inuit owned firm that's utilizing southern firms. Well, of course, their bid is going to be cheaper, they don't have the overhead and they haven't made that commitment to invest in Nunavut, which is what this policy is supposed to try and foster and take into account. Maybe if I could get a commitment from the minister that that's something that they will try.

I know it's not an easy thing in the way that they evaluate it; Mr. McCulloch said they evaluated some of the stuff in here as a good move forward to address some of that issue, but that issue is still out there and there are a lot of fronts, if you want to call them that, that are being used and taken advantage of by southern firms. They're Inuit owned businesses on paper, but don't really have anything set up, maybe a little office or something like that, that are utilizing southern-based companies.

Can there be a way to tighten that up or look at it to try and make sure that this policy is actually doing what it's supposed to be doing and that's getting Inuit owned businesses that Nunavut is their home, that Nunavut is their headquarters, and that Nunavut is where they have made their investment? And some of them are pretty significant investments that are given an edge, and that's what it's supposed to be used for. I think this is kind of a loophole that's there. I'm just wondering if I could get a commitment if that loophole will be tightened up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The comments from the committee are quite well put. As well, I have just been informed by the Deputy Minister of the Department of Health and Social Services that there's now a Health Committee that will oversee the review and that they have already initiated this review.

Further, with respect to the comments by Mr. Tootoo, I will ensure that they are passed along to the Department of Transportation. In addition to that, I will ask Mr. McCulloch to address some of the points raised in the member's comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. McCulloch, go ahead.

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very much. We have been working on this NNI application paper that we could put out so that we could show to vendors how we're going to be applying the NNI Policy, not just for this RFP but for other RFPs. It had been started long before this RFP had gone out and in fact, in this case, Nunasi did not receive any additional points because they applied under the name. The points that were applied were clearly based on the dollars that they said they would spend and the number of Inuit that they would employ.

Without having a chalkboard or a whiteboard to go into the mass of it, I certainly would invite and would love to bring forward at some point that NNI amendment that we had put out so that people could actually take a look at it. I think perhaps it may even have been circulated already here. It's part of the RFP, it's a detailed document, it's got a lot of math in it, there's nothing simple about it. We were, in fact, trying to address those loophole issues that you speak of because we realized that they exist.

This amendment, an addendum document that we had put out was vetted through and we worked on it with NTI and with the NNI Secretariat. So, in fact, the points were applied only as per that addendum. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know I only have nine seconds left now. I could ask a lot more questions. There is one that I wanted to follow-up on and it is something that was mentioned last week. I know Mr. McCulloch clarified for all of us what the perks were that were looked at and I know that there were a number of them that were offered by the contractors.

He referred to additional Inuit employment offered by the airlines, money being spent in Nunavut and Inuit companies, as well as other benefits, such as a scholarship program for training of nurses and the expansion of the Pivut Fare. I'm just wondering how and if the government is ensuring that the airlines are fulfilling their commitments in these additional areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCulloch answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. McCulloch, go ahead.

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That's a very excellent question. That's a function of contract management, the Department of Health will be managing this contract through its lifecycle and they will be tracking these things to ensure the deliverables are correct. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. McCulloch. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate your Ruling on the question, at least the Point of Order that was raised. I thank you for clarifying that and I appreciate that.

Mr. Chairman, I was appalled the other day, on Friday, that the evaluation of the contract and the criteria that were established really only applied to the medical contracts, and that was it. Even though the Assembly had advised the government that they should take into consideration the possible economic impacts on carriers when awarding this contract, I'm surprised that the Health Department officials did not take the advice that was given to them last April.

Why did the minister and your officials feel that almost half a million dollars worth of contract awarding into the airline industry will not have an economic impact on regions? What makes you conclude that it will not have an economic impact? Now, you will say, "I didn't say that," but a representative did say, and I believe it was Mr. McCulloch, that this was applied only to the medical contract.

Why was the advice given by this Assembly not taken into consideration due to the fact that First Air has indicated that they will now be suspending their service, they did as of yesterday, for passengers from Winnipeg to and from Rankin Inlet? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. McCulloch answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. I know that when the RFP document was put together and when we had discussed how we would go forward with the approach to the medical travel contract, certainly it was brought to our attention and we certainly knew that it was of significant value and that potentially, it could have large effect on the airline industry.

In fact, we made this statement at the bidders' conference that we had and it was talked about that, in fact, it was important that we knew that this was a big contract and that it was important to everybody. That's one of the reasons in the RFP document that talked about apportioning the market share so that everybody could have a piece of it. When we were writing the document up and when we were doing the evaluations, this was very much present as far as our thought process; we knew that it was important.

However, again, as the evaluation committee, where we have an RFP document that comes in to us, if it's not complete and if there are major components missing, our hands are slightly tied in case law as to what we can do to award pieces of the market place.

And in a large way, this happened with this RFP document. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. McCulloch. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it was made quite clear, with respect to the NNI Policy, how it's evaluated on the proposed tenders that were issued. The reason for my comment the other day that I feel that the tender, as issued, was flawed mainly because it did not ask specifically the operating companies to be the primary proponents of the bids in responding to the tender. I believe they were so wide open that now, the minister and her officials may be quite satisfied with the service in Kivalliq.

But I could tell you, listening to my colleague on my right the other day, he said that now, a very ill patient from his region will have to fly about six hours to and from Baker Lake to get to Winnipeg or to Churchill because of the milk run system.

Now, the tender that was issued may look quite good. It met your requirements because the jet service is now cancelled. You did not take into consideration the type of aircraft that they were going to use. We're now back to a 20-year ago system - turbo props and all of these small little planes, indecent washroom facilities, and so on.

You may be very satisfied, but I can tell you that Kivallirmiut are very upset and you're telling me that we will have an opportunity to review this contract one year from the date it was issued. Don't you think you should be reviewing it now and see if you can adjust it? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCulloch will respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very much for the question. I certainly appreciate the concern that has been raised. I think that part of the concern needs to be addressed.

I know that there was a review done again this year of the Transportation Strategy and I know that certainly the airline is a big part of that. I think that the Transportation Strategy itself and some of those issues that are addressed in it, which is part of the ED&T, or Economic Development and Transportation, and their strategy, I know that they are the people that are concerned with this type of development in the marketplace.

I do know that if the marketplace is found, that if there is enough traffic, that Canadian North is looking at that market and they are trying to determine if there is enough economic justification to move into that market. I know that they are looking into that

now. I can't tell you if or ever they will move in there but I know that it is being looked at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. McCulloch. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In view of the three-year term of these contracts that were issued prior to April 1, 2008, it is really not comforting to Kivallirmiut that the proponents... I suppose there were three partnerships in my riding that formed a partner, three or four partnership deals that were awarded the contract.

But the amazing thing about it is the one that has been given an operating air service, to be specific Calm Air, is not mentioned as one of the proponents and yet, Canadian North was given 65 percent of that service to carry passengers from the Kivalliq region to and from Manitoba. Canadian North doesn't even operate one single airline. How is it possible that this airline, that is so-called providing so many jobs and whatnot, is benefiting from all of this without even putting a single investment into the service? How does that work?

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. Campbell respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Campbell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The department is certainly in a very tough situation. As a department, we're mandated to deliver a health care system and try and keep people healthy in Nunavut. We certainly don't take that responsibility lightly and we will try our best as a department to make sure we have and transport people to and from their appointments in either Churchill, or Winnipeg, or Kivalliq, and Ottawa and points south, and the rest of the territory.

Several times, we have made interventions here to suggest that the contracts, the bidders, whoever, the proponents, that their proposals into the system are all evaluated equally when it comes to providing the service in the Kivalliq, in the Kitikmeot, and in the Baffin.

We were instructed, as a department, to try and reduce our medical travel costs as well by this Assembly. We are trying our best to try and meet that direction that we have been provided through this department. Issuing out this public Request for Proposals was one way to provide a bit of an opportunity for these businesses to provide some proposals for the government to say that they would provide this to us at an economic rate for the government.

Overall, we're trying to reduce the costs of this department for providing that service. We're estimating that we would be saving about \$4 million per year on this contract if

everything works according to what we have initiated. On average, there has been a decrease 12 percent to 16 percent in ticket prices. I think that's a good thing for Nunavummiut to see that kind of benefit in their wallet.

So I don't know what else the department can do to make the process fair for all of the proponents that have responded. All I can say is, as Mr. McCulloch and the minister have indicated, that we tried to treat everybody as fair and equally as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that. I hope the advice that the Assembly provided is important to the ministers and officials because we did take the issue seriously prior to the awarding of the contracts, but they were not considered nor part of any essential consideration needed.

As the contracts were awarded to a couple of major airlines, there are three or four of them at least, including the smaller one, may look good and may have a positive indication with respect to reducing costs, it doesn't mean that they are providing the best service to the region. Not having a jet service from here to Montreal would be a catastrophe, or from points further up north, it would be terrible. So to me, in the Kivalliq, it's a major disaster there.

And I read many of the perks that Mr. McCulloch indicated. There are a number of points, Inuit will be hired and this sort of thing, but I think they were fooling you with their proposals. We have not yet seen a single increase in hiring of Inuit people.

As a matter of fact, Inuit working in one of the operating companies had been willing to get more training for passenger service and other essential systems of that airline. They have not been able to give any Inuit first training or extra training, but it applies to non-Inuit. So that's how it's happening. I also read your proposal that said that the announcements of the services must be in Inuktitut. That has not happened. Why do you allow these things to be ignored? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to clarify, we are in no way ignoring any services or any language on the airplane. I will give direction to the staff to make sure that was happening because what was spelled out in the contract is that they have to follow through with it.

It's vitally important that this government is satisfied with the contract and it's going on six months now come this October, and I will ask for a review because I'm curious, too, now as to how things are running to see if they are, in fact, doing what was asked of them on April 1, 2008. So that direction will be given strongly and I'm not taking any of these lightly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I was appreciative of my colleague's question. With respect to the application of the NNI point system, as they exist, I know a bit about those things because I have worked with Alex Campbell as well as many of the other officials in establishing those guidelines, but promise is not part of them. It has to be actually related to the specific nature of the task of the work, whether it will be a requirement for that, Inuit to work at those points. You don't award points based on how many jobs we may create kind of thing, that's not in the NNI guidelines.

I'm also concerned, Mr. Chairman, with respect to not only the elimination of First Air from the regional system, a major service to the economy of Kivalliq and as well, the medical people. This summer, Kivallirmiut complained that, for instance, Calm Air, now a major carrier in Kivalliq, had discontinued Aeroplan service for all the communities.

Now, you talk about perks that you ask: what are they going to provide? Travel is very expensive in Nunavut; there is no alternative travel for social occasions as well as visiting friends. Aeroplan points have played a major role and contributed greatly to people who wish to visit and include some of their kids when they go on holidays.

Now, this is what's happening: Calm Air discontinued their service and yet, you're saying they're doing such a great job for the Kivalliq region. Why not include part of their perks as to what they are? I would like to ask the minister if she would look into that and ensure alternative travel points are continued because frequent flyer points are important. Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it's indeed within my portfolio, I kind of think it's under Economic Development, I certainly can give direction to my senior staff to look into that and to make a push that it comes back from Calm Air. I agree with the member because I live in Nunavut, too and I know it's a benefit to Nunavummiut to have those Airmiles. I will look into that and I commit to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. So that the minister will have the latest information, one of the concerns raised by Kivallirmiut, where they stated in *Kivalliq News* on August 20 and as a matter of fact, the writer indicated that Kivallirmiut looking to book their Calm Air flights using Aeroplan last week were surprised to learn the frequent flyer program was off the hook, so an individual had to incur an additional \$1,500 to try and get to points down south. So that's why I'm raising this point. It doesn't come from me specifically or out of the air.

Mr. Chairman, my last point is: will the minister at least give us more assurances that this active review, as you said you will deal with some of the issues that I raised, will also apply to the overall performance of the contract within the Kivalliq region? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government does a periodic review for these matters. I believe that I stated that the first six months of this contract have passed. Next month, there will be a review done and if there's a need to include the other ministers and their deputies, we will work together fully to review this matter and resolve it. Further, I agree with the member's question and the issue he raised. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Brown. (interpretation ends) I will allow you, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask another question. I believe you informed me that we would be allowed to ask questions until I'm the only one standing in the open. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Go ahead.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You are a darned good chairman indeed. I would like to make a supplementary question to my colleague sitting on my right with regards to the NNI Policy. He also stated that the NNI Policy is not appropriate and it does deal with this issue under the contract given under the NNI Policy.

Did you believe that Canadian North operates out of the Keewatin? We are all aware that they don't have any planes operating out of that region, there's no Canadian North service originating from there. It just lands from Yellowknife to Rankin Inlet, and then keeps going to Iqaluit. I don't believe they go to Winnipeg. How did you award a contract to an airline that doesn't even operate in the Keewatin?

Somebody stated earlier that it was given to Calm Air. I doubt that this airline was even bidding on the contract and they were tasked to undertake these flights to fulfill the contract. Did you believe, as a government, that you would give the contract to Nunasi and that Canadian North would start operating out of Rankin Inlet and provide jet service to Winnipeg? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCulloch will respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCullock: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The RFP was responded to by... I don't know, but there were partnerships, and Calm Air responded in partnership with Canadian North. In fact, Calm Air responded on their own and they also responded in partnership with Canadian North.

It wasn't a condition of the RFP or of the contract that they had to have a home base or they had to have a head office in a certain geographical area. We went out for services, we stated what the services were that were required, and we stated what the evaluation criteria would be. The evaluation criteria were, among other things, price was in there and so was service. So we weighed all of the evaluation criteria and that's how we came up with the end result.

So Calm Air bid as part of Canadian North. I hope that clarifies the question, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, (interpretation ends) I understand that it's not a condition. You don't have to have an airline in there; you could bid for medical travel contracts.

I could apply for a medical travel contract, I guess, in the Kivalliq, Inuit owned, I own it myself, but it would be very difficult, unless you have pre-arrangements with other airlines that could deliver a service for you.

But because it's not a condition, it ended up with the discontinuing of airline service for other airlines that are already in existence in the Kivalliq. I think we all recognize that that affected everything else. I know the government's big, but we, as residents and small businesses, are all interconnected. If one airline does not get the fair deal, or rotten deal, whatever, or excluded for that matter, the whole service for passengers in the whole of Kivalliq is affected. So I think that will have to be recognized and taken with a point.

Mr. Chairman, section 2.5.2 of the GN's RFP indicates that "The Contractor will make reasonable efforts" to provide languages like Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English, and French. How did the government evaluate the airlines' proposals in this area and how is the government monitoring airlines' compliance with this requirement? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCullock will answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. McCullock, go ahead.

Mr. McCullock: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that question. We recognized that in Nunavut, languages are very important and that it was very important that people be able to be served in the language of their choice.

When we put out the Request for Proposal, language and those services being provided are evaluated under service. So it was under customer service, which is 30 percent, which was a significant portion of the evaluation criteria.

It was part of customer service. The proponents or the contractors sent back, as a response to the RFP, explanations and they explained to us what their language programs were going to be and the evaluation committee determined that they would if they were appropriate, and the monitoring, again, is part of the contract management.

So we evaluated, as part of the RFP, under the customer service area and we did recognize that it was very important. And the monitoring is part of contract management. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's also section 2.5.12 of the RFP that states that "The Contractor will transport a reasonable amount of country food, subject to space availability, from a point of origin on the Contractor's route network to the Contractor's cargo facilities located at Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Yellowknife. The Contractor will not charge for this service." How did the government evaluate the airlines' proposals for this RFP and how is the government monitoring airlines' compliance with this requirement for the provision of country foods?

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCullock will respond to the question. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCullock: Thank you very much for that question. In the proponents' meeting that we had with them, this exact topic came up at the meeting. We were concerned that the airlines would be able to continue to offer that level of service for country food so that medical travellers could ensure they had country food at their destination in the south if that's where they were travelling for medical appointments. It was evaluated as part of customer service, it was very important.

We asked the airlines that were in the room, and it was all of them, how much and what has the volume been, what has been the history. It was discussed and each airline, in their proposal, submitted suggesting that they would provide adequate space for country food. And when we had asked them at the proponents' meetings if they ever had to refuse, the

airlines had told us that they had never refused country food being brought in reasonable quantities for somebody on medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope this is not going to be just a lip service, I hope good results will come out of that. Also, section 2.7.2 of the GN's RFP indicates that airlines were asked to count for fuel surcharges in their proposed pricing. What has been the impact of the world price of oil on the costs of the GN's medical travel contracts? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McCulloch will respond to that question as well.

Chairman: Mr. McCulloch, go ahead.

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Fuel surcharges, we know, are part of life now and they're very much a big part of transportation. So the fuel surcharge that we have approved that they could charge us is going to be linked to published rack prices, so it is auditable, so we know if there has been an increase in fuel over the months.

I think we have seen a couple of increases based on fuel increases and we know that the airlines are passing these along. The contracts that we had previously, of which there was only one, but that contract also included a fuel surcharge. So the amount of any fuel surcharge would have been passed along under the previous contract and it is now also. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have only two more questions but I probably can pose them together since they are related.

The first one is: section 2.9.1 of the GN's RFP indicates that "Base Fares shall be adjusted by the Contractor on each anniversary date of this Contract." Section 4 of Addendum 5 in the RFP indicates that the GN informed bidders that "Prices submitted under this RFP will not be made public." If the government is not willing to disclose the base fares negotiated with the airlines, can the minister indicate whether the new base fares are significantly higher or lower than those in the government's previous contracts for medical travel? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe Mr. McCulloch can respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. McCulloch: Thank you very, Mr. Chairman. Less. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would want to be a taxpayer now, I feel very good about this. However, as a taxpayer, I would love to know, on an annual basis, how much of that money has been coming out of my pocket.

The government tables annual reports in the Legislative Assembly on its contracting and procurement activities. Will the government commit to ensuring that future reports to the Legislative Assembly indicate the total amount that the GN spends each year on scheduled medical travel for each airline with which it has contracts?

The interest is very simple. The taxpayers have right to know how much this government is spending for everything because we have significant information in other monies that are spent, except for the contracts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the question that the member posed, we will be able to provide that information annually after this. These reports will be presented annually from here on in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Brown. Is that it? (interpretation ends) I will allow you, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're getting near the conclusion on this thing. I think it's very important that we set the record straight as well because there are a lot of passionate concerns, as well important concerns, as well as financial concerns of individuals, not only by the government. It's easy to save money in this government - by eliminating some programs and doing something, but cutting essential service to standards that are lower than one of the best services is really not one option in Nunavut. It could have been managed a little better.

But I was surprised, Mr. Chairman, last Friday, that the Deputy Minister of Health, through the ministry, indicated that, in responding to my question, suspension of the jet service by First Air to and from Winnipeg was not related to the medical travel contract.

If I understood the statement correctly, even though the official First Air statement stated that it was suspending the service due to the fact that they are not part of the medical

service contract for GN, are the minister and her officials saying to this committee that First Air is misleading the public by saying that the medical service travel contract is responsible for passenger service as of September 14, 2008? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. We have no quorum, so I will have to ring the bell.

Thank you. Minister Brown.

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this has to be clarified and I can sympathize with that. I also agree with my colleague's assessment that we have to have clear and concise information in order to proceed in a transparent manner. I will have Mr. Campbell respond to that question as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Campbell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I guess the point I was trying to make on Friday was that the decision that was made by the airline was a business decision on their part.

I just wanted to re-emphasize that the instructions from my department was for us to try and reduce some of our costs in delivering our health care services in Nunavut. The best way of doing that is to go through a public Request for Proposals call and see what's out there. The government doesn't have control of whom and how the proponents put in their bids on certain legs of this public service that they provide.

All I can say is that, and I can say it again, there was no scheduled medical contract in the Kivalliq to begin with and I can say that it's not the lack of a scheduled medical contract that hopefully wasn't a deciding factor for the airline to stop travelling there, it was a business case. The proponents that put in proposals for that portion of the schedule were evaluated. I can't say anything more than that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the member being in a difficult situation, or at least the deputy minister. But on any given major contract issued by the government to the public, in my knowledge, I have worked with a number of contractors as a minister, evaluating contracts also always includes economic impacts of potential other competition.

For years, it was very difficult for Inuit owned companies to compete or try and establish a new business to try and compete with the old boys' club during the 50s, 60s, and 70s. So therefore, the NNI Policy, *Article 24*, came into reality. I pushed for that through the negotiations.

Why then does the GN, particularly the Departments of Health and Community and Government Services, exclude economic impacts of service when major contracts are issued, such as medical travel contracts? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Campbell will respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Campbell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As a department administering, I do try to take the economic climate and the service into consideration on some of the contracts that we do have under our department for administration. From an administrative point of view and from a person that has worked in Nunavut, I do take these into consideration. At the end of the day, the department was instructed to try and manage medical travel expenses as part of the overall expenditure management exercise.

At the same time, I wanted to make sure there's some benefit to Nunavummiut on the contracts that are being awarded. Our best estimate right now is that, as I said earlier, we're projecting to save \$3 million to \$4 million per year under this contract if everything goes according to how things should go. The average ticket prices have increased by 12 to 16 percent. There has been an increase in service in the Baffin region. So from that context, I think overall, there is a benefit to Nunavummiut in awarding some of these contracts.

My department is not ultimately responsible for economic development, that's another department responsible for facilitating and being involved in that, but I will try my best in assessing these proposals to make sure that we have heard the members, that we will take these into consideration.

Again, at one point, we're trying to manage the expenditure of this government, my department, and then, at the same time, we're trying to encourage, by the member's suggestion, that we should also look at the economic impact. So it's a difficult situation to be in.

At the end of the day, as I said on Friday and as I said earlier, we're not going to sacrifice the health and wellbeing of Nunavummiut. We will make sure that Nunavummiut are attending their medical appointments wherever that may be. We will make sure that people that require medevacs are medevaced to where they're medevaced to. So that's our mandate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that. I fully understand where you are, Mr. Campbell and your department. At the same time, it may be too little, too late, in my view, to try and see whether or not Nunavummiut are benefiting from all this in view of the fact that I did passionately indicate that there will be a negative impact if regional airlines are restructured because I told you so.

I said this: the Economic Development Department does not have a transportation policy that actually works. It's just, in my view, a paper statement. It doesn't have a financial ability to steer regional airlines into services because the market is so small. The biggest market for air travel is medical travel. That's the biggest economic impact for the region.

Prior to April 1, all three airlines were participating in the medical travel service. Therefore, they were able to keep afloat with the services and there were no complaints, really, from the public. The patients were able to fly directly, without interruptions, from very sick people to elderly people, from point A to Winnipeg and back again. Right now, the very ill people who are ready to go home cannot fly directly, unless there is a medevac arriving in Winnipeg. Very ill people have to be flown. If there is a medevac coming in from Rankin Inlet or so, then they're flown back there.

At one point, one community was very concerned and I can say to you that individuals were willing to charter a plane back from Winnipeg to bring their elderly back home because the government was not willing to pay for that service. So they said, "Okay, just make the plane available. We will pay for it ourselves." That's what's happening and that's what you're doing.

Not only should you be concerned with how well you are managing your finances, there are no travel options right now for Kivalliq people and yet, the one airline is really benefiting as a monopoly in the region. The other partner is a very small player, but not strong enough to ensure that all of the communities are seeing a decrease in airfares.

So, Mr. Chairman, I hope that the minister and her officials will continue to provide evaluations. At one point, whoever sits in the next Assembly will no doubt want to see the progress and the reports from the department. Would the minister commit, at least, that she will continue to provide reports to the Assembly, whoever may be in the next Assembly? Thank you.

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

Hon. Levinia Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The evaluation will be ongoing now on an annual basis. I have commitments from both DMs. Although I won't be in the new government, these guys will be and I believe that will happen, and I trust in the government officials that these comments and these concerns were taken seriously. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Brown. (interpretation) Is that it? Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry I had to be out of the House for a while to pick up somebody at the airport. Two very quick points, if I may, Mr. Chairman.

On section 2.4 of the Request for Proposals, I know the minister asked us last week to provide page numbers, but there are no page numbers in the document. So if the cover page is page 1, it would be on page 9 for the benefit of the minister. The section is regarding the Requirements of Scheduled Turbo-Prop Service and 2.4.2 says, "The successful Proponent(s) will provide the most efficient delivery of GN clients to and from destination. Efficiency is defined by:

- The timely AND most direct delivery of the passenger(s).
- The comfortable delivery of the passenger(s)."

Those are two of a number of requirements.

Just to get it on the record, Mr. Chairman, because I'm sure the government will not change the contents of this contract just because of what's going on here, but when it comes to medical travel or any travel out of Baker Lake, what we have now is not timely, is not the most direct route, and is not comfortable.

As I mentioned last week, it's taken us up to six hours just to get to Winnipeg from Baker Lake with a whole bunch of stops, and the same coming home travelling six and sometimes more hours trying to get back home from Winnipeg with multiple stops and again, with no hot meals either way. Depending on what flight you take, sometimes it means waiting a number of hours at the terminal in Rankin Inlet, again, not comfortable at all for patients. So I don't see how you were able to skip over that when you awarded the contract to the successful proponent.

By the way, Mr. Chairman, just on the side, it might be very interesting, for the Minister of Human Resources, just to get an idea of how much it's costing the government now because with a very early departure from Baker Lake and a very late arrival, any government employee from Baker Lake travelling on those routes are charging up to five and six hours of overtime every day they travel. So it would be very interesting just to find out how much we're paying there.

So just the point that I wanted to make again is that six hours is a long time for medical patients, whether they're trying to get to Winnipeg or trying to get home, and again, depending on which day you're travelling and which flight you're travelling on, it means up to three different aircraft just to get to Baker Lake from Winnipeg.

The only other point I wanted to reiterate, Mr. Chairman, if I may, is the commitment made by the previous Minister of Health and Social Services that under this contract with two airlines providing medical travel now, that patients do, in fact, have a choice of airlines. Even with the percentages that you have awarded to the two airlines, the commitment was made by the previous minister in that the department would inform the health centre in Baker Lake of the fact that patients have a choice of airlines.

Those are the only two points I wanted to make, Mr. Chairman. There's no need for an answer, I just wanted to get those on the record. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Are there any questions? I have no more names on my list for questions. Does the committee agree that we have concluded debate on Tabled Document 216 – 2(4)?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wanted to deal with Bill 7 and some other small item, 43 I think, but look at the time. When we sit down again and open everything up, it will be six o'clock. So I would like to move that we report progress. Thank you.

Chairman: There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is defeated.

I want to thank the minister and her staff. We're on Bill 42. I would now like to ask the Minister responsible for Justice to make his opening remarks. Minister Okalik.

Bill 42 – Miscellaneous Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2008 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear today to present these proposed amendments.

Miscellaneous bills such as this one are commonly used in other jurisdictions in Canada to correct mistakes in Acts and to make other non-controversial changes. In fact, many jurisdictions do one every year.

The bill amends the *Judicature Act* to correct a provision that refers to Chief Justice rather than to senior judge.

The bill also amends the *Jury Act* to make reference to Nunavut, and corrects errors in seven Acts for which Justice is responsible.

Those are my comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Okalik. (interpretation ends) Do you have witness that you would like to bring to the table? Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I will be available to answer any questions and they are available as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

(interpretation ends) Thank you. Minister, please introduce your witness. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): On my right is my Deputy Minister, Markus Weber. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Are there any general comments? Go to Bill 42 in your legislation binder. Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2008*. Clause 1. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think clause 1 here says that it deals with the *Exemptions Act* as amended. I'm just wondering if we can get a clarification on what exactly is being amended there other than what's in those columns of Schedule A that's being amended in (2). I know our *Exemptions Act* allowed for regulations of things to come in. I'm just wondering if that's exactly what those changes are going to be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) It's on Schedule A, Column 1 comas and punctuation errors. That's it. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know when there were some changes made to our *Exemptions Act* before and there were going to be some things brought in by regulation as far as what's considered exempt and what isn't, so if that's not what this is, has that been done and if not, when will it be done? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) From what I understand, that's still under review, but we're just dealing with touching up legislation, not just the *Exemptions Act* but all the other Acts that are stated here. We're trying to correct some little errors here and there through this exercise. So that exercise is separate from this legislative exercise. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the minister for clarifying that, but can he give an indication as to when? The other part of my question was when they anticipate bringing those other changes forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) There is some work that needs to be done yet. I'm hopeful that I will be back and report progress in the next term of government. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has anything happened since then? Has anything been done? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Yes, from what I understand, there is work ongoing, so that work is not done. So, of course, there is ongoing work on this matter. I'm trying to deal with grammatical issues right now and I don't have all that information with me. I was set here to try and talk about these other pieces of legislation, so I'm sorry I don't have a right response on that issue. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Okalik. Clause 1. We will go to Schedule A on page 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Schedule B on page 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Schedule C on page 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Schedule D on page 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Schedule E on page 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Schedule F on page 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 8?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Is the committee agreed to Bill 42 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do the members agree that pursuant Rule 62(2) that Bill 42 can immediately be placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to recognize the clock, it is six o'clock, and report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: The clock is six o'clock. We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried and I will now rise to report progress.

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Kattuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Tabled Document 216 – 2(4) and Bill 42, and would like to report that Tabled Document 216 – 2(4) is concluded and Bill 42 is ready for third reading. 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. Kattuk. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Barnabas. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The only bills I have, I have to pay. We're on Third Reading of Bills. I would like to ask for unanimous consent to go back quickly to Item 5. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Yes, I had already presented the rules in regard to the time and how to properly proceed within those rules. But at this time, a member would like to revert back to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors to the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may proceed with your recognition, Mr. Tootoo.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought of recognizing this individual in Committee of the Whole when he informed me that today was his 64th birthday, but I thought, considering he is our Sergeant-at-Arms, Simanek Kilabuk, I figured it would be more appropriate to do it with you in the chair and have it formally recorded in the House. I ask all members to join me in wishing Simanek a happy 64th birthday. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Happy birthday, Mr. Simanek. Item 5. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Since there are no more, (interpretation ends) Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. (interpretation) Since there are none, (interpretation ends) Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder for tomorrow, a meeting of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability at nine o'clock in the morning in the Tuktu Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for September 16:

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 7
 - Bill 20
 - Bill 21

- Bill 40

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

- Bill 42

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, September 16, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:14*

