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Speaker: The Honourable James Arreak, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Uqqummiut)

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(Tununiq)

Moses Aupaluktuq
(Baker Lake)

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(Rankin Inlet North)
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Eruk Pauloosie
(Nattilik)
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Hon. Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)
Minister of Finance, Chair, Financial Management Board; Minister of Justice

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Fred Schell
(South Baffin)

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk
(Arviat)
Minister of Environment; Minister of Human Resources; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk
(Amittuq)
Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Languages; Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

Hon. Peter Taptuna
(Kugluktuk)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation

Hon. Hunter Tootoo
(Iqaluit Centre)
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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Wednesday, March 25, 2009****Members Present:**

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Honourable Tagak Curley, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Adamee Komoartok, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Ningark, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Mr. Paul Okalik, Mr. Eruk Pauloosie, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer**Speaker** (Hon. James Arreak)

(interpretation): Before we proceed, I would like to ask Mr. Ningeongan to say the opening prayer. Mr. Ningeongan.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, a very beautiful afternoon, Madam Premier, Ministers, Members, and the people of Nunavut. Good afternoon to you as well, Eetoolook.
Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Kusugak.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 039 – 3(1):
Hybrid Vehicle**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Good day, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to state that the Government of Nunavut is testing a hybrid vehicle here in Iqaluit. It obviously runs on gasoline, but it can also run on batteries. This is a pilot project to see if these vehicles can work

in Nunavut. Hybrid vehicles use up to 25 percent less gasoline than regular vehicles and cause less greenhouse gas emissions.

Over the next year, we will be testing this vehicle and will track its performance, fuel consumption, and mileage. A full report will be compiled and released in the summer of 2009-2010. So far, I am pleased to report that this vehicle has performed well through the winter months while being tested here in Iqaluit.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the vehicle we have purchased is a 2008 Ford Escape Hybrid. This vehicle uses gasoline and electric technology and runs solely on electric power when battery capacity permits. The battery charges when the engine is running and when the brakes are applied.

I would also like to note that the fabric in our hybrid vehicle is made from 100 percent waste material which recycles material that would have otherwise ended up in the landfill or in our case, on the tundra somewhere.

Mr. Speaker, based on how well this vehicle performs, we will consider introducing it as a government fleet vehicle. Our testing may also help provide Nunavummiut with the information they need to choose efficient vehicles that can reduce their own energy costs and fuel consumption.

Mr. Speaker, this project is one way the Government of Nunavut is striving to reduce energy consumption and lessen the impact of its operations on the environment. I look forward to sharing the final report on this vehicle with

Members of this Assembly and Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 040 – 3(1):
Language Implementation – Next Steps**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Inuit language is an integral part of our Inuit culture and our identity as Nunavummiut. We are a people that share a common language all over the Arctic.

If you were to look at a map of the wider Inuit circumpolar world, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, in all of the lands ringing the North Pole, Inuktitut is the common language and can be understood even if you don't reside in the same places.

Nunavut is home to two minority official language communities in addition to the Inuit language, namely, English and French. All of these communities, with distinctively different languages, can still collaborate and work harmoniously without prejudice or malice.

Mr. Speaker, while our new language legislation, approved in 2008, recognizes the importance of English and French in Nunavut, it firmly supports the Inuit language as the first and preferred language of a majority of Nunavummiut. It is a defining characteristic that makes our territory linguistically and culturally distinct within Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the House that the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is working with the *Association des francophones du Nunavut* to host the first Nunavut French Language Conference on March 27 and 28, 2009. The conference will bring many members of the francophone community, youth, and experts to discuss and prepare for the implementation of the *Official Languages Act*. It will be an opportunity to identify current issues and challenges, and the priorities that will best respond to the needs of the francophone community.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we can learn from francophones' patient and constant efforts to have their language rights respected. Whatever mother tongue, our language rights are indeed inseparable from our human dignity and we are all entitled to substantive equality.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut will undertake extensive consultations in 2009 with Inuit and other stakeholders as well. For that purpose, I have invited Nunavut leaders from Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., regional Inuit associations, and the Government of Nunavut to meet in mid-April and discuss our commitment to the effective implementation of the *Inuit Language Protection Act*. We will work together to outline our consultation plans, including hosting regional round tables, followed by a pan-territorial Inuit Language Summit later in 2009. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 041 – 3(1):
National Social Work Month**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I want to announce that this month is National Social Work Month. This is in recognition of workers who deal with social issues throughout the world.

I would also like to mention prior to my statement that the people who deal with social issues, especially traditional practices that Inuit have practiced for generations as families, and with the difficulties faced by individuals are very important to our residents.

It is time to acknowledge all of the people in this field, not just Government of Nunavut employees but those also working for the regional Inuit associations. We would like to acknowledge all our staff, and not just those in government, but including staff from the organizations who make a significant difference in the lives of Nunavummiut, including those who deal with young people.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): It is their hard work on community wellness and the dedication of frontline community counsellors, enduring stressful incidents dealing with broken lives and we want to learn about these individuals. I wish to ask members to further recognize the people in your communities involved in this kind of work as you all have a better idea of who they are. We should celebrate in recognition of these professionals.

Mr. Speaker, our social workers are engaged with the most at risk and troubled people in Nunavut. Our social workers have the compassion and analytical decision-making skills that help improve the well-being of those in need. We wish to express our appreciation to them.

Social workers are very devoted to providing a voice for our most vulnerable and marginalized people. Daily, our social workers are responding not only to individuals but to the larger social issues, such as poverty, domestic violence, homelessness, and health care, through basic human rights.

Members and Cabinet colleagues, please take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge and applaud the achievements of our social workers. Their contribution to the lives and social well-being of Nunavummiut is admirable and commendable, especially to the people who have benefited from their assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to express my gratitude in making my statement. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Ministers' Statements. Minister Shewchuk.

**Minister's Statement 042 – 3(1):
Nunavut Coastal Resource
Inventory Update**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Environment recently completed the pilot Coastal Resources Inventory project we have been undertaking in the Igloolik area. In this inventory, our staff worked closely with the community to identify, record, and conserve Nunavut's biological, cultural, and ecological knowledge.

The elders and other community members were questioned on a wide variety of topics, including fishery resources, habitat, marine mammals, aquatic plants, birds, significant or unique coastal features, and other topics of interest. The project team also worked very closely with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, numerous universities, and also received support from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Mr. Speaker, one of the important outcomes of this project is making important linkages between community-based traditional knowledge work and the broader more science-based networks within Canada. We are proud that this project integrates *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* and science in a useful and effective way.

The Igloolik pilot project was very successful and has inspired the undertaking of four more inventories for 2009. The participating communities this year will be Kugluktuk, Chesterfield Inlet, Arctic Bay, and Kimmirut.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will table the results of the 2008

inventory here in the legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 043 – 3(1):
Nunavut's High School
Graduation Numbers - 2008**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues about the graduation rates for Nunavut's high school students for the 2007-08 school year. I am thrilled to announce that last year, Nunavut schools produced 214 grade 12 graduates!

>> *Applause*

This is the most graduates we've ever had in a single year and it highlights the steady increase of educational achievements we're seeing in our territory. This increase in graduates is proof that the programs and services of the Department of Education in our schools are having an impact.

The Bilingual Education Strategy, the implementation of the Language of Instruction programming in our schools, and the realization of the *Education Act* will all help our communities to engage our students, parents, and educators. I am certain these initiatives will keep our youth interested in education and produce many more graduates. By creating an education system founded in Nunavut's culture and language, we are sure to connect with young

Nunavummiut and foster their growth and triumphs.

Mr. Speaker, as we draw near to Nunavut's 10th anniversary, I encourage everyone to reflect on our successes and build upon that momentum. We have much left to accomplish, but we are realizing the many goals we established upon the creation of Nunavut. With hard work, innovation, a commitment by our communities, and the inclusion of *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit*, we will definitely succeed.

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly, please join me in congratulating our graduates of 2008 and wishing them the best in their next endeavours. We look forward to witnessing their future achievements and contributions, and we will support them so that they are able to lead better lives here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. There are no more, so we will move on to Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 072 – 3(1): Nancy Pukirnak Aupaluktuq – Recipient of Keith Rawlings Award

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Madam Premier, Ministers, and my colleagues. I am pleased to rise today to state that the Kivalliq Chamber of Commerce

presented the Keith Rawlings Award, which is presented to carvers, yesterday to an individual I know very well, my mother, Nancy Pukirnak Aupaluktuq.

I am really proud of her since she fed five of us; my sister, my late older brother, my older brother, my younger brother and I. She provided us clothes and fed us with the money that she made from her artwork. I am very proud to rise today to honour her.

With regard to Minister Louis Tapardjuk's comments about the number of graduating students increasing and elders requiring care, they're starting to be acknowledged in my riding and I would like to thank him.

I congratulate Nancy Pukirnak Aupaluktuq from Baker Lake for her achievement and recognition. Mom, I'm thinking of you. Thank you very much.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Member's Statement 073 – 3(1): Opportunities for Sport

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I was very pleased to hear my colleague from Akulliq talk about the importance of sports to our youth. I rise today to share his concern about the low level of support that is provided to Nunavut's smaller communities to participate in sporting events.

Mr. Speaker, it is well known that participating in sports is one of the best activities that our children can get

outside of school. Sports promote health, good behaviour, self-discipline, and the spirit of working together. Being involved in a sport can often show us that if we work hard at something, it can lead to other opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents in Sanikiluaq have been wondering about the lack of those other opportunities. It has been noticed that when Sport Nunavut organizes a tournament or a territorial competition, many of the smaller communities seem to be left out of the loop. Communication about upcoming events either comes too late or not at all.

Mr. Speaker, we need to encourage our children to stay active and be involved in sports. Our government has a responsibility to make sure that every young person in Nunavut has the chance to participate in events such as the Arctic Winter Games, the Canada Games, and other such events. All too often, it seems that the bigger communities are the only ones represented on our teams.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon our government to make sure to include all of Nunavut's communities when organizing regional or territorial events and tournaments. Sports organizers should realize that the smaller communities need to plan well ahead of time, especially for travel, to be able to attend events. Communication about sports events needs a lot of improvement.

Mr. Speaker, all of Nunavut's athletes deserve the same chance to compete against other athletes to improve their skill level and to follow their dreams. I encourage the Minister responsible for Sport Nunavut to review the policies,

funding, and communications strategies that relate to participation in sporting events. All Nunavut residents should have the same opportunities regardless of where they live. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Member's Statement 074 – 3(1): Land Survey for Kugaaruk

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier in the New Year, a survey was done to determine a new location for housing development. We are running out of space to build homes in Kugaaruk.

The system could give us a thousand homes and we would gladly build those homes, but we need a location to build housing for every single home we can acquire, Mr. Speaker, especially for young parents and single parents in the community and those the system has forgotten, who have been waiting list for years and years and still waiting today because we are not able to build enough homes to accommodate the community's needs.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken to the Mayor of Kugaaruk, Macabe Nartok, who is in Iqaluit for other business, and he has told me that the Hamlet of Kugaaruk will be sending me a letter and then I would be happy to inform the House what needs we have for the community of Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Member's Statement 075 – 3(1): 33rd Birthday of Son Edward Akittiq Tapardjuk

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today being a special day, I rise today to recognize my son, Edward Akittiq Tapardjuk, who is celebrating his 33rd birthday, and he is likely watching these proceedings on television. The part that makes me proud is the fact that although he may be only 33 years old today, he has managed to produce nine beautiful grandchildren for my wife and I, whom we hold dear in our hearts.

I wish him a very happy birthday and even though he's 33 years old, I still perceive him as a young boy and when required, I still scold him. If he is watching this on television, I wish him an excellent birthday and son, this time, go and see your grandmother! Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Members' Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

Member's Statement 076 – 3(1): First Air Service in Arviat

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have received the latest 2007 estimated population reports for all of Nunavut's communities produced by Statistics Canada. In this report, Arviat, the community I represent in the House,

now seems to be the second largest community in Nunavut, only behind Iqaluit, with an estimated population of 2,514 people.

Mr. Speaker, as the member representing the Arviat constituency and the residents within, I am very pleased that First Air has realized the importance of providing adequate air service to the community of Arviat.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, First Air announced at a press release, service to increase and enhance the airline service from Arviat to both southern and northern locations within and outside of Nunavut. This service will greatly allow access, especially for residents travelling to Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents of Arviat and myself, I am very pleased with this announcement and would like to thank First Air and their staff for the great news. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Natilik, Mr. Pauloosie.

Member's Statement 077 – 3(1): Supporting Nunavummiut with Disabilities

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to urge the government to take a stronger stand in addressing the needs of people with disabilities. I strongly encourage the Premier to

establish a portfolio that deals directly and sympathetically with this issue.

Mr. Speaker, many Nunavummiut with disabilities are in dire situations. They and their families need professional care and professional support in order to be able to live their daily lives without barriers and unnecessary difficulties. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut government is not very old but already, its history of addressing the needs of people with disabilities is a poor one.

In 1998, a meeting in Iqaluit brought together a number of Nunavummiut with different disabilities. At this meeting, the Nunavut Council for People with Disabilities was formed with the blind voting for a blind representative, the deaf voting for a deaf representative, and people in wheelchairs voting for their own. The government's funding and support for that council ended in 2001 and the responsibilities were passed over to another organization.

Mr. Speaker, in 2004, a new disabilities board was formed through the Inuit organizations and some funding from the government, but still, the support is not there. The Disabilities Society does not even have its own office or any realistic means to help anyone, let alone its members and their families.

Mr. Speaker, many people with disabilities are the people in our society who are most in need of support and assistance. They have as much right as anyone else to live full and productive lives. Our own *Human Rights Act* should ensure that these individuals do not have less meaningful lives than any other Nunavummiuq.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge the Premier, the Minister of Health and Social Services, and this government as a whole to establish a portfolio that deals directly with disabilities. Attention to this issue is urgently needed...

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Pauloosie, your time is up. You must ask for unanimous consent to conclude your statement. Mr. Pauloosie

Mr. Pauloosie: ... to have unanimous consent to complete my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): That was inaudible. Please ensure that your microphone indicator is lit before you speak. You must ask for unanimous consent to conclude your statement. Mr. Pauloosie.

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I seek unanimous consent of my colleagues to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Our colleague is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may conclude your statement, Mr. Pauloosie.

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm almost done here.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge the Premier, the Minister of Health and Social Services, and this government as a whole to establish a portfolio that deals directly with disabilities. Attention to this issue is urgently needed. All Nunavummiut should have the confidence that their government will support them in living their daily lives

without any unnecessary barriers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 078 – 3(1):
Constituency Office Update**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize my constituents and those who elected me to represent them. I have yet to express my thanks during the First Session of the Third Assembly.

So welcome and I also wish to reiterate that I am only too happy to receive them and thank those who have already called our office. For my constituents who are not aware of the address and location of my constituency office, it is on the beach at the HTO office and the house number is 208. I thank those who have called already. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 079 – 3(1):
Hudson Bay Quest**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge the people whom my colleague from Arviat spoke about and that is the participants of the Hudson Bay Quest dog team race from Churchill to Arviat which began last weekend. I extend my congratulations and gratitude to all participants in this race for their

perseverance and dedication to their sport.

However, we were informed yesterday that the race was halted due to a blizzard and they further expect a blizzard to last a while near Arviat. They were more than halfway and will now stop at the traditional encampment at Nunaalaa due to the early closure of the race. I am confident that the race will resume next year and we will race again as there have been some participants from Rankin Inlet in this race.

There was one participant from Rankin Inlet this year. I know that my colleague from Rankin Inlet is in full support of that person who participated in the race, Mr. Harry Towtongie. If my colleagues don't mind some jest, Harry Towtongie, being from the second largest community in Nunavut, Rankin Inlet, was in a position to win first place and I would like to declare on record that he was the fastest. Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Members' Statements. If there are no more, (interpretation ends) Item 4. (interpretation) Returns to Oral Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an individual in the Gallery that I'm sure is no stranger to

most people here. Mr. Speaker, this individual is a well-known businessman here in Iqaluit, an author, and he has quite an extensive book collection at home and also in his store at Arctic Ventures, and that's Mr. Kenn Harper. I would like to welcome him to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I would like to recognize an individual from Gjoa Haven. He is my brother-in-law, Willie Aglukkaq, and he is the brother of our MP, and I would like to welcome him to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to acknowledge Willie Aglukkaq because he used to visit Kugaaruk and I believe that's when he was learning to walk as a child. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome one of my constituents and neighbours to the

House today, Mr. Atima Hadlari, sitting over there by Mr. Schell.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to congratulate Mr. Hadlari on being elected as the KIA representative for the community of Cambridge Bay earlier this week. Welcome to the House, Mr. Atima Hadlari.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 069 – 3(1): Housing Inspectors

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Hon. Member of CG&S, Lorne Kusugak.

In regard to yesterday, I was talking with the housing minister, the Hon. Hunter Tootoo, in regard to the MAP II house in Cape Dorset that was having a lot of electrical issues. He had mentioned that he was going to check with CG&S to see if they have the personnel to go in there to check if these appliances have been damaged. My question is: does CG&S have the personnel to do that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Depending on what kind of personnel you're looking for, I'm sure

we have the appropriate personnel. Again, it depends on exactly what it is that you want researched and found out, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess what he's looking for is if you have any personnel that can check where the power surges have happened in the house to see if that created the appliance to burn out and stuff.

He replaced a lot of the appliances there and he is obviously going after the Power Corporation and the Housing Corporation to see who is going to pay for it. I guess my question is: do you have that type of personnel there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you and I thank the hon. member for the question. I will definitely look into it. We will see if we have that kind of personnel in our department and if we do or if we don't, I'll certainly get back to the minister... or to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Laughter*

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is also in regard to that. If you do have the personnel, can you give me the timeframe that you would be able to put it together and deal with this issue? The constituent is getting very anxious. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Definitely, let me find out if we do have the appropriate personnel and I'll find out their timeline to see if and when they would be available to look into such things. And I'll get back to the minister at some time in the next week as soon as I can to give him those details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 070 – 3(1): Responsibility for Establishing Social Assistance Rates

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education, who is responsible for Income Support.

Mr. Speaker, on March 19, 2009, I asked the minister some questions about the food allowance rates for the community of Sanikiluaq. These food allowance rates are established in the social assistance regulations.

In reviewing the *Hansard*, I find that the minister's response was not very clear. Can the minister clarify which government entity is responsible for establishing social assistance regulations, including food allowance benefits, for the residents of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Education, Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. With respect

to the food allowance rates across Nunavut, it is broken down into five separate categories.

The categories have been set using cost of living, shipping costs of both sealift and air transportation into that area, as well as the distances between communities. The federal government, specifically Human Resources and Social Development Canada, took all of those into account when setting the different rates across Nunavut. When setting the rates, they researched the final costs of food after shipment to those communities.

Costs of rent, clothing, footwear, costs of airfare, and other services applicable to that location were also taken into consideration. This was to set the rates properly for each community, especially the monthly rates for income support recipients in those communities. The rates have been set, however, Mr. Speaker, they are being revisited, especially the rates for the three territories, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

There was a meeting recently on January 28 and 29 in Ottawa to discuss how best to address the service requirements of those suffering below the poverty line. The discussions were on how to meet the needs of these northerners. At present, we have started working on this issue and are committed to more collaborative efforts with our sister territories to ensure that a common rate is set that meet the needs of each individual government.

The program will be thoroughly reviewed and we all know that the present rates require updating. These

rates were originally reviewed when Nunavut was established, which is way too early in the process, and the review consisted mainly of extrapolating the previous figures for the Northwest Territories' Income Support Program with hardly any changes.

Today, with Nunavut approaching its 10th anniversary as a territory, it has become clear that the rates have to be revisited due to the increased costs we have endured and we can work towards improving the program. This process will be ongoing, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for clarifying that somewhat. Mr. Speaker, with income support, he mentioned that it's going to be reviewed. Does he have any kind of timeline of when the review will be done? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As per my earlier comments, the meeting was held on January 28 and 29, 2009, in Ottawa and the consensus was to initiate the review in short order. Actually, this is a cause for celebration since this is the first time that the Nunavut government was asked to be involved in the review and revision of the food allowance rates.

Mr. Speaker, my opinion is that during the 2009-2010 fiscal year, we will get a report on the new rates or at least a progress report on the initiative that I

will be able to announce. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 071 – 3(1): Kugaaruk Drum Dance Festival

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I received a letter from the Municipality of Kugaaruk. On April 28, they will hold a drum dancing festival in Kugaaruk and this community is quite scenic, with hills, a nearby river, and the islands producing abundant crowberries.

In this correspondence, the invitation was sent to the minister and if the minister accepts, the elders' council would most likely want to meet during his visit. I imagine that the youth council would also want some of his time. There is also a terminology committee there.

The minister ought to participate in these celebrations and come and witness the scenic community and meet the hospitable people of Kugaaruk. I will remind the minister about the upcoming drum dance festival in Kugaaruk on April 28 and urge his attendance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I don't know who is going to respond. Which minister are you directing your question to, Mr. Ningark?

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): I apologize. My question was directed to the Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders, and Youth, Minister Tapardjuk. I apologize again since I was

looking right at him, but he didn't realize that I was talking to him as I didn't mention his portfolio. My apologies.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Culture, Language, Elders, and Youth, Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to correspondence, my colleague ought to recall House Rules as he was a past member of a legislature and having recently been elected... perhaps I can call him my *Angajunguaq* now. Just to jog his memory, he should recall that it's always better to receive an invitation in writing as a minister.

The reason why I cannot commit to his request at this time is because I have other commitments during that period in April. However, if the invitation is sent via correspondence, I would love to go to that community personally. As well, our Premier has encouraged the ministers, whenever possible, to attend to events in the communities. Due to this reason, I am prepared to accept should an invitation be sent via correspondence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response and for his openness. If the invitation letter was submitted today, could the minister agree to it? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I can commit to reviewing the letter of invitation. However, as the member knows, the schedules for ministers are set well in advance, especially for travel. I commit to looking at the invitation, but if I am unable to attend, I will look at other options to see how we can accommodate each other. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 072 – 3(1): Client Services Coordinator for Nunavut II

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this session, I discussed the difficulties that some of my constituents are facing in getting their health and medical complaints and issues resolved. I appreciate the minister's willingness to deal with specific issues through his office. However, it's important that a process is established so that Nunavummiut can be confident that their issues will be addressed and hopefully resolved in a responsible and accountable matter.

The minister said himself yesterday in the House, "... if the issue is related to medical are not being addressed, there is very little that the department can do about it." The minister had suggested that the first line of inquiry for dealing with complaints is to approach the community health centre staff. I'm sure that the minister will appreciate that this may not always be appropriate, especially if the complaints or concerns relate to those same individuals.

It is also quite clear, from what I have been hearing, that contacting regional headquarters is often not a very effective means of getting problems and complaints resolved. Often, there isn't even a response. Can the minister confirm whether or not there are any formal processes or initiatives in place for addressing residents' complaints that cannot be or have not been resolved through the usual channels and if not, why not? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Health and Social Services, Hon. Tagak Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I appreciate the member's question on that. He quoted some of the statements I made earlier in the week.

When it's related to medical, I believe the best people that can respond to that are doctors, they're medical officials in that context, and that was the reason why I stated that. If it's related to medical, then our officials from the operational branch may not always have an immediate response. So I think that should be put into proper perspective, I appreciate that.

But when it comes to dealing with the responses or the complaint system that the member is referring to, I believe the department needs to do a lot more work on that. If there's a formal mechanism put in place, I'm not 100 percent sure whether we would have a mechanism in place that would compel all kinds of...

If it's related to travel, whether it's related to the boarding homes or whatnot, whether or not the officials or individuals hired should have enough authority to push the right buttons, we

would have to work on that. It's on that basis that I'm quite cautious because yes, there is a complaint mechanism in place and an MLA is one of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was taking a second to collect my thoughts and making sure that I understood what the minister was saying because I can appreciate we're dealing with very sensitive issues and talking about people's confidentialities.

Can the minister clarify, just in what has been said, for the House, after a complaint or an issue about health-related services is brought to the attention of the minister and his staff, which is what he was suggesting yesterday, exactly what steps are taken to address those complaints, to provide assistance and resolving them, and to formally advise Nunavummiut of any actions taken as a result of the complaints or concerns that they have brought forward? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If there was a template in place, it would probably make my job a lot easier. But I said, in the context to his earlier question the other day, I indicated that, I believe it was also to another member, the department tends to deal with complaints on a case-by-case basis because they will all differ, there are sensitivities involved and many of them are normally confidential.

So I think the best way to deal with some of these real complaints is to send a letter to appropriate officials in the department or to myself, as the minister. We would be pleased to respond to them without compromising confidentiality issues that we have to abide by. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his response. As he said, there is no template available. I was sort of alluding to, yesterday, a position specifically set aside to deal with these types of issues.

And since he's saying a template would actually be easier for him to deal with these problems, I'm wondering if the minister would humour the idea of looking at a template or creating a template, or hiring someone in that position to handle issues like this, so then we would actually be able to service people better. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly would be prepared to look into all of this. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought I had one more question. My final question would be: will the minister confirm that he will accept a signed consent form from a constituent to allow an MLA to deal directly with the Department of Health and Social Services to bring forward a complaint or

issue relating to that constituent's personal health or family matter?

As we have been talking about, this is a confidential matter, there is confidential information, and at the same time, the information we might be receiving back from the health authorities is going to be confidential as well. To me, we want to make sure that people's private information is being taken care of.

So will the minister confirm that he will accept a signed consent form? And further, will the minister commit to advising the appropriate MLA of the progress in resolving such issues? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I think the member should be very cautious exactly what he's talking about. The department, as a part of the overall government, we abide by certain rules and confidentiality is not only within the departmental procedures but we abide by laws, including federal laws, that affect individual rights to privacy as well as any other law.

So we are a government that respects laws and the department, I believe, has done that and we will continue to abide by confidentiality, particularly when they relate to medical matters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 073 – 3(1): GN-RCMP Shared Directional Statement

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice, Hon. Keith Peterson.

On September 18 of last year, a copy of the shared directional statement between the Government of Nunavut and the RCMP was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. This document expressed the shared priorities of the GN and the RCMP. One of its goals is to "maintain a strategic focus on recruiting, retaining, advancing, placing and promoting Inuit police officers."

Can the minister update the House today on how his department is working with the RCMP to assist them in recruiting more Inuit to join our national police force? (interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Hon. Keith Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I would like to inform the member that the RCMP and the Department of Justice are working very cooperatively on getting a representative population in the RCMP in all fields, including members, special constables, provosts, and civilians.

And I would like to tell the member that we're working on getting a pilot program in place to recruit five Inuit candidates to enter the Regina depot in September of 2009, hopefully with their graduation in January or February of 2010. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The shared directional statement between the GN and the RCMP also discussed such initiatives as the “Special Constable Rejuvenation Project.” You slightly mentioned it. Can the minister update the House today on whether this has been a success or whether it’s being incorporated? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The intent of the pilot program is to assess how to rejuvenate the Special Constable Program. So we will start with five candidates and it’s hopefully based on their success that we can eventually recruit 30 community officers or special constables with duties and responsibilities that build upon the old Special Constable Program that was in place several years ago. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In March of 2007, a major report on policing services in Canada’s three northern territories was also tabled in the Legislative Assembly. This report contained significant discussions on the role of community justice committees and the relationships with the RCMP.

Can the minister outline how his department facilitates communication between local community justice committees and the RCMP? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for that question. I can’t give the member the specific details on how we facilitate it, but we encourage the RCMP to work very closely with community organizations and groups to discuss legal issues and community policing issues in their community.

When I was up in Cape Dorset earlier this year for the Cabinet Retreat, I had the opportunity to sit down with the RCMP, the justice committee, the justice outreach workers, and the by-laws and we met for an hour to discuss issues of importance to the community of Cape Dorset. So I had a firsthand opportunity to see the RCMP working with the community to hear their concerns and offer them advice from the RCMP perspective and vice versa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. As a previous summer student of the Constable Program in the late 80s and early 90s on three terms, it was a very educational and valuable tool to the community and I found it was a very wonderful bridging program. Can your department tell me whether you are aware of whether or not this program continues to be offered to our youth? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, I had

the opportunity to speak with the commanding officer approximately two weeks ago. Our deputy minister and the Commanding Officer, Marty Cheliak, told me about the success of that program in past years and they intend to operate it again this year.

I think they want to try to get a candidate from every community in Nunavut and I can't be clear on the deadline or start date. I think in June, he will take people in and give them a course, then a graduation, and then they would shadow the RCMP officers in the communities for the summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 074 – 3(1): Patient-Signed Consent Form

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed again to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

In my last question, I asked: will the minister confirm that he will accept a signed consent form? And I never heard an answer. I heard him saying about privacy and confidentiality, and I respect that. I know if I was lead to having people think that confidentiality is being breached and whatnot, that's not my point. My point is that we will be given confidential information and we will be passing it on, and some of the answers we end up receiving are, "We cannot tell you because of that."

But if the patient or the person, the constituent who is coming to us and telling us or if they're giving us consent, will the department release that

information? So again, will the minister confirm that he will accept a signed consent form from a constituent to allow an MLA to deal directly with the Department of Health and Social Services about a complaint? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Health and Social Services, Hon. Tagak Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot confirm anything without actually seeing what type of consent form is being presented by the member or constituent. I said earlier, we deal with issues on actual research on a case-by-case basis.

So I think we have a health system in place that is equal to any jurisdiction in Canada and if any complaint is presented, we will honour the complaint, but whether or not we should compel the individual to sign a consent form, that is really, particularly from my point, something that I cannot confirm, that I would accept that without actually seeing a draft form or something of that kind. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess my next question would be if the minister is concerned about different forms and having 10 different forms or 19 different forms from each MLA. Would the Government of Nunavut, since they are the ones, be willing to come up with and create a consent form? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I offered to consult with the regular MLAs on a number of issues the other day and I still have not had a response from them. With respect to the travel policy groups or travel groups, I was willing to meet with them and to provide a further question-and-answer session with them. I'm still waiting for the other side to confirm that or not.

With respect to all of these kinds of possible consent forms and that, Mr. Speaker, we're willing to look at ideas, but I cannot make a commitment here without possibly compromising some of the privacy issues that we are regulated by and abiding by, not only our own confidentiality issues with respect to medical health issues, as well as the federal government's issues.

So in that particular part, Mr. Speaker, I am cautious on whether or not I should confirm that. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Baffin South, ... Oh, you're not finished? Member for Baffin South, Mr. Schell.

Question 075 – 3(1): Housing Drawings Not Code Compliant

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Hon. Minister of Housing, Hunter Tootoo.

Back in 2007-08, the five-plexes that were built for the Housing Trust, apparently after the units were completed and inspected by an electrical inspector from the western Arctic, they found deficiencies in the drawings that the Housing Corporation had put out and some of the things weren't up to code.

My question is: how did this happen? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for raising that question, although I was expecting to hear that question in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that after hearing this concern, I checked with my officials with the Housing Corporation and it seems to have been a timing issue from when the initial designs were designed to when they were actually set to be delivered in one year, and they were signed off by an architect that year.

From the time they were signed off, the stuff was supposed to be ordered and delivered to the locations. That didn't happen, so they just waited. They got sent up the next year and in that time period between those two years when they were actually signed off by the engineer or the architect and when they were actually delivered, there was a small change to the electrical code that wasn't reincorporated into the design.

But once it was pointed out to the corporation, all steps necessary were taken to make sure that all of the changes that needed to be done, my understanding is it was like one wire that ran down from one place to another in the unit that had to be changed, and that work was done so that we ensured that all the units that are out there do meet the current code as of now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. member for that answer. Because of this error at the time, there was quite a bit of additional costs as they had to cut the drywall all the way around the whole inside of the units. I guess my question is: for the present units that are going out, have they made sure that they are up to the present code? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that whenever our designs are put out there, they have to get signed off and looked at by an architect and that's where the material takeoff list for new units is generated from. My understanding is that they would be looked at, at that time or that current year, to make sure that any code change requirements are met.

If something was missed like that, again, there's still the electrical contractor that is putting in the work or doing the work in the units who are also aware of any code changes. So if they notice something that was missed, that's usually the second step where that could be identified and addressed at that point. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. (interpretation) Oral Questions. (interpretation ends) Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Question 076 – 3(1): Plans for Lottery Booths in Nunavut

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Sports Nunavut and it's with respect to the lottery booths here in Iqaluit. There is only one office and I believe one more, but this is a rare service and I forget which community also has one.

This is regarding the gaming regulations because we have only the one lottery booth that is open and the hours of operation are inadequate, especially when the lottery prizes reach into the multiple millions where people are clamouring to buy tickets.

I believe that we ought to have another lottery booth and further, if this service could be offered to our fellow Nunavummiut as many of them are envious of the booth here. My question is whether or not the issue of creating another booth or options to deal with this has been discussed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, (interpretation ends) Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is quite truthful that we only have the one lottery booth in Nunavut. Previously, there was a lottery booth in Rankin Inlet but it was closed down.

Here in Iqaluit, with respect to the hours of operation for the lottery booth, it's something I have no inkling of as this is managed entirely by Sports Nunavut. I can take his question as notice and I would have to undertake a review of the

matter and see what regulations apply. There are regulations we have to comply with under the *Lottery Act*.

I will take his question as notice and see what options there are to increase the hours as per his question and review exactly how the system works. I currently don't have the appropriate information on hand, Mr. Speaker, so I would like to take the question as notice.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. While you are looking into that, perhaps you can look at why we only have the one terminal, which becomes extremely busy with numerous clients wanting to buy lottery tickets.

I would like the minister to also look at not just adding another terminal here but also to try and address the rest of Nunavummiut who want the opportunity to participate and have no options. I am also asking if the minister could look into this as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. The minister stated that (interpretation ends) he will take the question as notice, so we will move on to a member. (interpretation) Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 077 – 3(1): Inadequate Number of Housing Lots in Kugaaruk

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During Members'

Statements, I referred to the current shortage of lots in Kugaaruk and this is not the first time that has occurred.

Hon. Minister Kusugak, whom I believe is responsible for Community and Government Services, I would like to ask if he has already been informed by the Hamlet of Kugaaruk with respect to the increasing unavailability of lots in Kugaaruk. That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, (interpretation ends) Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to available lots, we are experiencing shortages in almost all of the communities. Communities continue to have too few lots available, but yes, we are aware of this issue and of the fact that Kugaaruk is experiencing this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): I thank the minister for his response and I understand exactly what he means. Although many communities are asking for more housing construction, the problem remains the shortage of lots.

Perhaps with the onset of spring and longer days, when the mayors are attending to their regional meetings, would the minister be able to provide answers when he is invited to attend? Can this information item be included in his annual report to the mayors? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Firstly, I thank the member for raising that question. Yes, NAM will be holding their annual meeting for the mayors in Nunavut. We have started preparing our report and if this question is raised at that forum, it will become an issue that we will have to deal with at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik, Mr. Pauloosie.

Question 078 – 3(1): Transportation for Elders

Mr. Pauloosie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I originally asked this question to Minister Tapardjuk, but I believe that I ought to redirect it to the Department of Health and Social Services.

I wish to ask the minister, Mr. Curley, with respect to the original question that I raised. I alluded to a community phone line that elders could call for rides. The problem is that there are never any drivers, especially in the smaller communities like Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak. They both have a specified vehicle for the elders, but due to the dearth of qualified drivers, elders are not being provided this valuable service, being driven to any location they wish.

Whether the destination is the health centre or they simply wish to visit another elder, elders simply want a ride. This results in elders going on the local radio requesting a ride from anyone. Can the minister provide an answer or some

solutions to this issue, such as funding for drivers and possibly have the hamlet council manage the project? I would like to get a response from the minister. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health and Social Services, (interpretation ends) Hon. Tagak Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to get more information on this and I think it would be best if you write a letter on this issue.

I'm not exactly sure how to answer it because I don't know whether you want to transport these elders for health reasons or for going shopping when they can't get a ride. We would need to clarify the need. For example, in Rankin Inlet, we have friendship centre staff that drive clients to their destinations and Health and Social Services does not deal with that.

As a department, our mandate, for example, on ambulances... there are no ambulances in the smaller communities and our ambulance policy is still in the works. We would need to access the federal government's Non-Insured Health Benefits Program if we are going to proceed with that policy.

Because of that and because of the complexity, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that the member write to me so that I can have all the facts and information in front of me. Thank you.

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

Mr. Pauloosie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am talking about elders who need to go to the health centre or back to their homes from the health centre.

The problem is, especially in the winter, when elders have to go to the airport terminal, they don't have anyone to take them back to their homes or there is no taxi to take them anywhere. I would like to tell the minister that I will write him a letter asking him to look into this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Pauloosie. That was more of a comment than a question and I'm sure the minister heard it. Oral Questions. (interpretation ends) Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Question 079 – 3(1): Child Welfare Laws

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for recognizing the social workers in his Minister's Statement. In some parts, however, one of the hardest things that the social workers do is in regard to children.

We haven't amended the child welfare legislation and I believe that we need to ensure it's made Nunavut-specific and better conform to Inuit needs. It's something that causes problems and the focus of a widespread call for change. My question to the minister is if he is working on amendments to the legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health and Social Services, Hon. Tagak Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I can commit to that because it is a part of our responsibility. At the retreat in Cape Dorset, this issue was brought up in our priorities for the future. The *Family Services Act* will be added and revised. Once it is drafted, we will give it to the Cabinet for decision.

We don't know if the child advocate will be in there but we are talking about it. We will make a decision at the Cabinet level when we are dealing with the *Family Services Act* and whether the advocacy position will be there, but I can tell the member that this is an important priority. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry, but we had a lot of work to do in the previous government, such as dealing with language, social wellness, and education, and we couldn't implement all the bills that we wanted to implement. I would like to thank the Cabinet for looking at revising the *Children's Law Act*. I would like to inform the minister that I would be more than willing to help. That's just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member, I'm sure your comment was heard by the minister. (interpretation ends) Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 080 – 3(1): Protection of Waters from Pollution

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, one of the anticipated consequences of global warming is the opening of the Northwest Passage and increased shipping in the Arctic. The threat of a major catastrophe such as an oil spill is something that I believe we need to be prepared to deal with.

Can the minister indicate to the House today how the Government of Nunavut works with Environment Canada and DFO on the issue of developing contingency plans to respond to oil spills or other environmental disasters? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Environment, Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, hon. member, for a very good question. He brings out a very good point as to how Nunavut and our department would deal with a major oil spill if it occurred in the seawaters of the Arctic.

I would just like to advise the member that our Department of Environment is not responsible for enforcing pollution prevention and pollution control legislation as it relates to foreign-going vessels that travel through our waters. This responsibility is the responsibility of the Canadian Coast Guard, Transport Canada, and DFO.

The DOE's, that's the environment department, role is as an advisory and

has a representative on the Transport Canada sponsored Arctic Regional Advisory Council on Oil Spill Response, so we do have a member that is on this committee.

I should also advise the member that we do have capabilities for smaller oil spills that would or do occur in Nunavut through our hamlets, through our wildlife offices and our Department of Environment offices that we can respond to on an initial basis and try and do what we can. We will always be the first responders when it comes to an oil spill.

And I would just like to advise the member too that every community wildlife office and hamlet has a toll-free number for oil spill reporting. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that there are agreements in place between the federal and territorial governments with respect to oil spills, and the minister explained some of them. Can the minister indicate how often these are reviewed and updated and is the GN satisfied that both levels of government are fully prepared to deal with a major environmental disaster in our waters? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I would like to advise the member and my colleagues that, again, we do have a representative on the Arctic Regional Advisory Council on Oil Spill Response. This group meets

two or three times annually and their recommendations go directly to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Transport Canada. So we do have a membership on that board.

I also think at this time, this is going to be a big topic of discussion when we proceed with devolution negotiations. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 081 – 3(1): Community Outreach Worker Program

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My first question is to my Kitikmeot colleague, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Peterson.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Community Outreach Worker Program is relatively new in Nunavut and I know in Kugaaruk, our person is quite busy. She is working with the local social worker and sometimes the mental health worker, and in almost every case, she is working with the RCMP.

Mr. Speaker, since this is a very important position in the community, I can never overstate that, it is quite important, Mr. Speaker, she also works with her family in the community, I'm wondering if the minister would commit to providing a training program regionally or territorial-wide for the community outreach workers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Hon. Keith Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my Kitikmeot colleague for bringing up this important concern. When I was in Cape Dorset for the Cabinet Retreat, I had an opportunity to meet with the community outreach worker there and when I came back to Iqaluit, I brought up some similar concerns from that outreach worker with my officials in the department. They are looking at ways that they can increase support for community outreach workers, including additional training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The outreach worker in Kugaaruk is very close to me and she sometimes tries to get help from either regional or territorial offices, and sometimes the phone line is busy or is having a technical problem. I think that being an outreach worker is very lonely, so I would appreciate if the minister would somehow provide training. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank my Kitikmeot colleague. It is duly noted, my officials are probably watching the television set right now and making a note that you have a concern from your riding and we will look at how we could help your constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

**Question 082 – 3(1): Historical
Graduating Rates**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Hon. Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Education. It's amazing news with the number of graduates we have, 214.

In the past, I know that there have been problems across Nunavut with the high drop-out rate. I'm just wondering if he has any numbers on whether that's improved or not. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Education, Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the member for asking the question. I am sure you can take note that since Nunavut was created, the first high school graduates were 91 and after ten years, we produced 214 grade 12 graduates, that's an increase of almost 135 percent. It's very good to see the achievements of these students.

It seems like our figure here, 214 graduates, seems low compared to other provinces, but it's approximately increased by 30 percent within the last four years. The high school drop-out rate has dropped and it's evident. There are more and more high school students graduating every year. Individuals at the age of 19 and over are now completing their education and we're so proud of them, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Are you finished? (interpretation ends) Oral Questions. (interpretation) If there are no more, Written Questions. Item 8.

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

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

**Tabled Document 021 – 3(1): Coral
Harbour Meat Processing Plant
Feasibility Study**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a copy of our recent feasibility study for a meat processing plant in Coral Harbour. This report was prepared for the Coral Harbour Hunters and Trappers Organization and I encourage all members to review it with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Can we have the document brought forward, please.

Tabling of Documents. Minister Shewchuk.

**Tabled Document 022 – 3(1): Nunavut
Coastal Resource Inventory –
Igloolik Pilot Project**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the following document: the Nunavut Coastal Resource Inventory – Igloolik Pilot Project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Shewchuk.

Item 16: Motions

Motion 019 – 3(1): Opposition to the European Union’s Proposed Ban on Seal Products

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the European Union is once again considering legislation to restrict the importation of seal products from Canada, ...

An Hon. Member: Shame, shame.

... an initiative that is based not on legitimate principles of conservation but on a misguided and ill-informed ideology;

An Hon. Member: Shame, shame.

AND WHEREAS the hunt does not harm seal populations and the species is not threatened by extinction;

AND WHEREAS the humane and sustainable use of seals and seal products is a practice that is nutritionally, culturally and economically important to Nunavummiut;

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

AND WHEREAS banning the sale of seal products can be expected to negatively impact Nunavut and Nunavummiut;

AND WHEREAS history has demonstrated that any exemption made for Inuit is irrelevant;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the hon. member from Nanulik, that

the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut opposes the European Union’s proposed ban on the importation of seal products. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. The motion is in order. Before we proceed with debate on the motion before us, I have a few comments to make as to procedures. Every member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first and the seconder speaks second. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply which closes the debate. To the motion. Mr. Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my hon. colleague from Nanulik for seconding the motion.

Mr. Speaker, the European Union is proposing to ban seal products. This ban provides exemptions for traditional Inuit harvesting but will not protect our communities. This exemption is meaningless. A similar ban in the early 1980s resulted in significant negative impacts on Inuit communities. We have no reason to think the current ban and its exemption will prove to be any different.

Mr. Speaker, seals are an integral part of Nunavutmiut’s lives. Our seal hunt is respectful, humane, sustainable, and is based on whole-use and sound conservation principles. It does not harm seal populations and the species is not threatened by extinction.

Given the importance of our seal hunt, I am urging the Members of the House to support this motion to oppose the

European Union's proposed ban. It is essential that we come together to denounce the ban and its ineffective exemption for Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The seconder can now speak to the motion. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The motion clearly explains the concerns of Nunavutmiut. For that reason, I am very pleased and honoured to be the seconder of this motion to show our support of all Nunavutmiut and the negative impact that Nunavutmiut will feel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) To the motion. Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the motion and also speak in Inuktitut. We have been witnessing a trend where a higher value is placed on animals than on human life. I can state unequivocally that a great many seals have saved a great many Europeans.

During the Arctic exploration age, European explorers ran out of food and the only source available was seals. Looking at the explorers' reports, the explorers used to get tired of waiting to eat cooked seal meat and they used to make reports on how nutritious seal blood is. It provides energy to your body when you eat seals and it's a healthy,

nutritious food. If you don't want to be cold outside, you have to eat seal meat and that's one of the things that we were taught in the past.

They want to ban the sealskin not because of lack of food, it's because the seal pups are cute, (interpretation ends) they're cute and that's why, (interpretation) and the European Union is being manipulated by animal rights groups. If European parliamentarians are campaigning for the ministerial level, they need the support of animal rights groups' voters. That's the only reason why we're in this dangerous situation.

Mr. Speaker, the major reason why I'm supporting the motion is that we have to be careful and cautious, just like with polar bears. The polar bears are not decreasing in numbers, they're increasing in numbers. As long as there are seals available, the polar bears will not be depleted. So therefore, I am in support of this motion.

I also urge the public out there to state that the population of seals is not decreasing. Changes in the ice cap and icebergs do not contribute to the depletion of polar bears. Polar bears eat seals, walruses, whales, and only when the marine mammals are depleted will the polar bears be threatened.

I ask members to support the motion and I would like to request for a recorded vote. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to have the opportunity today to support this motion. I would like to focus my time on offering a suggestion for the government's consideration in the event that the European Union does implement this proposed ban.

As we're all aware, the Government of Nunavut owns and operates two liquor warehouses in Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet. The government purchases liquor products from suppliers in the south and resells them to Nunavut residents and businesses. I believe that the products include quite a few items that are from Europe, including wines, beers and spirits.

Mr. Speaker, in the event that the proposed European Union ban comes into force, I think that we should ask ourselves the following question: "If the European Union won't allow our seal products to be imported into and sold in Europe, why should the GN sell liquor products made in the European Union to Nunavummiut?"

Mr. Speaker, I'll leave you with this thought. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. (interpretation) To the motion. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we were growing up, especially as young boys and also girls, we used to be told that if we're not going to eat the animal or utilize the skin for clothing, then we leave it alone. We don't kill the animal and not scar or injure it if we're

not going to eat it or use the skin for clothing. We also utilized the fat and the bones.

I can't say it any other way but today, we only harvest the animals that we're going to utilize and eat. Our children and our grandchildren are being told by elders and by us that if they're not going to utilize or eat the animal, don't kill, maim or injure it. We also have to know what season to kill a certain animal because the meat and the fur changes from season to season.

The marketing of sealskin products is something that's very important to us because there are severely limited employment opportunities, especially for hunters. For those of us sitting here in the House, we look forward to the hunters coming in and wait for them at night. We, including many of us in this House, used to wait anxiously for the hunters' return and their bringing seal meat. We would wait until it was dark and listen for the sound of dog teams in such anticipation of their arrival.

I fully support the motion and I thank the seconder and the people who spoke to the motion. I would also like to request a recorded vote on this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to commend the department and the minister as well for sharing that information. I guess this really demonstrates what we truly are here for,

to do our jobs as leaders and to speak on behalf of our culture and people of Nunavut.

As a former graduate of Nunavut Sivuniksavut in 1993 and an alumnus, I'm kept up-to-date with a lot of photos and happenings with the Nunavut Sivuniksavut students that are happening in Ottawa.

I would like to advise this House and Nunavummiut that our youth at Nunavut Sivuniksavut have shown support against the European ban by demonstrating and doing protests at Parliament Hill in the last three years. So with this in mind, I would like you to know as well that our youth are also in full support of this. (interpretation)
Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure I'm speaking on behalf of all Nunavut and the people of Sanikiluaq when I agree with this motion concerning the seal product ban. I may not be of Inuit descent but I am a Newfoundlander and I have been eating seal meat all my life and still do.

>>Applause

I have lived in Nunavut for 22 years.

The people of Sanikiluaq depend on seals for their livelihood and as do the rest of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise here today to wholeheartedly support this motion. I think I have said in the past, we have seen other things with the United States of America putting the polar bears on the *Species at Risk Act* and all of these types of moves that they say they are worried about us.

Mr. Speaker, I think this particular instance by these activists that suck money out of bleeding hearts to portray something that isn't factual should be something that the federal government should look into by making it illegal. I know there's fraud and things like that that go on, criminal things. They are putting misinformation, as my colleague pointed out, out there. Portraying something, getting support for something, and putting out information that isn't accurate is shameful.

These people, I would say, who are passing on this information to these animal rights activists who are making their cases to the European Union don't have a clue. In fact, I would say they are clueless. They haven't got a clue what's going on. They are just being told what someone tells them and they believe them. That is shameful behaviour.

Mr. Speaker, I also think that as Inuit, this is another example of us being exploited, but I do not like to stand for it. The fact that they are using the exemption for Inuit, knowing full well that it's not really going to mean anything, to say, "Oh, it's okay, we're taking care of these guys," so that they get to get support behind it, to me, I feel,

as Inuk, exploited. That should not be tolerated.

Mr. Speaker, another thing, as my colleague pointed out from Baker Lake, I remember after the last time, the students at the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program put out a poster, 'Save the Veal.' It had a couple of Inuit students dressed up in traditional clothing holding a baby cow.

They've got no problem over there eating calves, sheep, or any other kind of domesticated animal. They've got no problem slaughtering those animals in a much less humane way than seals are harvested and they have a problem with that? I think these people should take a good strong look in the mirror and realize what hypocrites they really are by portraying something like that.

I think that, to me, they make a mockery of themselves. If you look at the European countries, they've killed off just about all the wildlife that they have and I think they're feeling guilty now, so they want to try to save some somewhere else. We shouldn't have to suffer the consequences of their guilt.

Mr. Speaker, I again urge all members to support this motion. I think it's time to send a strong message and I commend my colleague from South Baffin for his suggestion. You know that old saying, Mr. Speaker, "What's good for the goose is good for the gander." Maybe we should start looking at different things and maybe the impact won't be as significant, but the message will be clear.

And I don't think that should be something only coming from Nunavut

but I think the rest of Canada should look at that as well. As the minister has indicated, this is something that our government is working collaboratively with the federal government on and I think that those are steps that, as a country, we should be looking at doing, that exploitation that's being done to us should not be accepted by us as a nation.

Two can play games like that, if you want to call it that. But to us, it's not a game, it's a serious matter. I think that things like that are things that we need to do, to send a very clear and strong message to educate these people who are in Europe, in the European Union and the Parliament over there, who are being taken advantage of by these activists because of their ignorance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the movers of this motion. I am in full support of this motion and I want to make a brief comment.

First of all, we grew up without many jobs in our communities. The first job that I ever obtained was seal hunting. I was eight years old when I first started out. I didn't have a godmother while I was growing up, so I was able to sell the pelt of my first seal. I will always remember that. That was my first job and I would help my father with the seal hunt. Often, I wanted to hunt by myself, so it was okay when he didn't bring me along. It was part of my learning

experience and it was something I enjoyed very much.

I used to watch my fellow community members selling their seal pelts to get income so that they could at least buy some groceries for their families and for their hunting supplies. It was very good to see that they were self-sufficient. Looking at this issue, when the sealskin market collapsed and these hunters became income support recipients, it was very discouraging.

Now they're proposing a ban on seal products once again and having fought this kind of thing in the past is the reason why I am in full support of this motion. Once we have done that, I will want to work with our government to look for ways on how to respond to this impending ban. I know that if this proposed ban goes through, it's going to cause a great deal of hardship. We have to do all we can in our power to stop the proposed ban.

You have my full support and I sincerely hope they hear what we have to say. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. I wish to inform the House that I have no more names on my list. Does the mover of the motion have any last reply? Mr. Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am looking for unanimous support for this important motion to oppose the European Union's proposed ban. We will continue to fight this European ban and will speak out against its hollow Inuit exemption used

to further a cause which is based on misinformation.

Mr. Speaker, the seal hunt will always be at the heart of Nunavut.

Again, I urge all members to vote unanimously to support the motion so that we can send a clear message to misinformed animal rights activists and the European Union. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for a recorded vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. This closes the debate and a recorded vote has been requested. All those in favour of the motion, please stand and sit down when I call your name. Thank you.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Aariak.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Pauloosie.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Tootoo.

Thank you. All those opposed. There are none. The motion is carried.

>> *Applause*

For the record, the motion was carried unanimously.

Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 1 with Mr. Okalik in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 15:41 and Committee resumed at 16:11*

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

Chairman (Mr. Okalik)(interpretation): Good afternoon. We have a quorum, so we can begin our committee meeting and thank you for coming. We weren't finished with our consideration of Bill 1. Do members agree to deal with this bill today?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Schell, do you have any comments?

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue with the review of Bill 1 and the Department of Education, followed by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, and if time permits, the Department of Health and Social Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Do members agree with that?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2009-2010 – Education – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We were on page G-3 with the Department of Education. Minister Tapardjuk and the witnesses can now proceed to the witness table. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort them in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. We already know who the officials are. Do members agree to have them at the witness table again?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We were on page G-3. Education. Branch Summary. Corporate Services. Mr. Ningark had a question and you can now ask your question. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): I apologize, Mr. Chairman. I forgot what I was going to ask, but I was talking about gifted children in the communities. Mr. Arvaluk, my friend and colleague, had

stated that we need to provide more support however possible not just for gifted children in schools but also for gifted artists, those who can draw and sew.

Members of the Legislative Assembly understand that we need to provide education services for everyone, provided that they're not of age. After they come of age, they should continue their education if they wish to do so. That should be practiced in all of Nunavut and Canada, if not the world.

We need to provide support to gifted children and I'm sure that the Third Assembly will consider those individuals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. That is a very good comment and I am sure the department has heard it loud and clear. We have commented on this on more than one occasion. Mr. Rumbolt, do you have a question?

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is concerning the new school in Sanikiluaq. Quite a few years ago, when it was in the design stage, I was a member of the District Education Authority, and there were some discussions of including a community learning centre within the new school. Can the minister provide an update on whether a community learning centre component is still included in the new school's plans? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Tapardjuk, would you like to respond?

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday, we made a report on the Sanikiluaq school project. We have already identified the company that will be contracted to construct the building of the school. The CLC is not included in the school plans and it is too late to include it in there, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt. I believe Mr. Ningark just remembered what his question was, so he has the floor now. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just been recently elected; it has not even been ten days. I have heard recently that there was a plan for a school project for Repulse Bay. I was wondering if the minister or his officials could respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Can someone respond to that? Minister Tapardjuk.

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

Chairman: Ms. Okpik.

Ms. Okpik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We considered setting aside \$60,000 for the planning and design stage, but it's not included in the plans for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to

thank the deputy minister for her response. I would like to get clarification on why that \$60,000 was dropped after it was considered. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Can someone provide clarification? Minister.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday, I made a report on the previous plans that were in the capital plan. Similarly for Repulse Bay, in my response I gave yesterday, our priorities were based on safety reasons.

Our department has been allocated \$130 million in total for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. For that reason, the review has not been totally deleted from the plans and it will be included in our review of the 2010-11 capital estimates, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Ningark, do you have further questions?

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the minister. Perhaps the school in Repulse Bay is still not full to capacity. I was not at all sure if I understood that, so I would like to get further clarification on why it's not included in the plans right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister, can someone provide an explanation? Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once the new numbers came in, it became evident that

the school in Repulse Bay was built with a capacity of 263 students and the total number of students enrolled at this time is 266, so that school is at 101 percent capacity. For that reason, when we review the 2010-11 capital estimates, that school in Repulse Bay will also be included in the review, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. It's over capacity by three students, so hopefully the review of the school can now begin. There are more questions. Mr. Ningeongan, you have your hand up and you may ask questions now.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to my line of questioning yesterday, I believe I need to make some comments because I'm not sure if the minister understood.

I wasn't talking about a replacement for a school; I was talking about plans for a senior school project that was initiated by the residents of Coral Harbour. That was taken off the plans even although there was a target to get a senior school in Coral Harbour. It would not constitute a replacement, so I became a little confused yesterday. So I would like to ask another question to the minister if that was the case as well. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister Tapardjuk, do you want to try and answer the question.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were thinking that this has been discussed since 2001 and it has been deliberated almost every year. During those talks, they discussed whether they need to renovate or replace the school.

The Department of Education's staff and the DEA have been considering this since 2001. The existing school was expanded to make sure there was room for computers and a library. There was no room for those types of things previously, so they had to do renovations to accommodate them.

With regard to his comment on the five-year capital plan, the project was identified in the plan and it was to be initiated in the 2010-11 fiscal year. There is no funding allotted for this current fiscal year according to the previous plans. Although there were plans to start that in the 2010-11 fiscal year, it had to be taken out in order to accommodate higher priority projects.

I would like to work with my colleagues when we're planning future capital projects for schools and other facilities. The Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College and I have agreed that we will work closely together on the planning stage. That's how it is to date, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We had asked what percent capacity the school was at in 2006. Was that looked into? Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 2005-06, it was at 72.5 percent capacity, and in 2008-09, it was at 78 percent capacity. During the planning stage, it was at 72.5 percent capacity, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Now, I'm even more

confused. Why did they bring this up in the plans when there is only that much figured out? It shouldn't have been brought to the plans at the time. As I stated yesterday, we need to be fully prepared and it would be more beneficial to be prepared ahead of time.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister a final question. It would be preferable to see more plans other than the initial stage of the project, which they have set aside \$50,000 in the 2006-07 fiscal year. \$50,000 is a lot of money, which is money that belongs to Nunavummiut, and it seems like we wasted it.

I would like to work closely with the minister and the DEA not so much on the initial stage but more on the establishment of a senior school in Coral Harbour. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister Tapardjuk, if you can respond.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. That \$50,000 has not been spent yet and will remain in the books for the next fiscal year. I would like to explain further that the district education authority and our staff have been considering this since 2001 to date.

The Coral Harbour District Education Authority had requested the renovation of their school because it was deteriorating due to age. The DEA requested the renovations and they also requested a senior school that the member was talking about, so they had two requests at that time.

After the school was renovated, we had to work on other priorities, which were schools that are filled to capacity or aging. After the school in Coral Harbour was renovated, there was enough space to accommodate the students. But as I stated earlier, our plans for the 2010-11 fiscal year included the initial stage of this project, but we will not expend any funding on it this year.

As I said, I want to work closely with my colleagues when we're planning capital projects for the future, especially in regard to schools, because it's very important. When we give communities false expectations, it can cause some concerns or disappointment and that's why I want to work closely with my colleagues, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Ningeongan, did he answer your question? Thank you. Thank you, Minister. My namesake, Mr. Pauloosie, would you like to pose a question?

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Earlier today, in my Member's Statement, I talked about disabilities in our communities. Is the Special Needs Assessment project budget intended to cover both the assessment and the upgrades of school facilities to meet special needs for our special needs children?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, my namesake. Minister Tapardjuk, do you want to try and answer that.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will review the schools to see if they are too old, or if they need renovations, or if we need upgrades so that they're accessible

and also welcoming to disabled people. We will review all the schools in the future to see where we need to provide services for disabled people.

We have identified these funds to review and analyze the schools in Nunavut to make sure they're up to code and estimate how much needs to be spent on renovations or upgrades. So that's what we would like to review with the money that we are requesting here, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. My namesake, do you have any further questions? Mr. Pauloosie.

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My other question is: the Nunavut Housing Corporation's 2010-14 draft five-year capital plan includes projects for staff housing for new schools in Gjoa Haven and Sanikiluaq. The Department of Education's 2010-14 draft five-year capital plan does not include new schools for Gjoa Haven. Are there any plans for a new school in Gjoa Haven? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, my namesake. Perhaps the Housing Corporation has those plans for you. Minister Tapardjuk, if you could respond.

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

Chairman: Ms. Okpik.

Ms. Okpik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understood the

question, he is asking whether there are any plans for a new school in Gjoa Haven.

Yesterday, we stated that there were two phases for the construction of the school. Phase 1, which is almost completed, is the elementary school and phase 2 is the high school. That is in our plans and we believe that this phase really needs to be completed. But we will try to move the construction date up and maybe have it included in the capital plan for 2010-11. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. They have responded to my namesake. Mr. Ningark, do you have an additional question?

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister about graduates. Although I haven't been told personally by the experts, I have heard that if an individual, who would otherwise graduate, doesn't know any Inuktitut, then they can't graduate. Minister, is that true? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. That is directed to O&M and not related to capital estimates. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps I will ask the question from a different angle. He was talking about renovations or expansions to a school to accommodate a new computer room and a library. If there are renovations or expansions done on a school, will there be an Inuktitut classroom in that school? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Do you want to try and answer the question, Minister Tapardjuk?

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. With the new *Education Act*, schools will be Inuktitut schools as well. I can't really respond because it will be in effect for all Inuit so that they can speak both English and Inuktitut, or maybe even French. Curriculum materials that are being developed in Arviat are geared toward Inuit students and they are to be used throughout Nunavut, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. Mr. Fred Schell, you have some questions.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's in regard to the gym addition that the hon. member is building in Cape Dorset. I guess my question is: when are they going to resume construction there, number one, and what is the completion date for it? And number two, when that project was tendered, was it on budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Schell. You got lots of time to ask questions; you don't need to number them.

>> *Laughter*

Minister Tapardjuk, do you want to try and answer the two questions.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): The completion date for the project is the summer of 2010 and the size of the gym will be 527 square metres, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question was: when it was tendered out, was it on budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Schell. That's what happens when you number them, one is answered but one is avoided. Minister Tapardjuk, do you want to try and answer it.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): We're not going to go over our budget and the renovations to the school will resume in the month of March. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. A member has some questions. Mr. Ningeongan, you may ask questions at this time.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I noticed capital items that are no longer in the plans for 2010-14. When can we expect to see them again in the plans? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister Tapardjuk, could you try and answer that, please.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps those are the ones that have been taken out of the plans that we are proposing for 2009-2010. I could tell you that even though they have been taken out, I would like to work closely with my colleagues as these projects go through the capital planning process. The funding we receive for capital

projects are limited and we can't go beyond our means.

As I have been stating, I would like to work closely with my colleagues. As we review the capital estimates for 2010-11, they will have that opportunity, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk. No one else has their hand up. We're on G-3. Education. Corporate Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$15,268,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues. Going back to Education. Total Capital Expenditures. \$15,268,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we in agreement that the capital estimates of Department of Education for the coming year is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues and the officials who were here at the witness table. I thank the minister and his officials. Minister, the floor is open if you have any closing remarks.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. We will now be able to proceed with our capital estimates for the year 2009-2010. I just want to reiterate that during the planning stages, I will want to work closely with the members because it's very important to

all of us. In addition, I would like to thank the members for approving these funds. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Tapardjuk.

>> *Applause*

Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort them out. We thank the witnesses.

The Department of Education is concluded, so we will now be dealing with the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Minister Taptuna, would you like to make your opening comments?

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2009-2010 – Economic
Development and Transportation
– Consideration in Committee**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the members for being here. *Unnusakut*, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today to present the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's 2009-2010 capital plan to the Committee of the Whole.

The department's proposed capital expenditures for the 2009-2010 fiscal year is a total of \$5.83 million.

Safe and reliable transportation is crucial for the development of an economy for Nunavut and it also requires a large capital investment. In this regard, the department is proposing \$5.6 million, or 95 percent of our total capital plan, to be dedicated to transportation related projects.

All but \$90,000 of this total capital commitment will be carried out in community specific projects, while the small remainder is going towards office improvements so that my department can better serve the public.

Airports

Airports will continue to be the backbone of our transportation system for the foreseeable future. As a department, we are responsible for maintaining the runways and related infrastructure that go towards providing safe operating conditions.

In 2009-2010, \$2.25 million is being proposed to continue the construction of a new airport for Arctic Bay. The earthworks and electrical portions of this project have been completed; this fiscal year will see the completion of the air terminal building and the installation of navigational aids. This project is scheduled to be completed in 2010, with a total cost of the project being approximately \$25 million.

Surface Transportation

The department's investment in the Community Access Road Program is once again \$500,000 for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Access roads are public roads and trails that connect a community and its residents to nearby locations, including harvesting or camping areas, tourism, and sites of cultural importance. This program has been very well received by the communities and we are very pleased to be able to continue extending access to the land outside our municipal boundaries.

The 39.7-kilometre Arctic Bay/Nanisivik Highway continues to be used as an access between the community and the airport, and will be needed until the Arctic Bay Airport is complete. In the capital plan, we have allocated \$83,000 to ensure that the road remains in a safe operational state over the course of the year.

Small Craft Harbours

The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, in collaboration with my department, completed a small craft harbours report in 2006. The report concluded that small craft harbours in our communities could provide very high returns in safety, access to our resources, and economic activity.

Our lobbying efforts to date have resulted in the federal government announcing a total of \$25 million for the Pangnirtung Harbour. With the \$500,000 we have budgeted towards small craft harbours, we will continue to undertake preparatory work needed for these facilities as we continue to lobby the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to begin construction of harbours in other communities.

In order to convince the federal government to provide us with adequate funding to build up our harbours, we need to show that we have done our homework by coming up with acceptable engineered plans that include a cost-benefit analysis and an accurate cost estimate involved in actually building the infrastructure that is right for the community in mind. This pre-planning requires proper and adequate funding.

Mr. Chairman, these are the major projects we will be undertaking in the 2009-10 fiscal year. There are also other projects classified as minor capital and small capital proposed in this budget.

The minor capital consists of heavy equipment for airport maintenance. Specific equipment will be purchasing under this heading includes snow-blowers for Clyde River and Iqaluit, a plow truck for Cambridge Bay, and a grader for Chesterfield Inlet. The total budget for minor capital is \$1.7 million.

The small capital expenditures are all for projects under \$250,000. We have allocated \$800,000 in total under this budget. With this funding, we will be purchasing airport pickup trucks for six communities and a wheeled loader for Arviat. In addition, \$100,000 of this funding will be used for improvements to visitors' centres throughout the territory and a further \$90,000 will be used for leasehold improvement in our regional offices in Kugluktuk and Pond Inlet.

Mr. Chairman, this is what we have planned for our capital budget. In addition to the work I have outlined above, we will be undertaking planning and engineering work on several large transportation projects such as the Cambridge Bay and Iqaluit airport developments that we hope to fund under the Building Canada Fund.

We will be working closely with the Department of Community and Government Services and the Department of Finance to get these projects ready for consideration by the federal government during the course of the year.

I believe this plan makes good use of our limited resources and is well focused on our department's mandate. I will continue to work hard with my department to ensure that capital expenditures by my department have a lasting value on the economic and social future of our territory.

Nakurmiik, Mr. Chairman, and I will be glad to answer any questions from my fellow members.

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Do you have witnesses you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, could you escort the witnesses in, please?

(interpretation ends) For the record, Minister Taptuna, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my immediate right is Deputy Minister Rosemary Keenainak and on my left here is Methuselah Kunuk, Assistant Deputy Minister of Transportation. *Koana*, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. (interpretation ends) Does any member from the Regular Members' Caucus have any opening comments? Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's proposed 2009-2010 capital estimates.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2009-2010 is \$5,833,000. Its capital budget was \$13,545,000 in 2007-08 and \$9,470,000 in 2008-09. The department's proposed 2009-2010 capital budget is focused primarily on transportation related projects.

Members note that although funding and start dates have not been confirmed, the department's five-year capital plan includes a number of potential projects that fall under the economic development mandate of the department. These include investments in meat and seafood processing plants, a Kivalliq regional visitors' centre, and the Manitoba-Nunavut road project.

While members recognize that federal investments will be essential for realizing a number of the department's longer-term projects, the department is encouraged to not lose sight of its economic development responsibilities.

Mr. Chairman, the recent federal budget contained funding to accelerate the construction of Pangnirtung's small craft harbour. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation's proposed 2009-2010 capital estimates include \$500,000 in funding for the GN's contribution towards the

construction of small craft harbours in Nunavut communities.

Given the potential that small craft harbours have to enhance the territory's economic development and self-sufficiency, members strongly support efforts to obtain federal investments in this area. Members also look forward to being kept informed of progress in relation to the potential development of an Iqaluit deep sea port.

In September of 2008, the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation announced that funding would be made available through the department's Small Community Initiatives Program to provide for the construction of floating docks in eight Nunavut communities.

Members look forward to reviewing the success of this initiative during their upcoming scrutiny of the department's proposed 2009-2010 main estimates. Members also encourage the department to review the experience of other Canadian jurisdictions that have significant experience in developing and maintaining marine infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, members note with approval that the department continues to include funding in its annual capital estimates for the development of community access roads. The budgeted amount in 2009-2010 is \$500,000. This funding can be accessed by communities through the department's Community Transportation Initiatives Policy.

Members encourage the minister to table an annual report in the Legislative Assembly concerning the department's expenditures in this area, including a

detailed list of which communities received funding.

Mr. Chairman, in the fall of 2006, the Legislative Assembly passed a formal motion that called on the government to work with the Northern Air Transport Association to bring forward an action plan to improve the availability of affordable, reliable air service to Nunavut's smaller, underserved communities.

This is a particular concern to members who represent our most remote communities. Members look forward to the tabling in the Legislative Assembly of an updated Nunavut Transportation Strategy.

Members are supportive of initiatives that will achieve necessary airport improvements across the territory. Members recall that the government's 2003 Nunavut Air Services Study outlined several infrastructure priorities that are necessary for improving the level of service from airlines. Current runway lengths and their composition reduce the level of service that airlines can provide and can also increase the cost of providing services.

Members encourage the minister to work towards implementing airport upgrades that enhance service opportunities for Nunavut's airlines. Members are supportive of efforts to obtain federal investment for improvements in our airport infrastructure, including the Iqaluit International Airport.

Mr. Chairman, on August 10, 2007, the federal government announced a number of major sovereignty investments in the High Arctic, including a docking and

refuelling facility in Nanisivik. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation is budgeting \$2.25 million in 2009-2010 to substantially complete the new Arctic Bay Airport. \$83,000 is also being budgeted for ongoing maintenance of the road between Arctic Bay and Nanisivik.

Members urge the GN to work closely with the federal government and the local community to coordinate initiatives related to infrastructure development and use in the High Arctic.

Mr. Chairman, two major projects with which the GN has been involved are the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project and the Manitoba-Nunavut road. Previous years' capital budgets of this department have included funding to support these initiatives.

Members recognize that the Manitoba-Nunavut Road Project is a nation building initiative that will require a significant commitment from Ottawa in order to achieve substantial progress. Members encourage the minister to continue efforts to work in partnership with the Government of Manitoba and local Nunavut stakeholders, such as the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

Members have been informed that the GN has recently collaborated in cost sharing a business case study in relation to this project. Members encourage the minister to table this document in the Legislative Assembly. Members also encourage the minister to provide regular updates to the House on the GN's involvement with major infrastructure projects in the Kitikmeot.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2009-2010 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed question during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates. Do members have any general comments? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My comments are in the airport sections of the minister's opening comments.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak mainly for the Nunavut area as a whole. Nunavummiut, Mr. Chairman, depend heavily on air transportation 12 months out of a year. We don't have any highways between communities and we don't have any other means to travel between communities, except by snow machines in the winter, for business or for pleasure.

The serious case could be the medical transportation for smaller communities in Nunavut, especially the small communities with restricted certification

for short takeoff and landing (STOL) type of aircraft.

Every Nunavummiuq should be entitled to speedy transportation for their community to the nearest medical centre regardless of the aircraft or location. If you're either living in the High Arctic, the Kitikmeot, the Kivalliq or the Baffin, you should have the same privilege as any other person who must go to a major medical centre.

Later in this review of economic development, mainly the transportation portion of it, I will be asking the minister if every community in Nunavut has the capability of landing any twin engines. It would be good if they could land Learjets for medical transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank the minister for his openness and communication between my office and his office over the last couple of months.

I just wanted to recognize that transportation is one of the biggest issues that are facing us and obviously every community. It's nice to know that the minister is willing to work on attending meetings. We had the High Arctic Council meeting as well that he's been involved in and asked for my input on some other issues as well. So I want to take the opportunity to thank him.

Considering that my riding has taken a big chunk of the capital, I really appreciate it as well. It would be nice to have our airport up and running. I will

have questions once questions are being taken. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Next is Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is if you have an update on the Manitoba-Nunavut Road Project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Schell, I would like to remind you that we've asked for general comments at this time. However, if Minister Taptuna wishes to respond to the question that Mr. Schell asked. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Manitoba-Nunavut Road Project is a departmental priority and of course, it has the potential to benefit Kivalliq communities and the territory as a whole. The department will not expect the construction of the Manitoba-Nunavut Road Project to begin before 2012. It's going to take that amount of time to do all of the necessary studies of both the national and territorial regulatory requirements. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Ningark, general comments? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also appreciate that I know for a fact that we will get into great details of O&M. This is just a general comment that I would like to advise the Department of ED&T to keep in mind the hugely increasing factors of population growth as well as the economic boom. There's going to be a

much major need as well for increasing buildings.

One example as a general comment that I would like to share to keep that in mind is to emphasize and I'm sure my colleagues from Rankin Inlet, both ministers, will agree that coming in for one of our sessions last month, the airport was just greatly populated. People were going west, east, north, and south. A lot of people are travelling for business and medical purposes.

It's just basically a general comment as well that for the next budgeting that you would take into consideration the immediate need of the ever increasing expansion in population and economic growth in the regions as well as in all of Nunavut. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. I have no more members on my list for general comments. We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates, starting with page K-4 of the capital estimates. Does anybody have any questions? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My first question to the minister is: last September, the minister announced that funding would be provided through the department's Small Community Initiative Program to provide for the construction of floating docks in eight communities. Could the minister give us a status on the projects? Thanks.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that question is more

related to operations and maintenance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you. I guess I'll reword the question. One of the concerns that I had from Grise Fiord was that they are actually receiving and would have construction of these floating docks. They're feeling that with the waves and the ocean, it's going to destroy the floating dock because they do not have a proper breakwater, which I believe the building of a breakwater would be in the capital estimates.

Were there studies done on each community to make sure that those docks would last? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. About a month back, we made a commitment as a department to actually look at the floating docks. It was well understood that these floating docks would be durable enough for the conditions that we have here up north.

We did make a commitment to look at some of the sites either down in Newfoundland or in northern Quebec where they have established docks, whether they're floating or not. We had made a commitment to take a look at that to see if we can come up with a better alternative than floating docks. *Koana*, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the member is well aware of that and I thank him, I received the answer I was actually wanting.

Again, those meetings, to my understanding, were *in camera* and we're not able to discuss those. Now that it's been discussed here, we're able to inform our constituents about it. I'm trying to be very careful in terms of making sure again with the comments earlier during oral questions about confidentiality and not breaching that. So thank you for that answer.

I'm just curious about what the status is of the GN in terms of, as you mentioned, the Arctic Bay Airport that will be done in 2010. It's my understanding that once the Arctic Bay Airport is opened, the Nanisivik road itself will be downgraded to an access road. That's in a letter that I received from his office. Could he just confirm that that's exactly what will happen? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott.
Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's correct; it states in the letter that it is going to be downgraded to an access road. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Taptuna for the answer. We have learned from our meetings with CGS that access roads within the community are covered within the budget of CGS and access roads outside

of the limits of the hamlet are actually provided through ED&T.

Will the Hamlet of Arctic Bay receive any extra funding to maintain that road once it's downgraded to an access road? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott.
Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once a road is downgraded to an access road, the hamlet can apply for some funding from ED&T within the budgeted amount of \$500,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and I thank you. I guess where I'm going with my line of questioning is I noticed in the substantiation forms that it will cost roughly \$100,000 each year to maintain the road and the road will be downgraded in 2010 to an access road once the Arctic Bay Airport is done.

I tabled in the House the Nanisivik Naval Facility Project, which technically isn't up and running until 2014 but construction and whatnot will actually start in 2012, so there's a two-year period in between.

Could the minister make a commitment to speak with the Department of National Defence about possibly working towards sharing costs for maintaining that road? I'm thinking of cost savings, instead of \$200,000 for the two years it's not being used, of maybe \$4 million, or \$5 million, or \$12 million

to resurface the road and build the road up. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is the possibility that we will be talking with DND. At the beginning of January, I have already made it pretty public that they're willing to fund some of the O&M, or operations and maintenance, of the road from Nanisivik to Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is actually directed towards the \$2.25 million that will be put into the airport redevelopment. Is that specifically for the construction of the terminal building? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, for the air terminal and the CARS operational set-up there, that is correct, Mr. Chairman. *Koana*.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understand you correctly, there will be no work done in terms of resurfacing the airport at all. The heavy equipment was in there in the summer because we had similar issues as some of the other MLAs in terms of the dust coming up from the roads and whatnot. So there will be no work with the heavy

equipment on the actual surface and the apron, it's specifically construction. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that's correct. Once the apron and the strip are finished, that should be final and hopefully by 2010, everything will be complete. All safety factors, risk management, safety management, and permitting issues will be completed by that time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This should be my final question. I guess it's no secret that I was concerned very much about the overspending in the project and how expensive it actually got with some of the problems with the permafrost and whatnot. With the new allocation of money, could the minister give us assurances that it will not go over budget? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can assure the member that we are working carefully with CGS to monitor the cost of the contract and staying within the budgeted amounts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going back to my

response to the opening comments of the minister.

I recognize that Medicare is a fundamental right of every Canadian and I also recognize that any airport in the country is subject to the regulations of air transportation. I also understand that there will be some communities with restricted runways that can only land a certain type of aircraft, which are short take off and landing, and every patient that is ill depends on a speedy transportation between their community and the next closest medical centre.

I'm wondering if the minister has any plans to upgrade or lengthen the runways that are restricted only to small aircraft for the reasons I stated now and before. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that there are some communities with restrictions on the type of aircraft that they bring in. Good examples are Pangnirtung, Grise Fiord, and some of the smaller communities with short runways. Of course, these restrict the type of aircraft that we bring into these communities and of course, we're looking at any other type of option.

But due to the limited funding within our organization and of course, within the government programs we have here, it's going to be a long while before we do get Learjet services into every community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: I guess my final question on the point is whether the minister will seriously look at lengthening the runways that are too small to accommodate faster multi-engine aircraft for the sake of people that need Medicare and that need to be transported to the closest medical centre. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the new strategy, the action items include assessing all of the entities, all of the land for the airstrips, and checking to see how we can fit some of these things into actually getting better types of aircraft into these communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we should make a priority to upgrade the small runways. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I didn't hear a question, but, Minister Taptuna, if you want to respond to that.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of course, we will be looking into that and we are assessing and evaluating all of the airstrips in Nunavut and consideration will be taken into account for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is regarding airport mobile equipment, in particular pickup trucks. You have indicated that you will be replacing six pickup trucks in the communities. Can the minister explain what criteria is used before they decide if a community needs a pickup truck? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my assistant deputy minister answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have inspections of airports on an annual basis. We look at the equipment and we determine when they have to be replaced. We don't really have a particular criterion how they should be replaced, but the ones that require more maintenance and things like that, we try to replace them.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's kind of hot. Usually, it seems that and you said the fact that it depends on how much money they're spending on maintenance and I'll use the community of Sanikiluaq for example.

I know over the past four years, I think the engine on the airport vehicle in Sanikiluaq has been replaced twice, they've had problems with the transmission a few times and maybe

even changed it a couple of times. How long is it before we see a truck replacement for the community of Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Rumbolt, I think we might have to get back to you on that because I was not aware there were that many engines replaced in that vehicle.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be asking on operations and maintenance. I appreciate that we are in the 2009-2010 capital expenditures. This is going to tie in with my general comments as I mentioned earlier.

Can the minister tell me, in the five-year plan, if there are any plans for Baker Lake other than a new airport terminal as well as the new runway extension? I just want to ask that considering that the Baker Lake Airport Terminal was built in 1985 when our population, I'm guessing, was at about 800. Baker Lake now has a population of over \$1,700 and more mining activities.

>> *Laughter*

Oh, not dollars, my apologies, but the question I was alluding to in my notes about the dollars is that it was based on the fact of the mining activity development. We can't really facilitate the basic needs in the economic growth, as well as the population growth. Can the minister foresee anything in terms of

having a larger or a newer terminal and an extended runway in Baker Lake? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that question. The current levels of federal funding that we get from the Building Canada Fund just addressed only the most critical of these needs within the airports.

You're absolutely right when you mentioned that there's a lot of activity there now, especially with the mining and exploration companies basing their operations out of there. Although some of these mining companies should be funding some of the building of airports and airstrips, they haven't shown any interest in doing some of these things.

Of course, with three carriers going into Baker Lake, it is getting pretty tight there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I found that humorous as well. It was my mistake in hearing in terms of \$1,700, but basically what it came down to was that it's very crowded in Baker Lake; they're fighting for counter space right now and are not being able to accommodate as many people in the terminal.

But Baker Lake can also contribute to the rest of Nunavut in future plans by possibly becoming a gateway through the Kitikmeot. If we had an expanded runway as well as better terminal

service, our colleagues in the Kitikmeot would better access services through the rest of Nunavut.

I also used my colleagues here from Rankin Inlet. One example I used in my opening comment was when we were at the airport in Rankin Inlet, there was a First Air jet, a Canadian North jet, there was Kivalliq Air as well as Calm Air, and you can also tell that a lot these people were going in and out of Baker Lake too.

So I just wanted to advise to keep in mind that there is going to be a dire need and I can state for a fact now that it is an urgent matter in the case of Baker Lake. Just as a general comment, I will be following that up later on in operations and maintenance as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. I didn't hear a question there, as you indicated. Minister Taptuna, if you wish to respond to that.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it's getting pretty congested in Baker Lake with the addition of another airline flying into there. We have a similar situation here in Iqaluit where the space within the terminal is also maxed right out.

For developing a gateway into the Kitikmeot from Baker Lake, it's really up to the airlines to create a hub of their own; it's not within the department or the government. Any kind of travel hub or airport hub created for any jurisdiction is usually the airlines or air carriers that do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I do not have any more names for questioning at this time. Pardon me, Mr. Pauloosie.

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question for the minister. The Hamlet of Gjoa Haven has been leasing a dump truck, a garbage truck, and a loader on its own for the past few years. This year, they're going to be leasing a new water truck and a sewage truck to come in on the barge this summer.

I would like to know if the minister or the department could perhaps return some of the money that the Hamlet of Gjoa Haven has been paying towards leasing these heavy equipments. Is there any way that perhaps they could help out the community of Gjoa Haven's hamlet with the funds? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Pauloosie. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I'll have my colleague from CGS answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Tomorrow or the day after, I will be able to provide a response during Question Period. We're dealing with the Department of Transportation at this time, so I don't want to respond to that right now, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Pauloosie.

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to apologize; I'm asking the wrong department.

>> *Laughter*

Sorry about that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: One more time, I do not have any more names on my list for questioning. Perhaps we can go to page K-4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Capital Expenditures. \$5,833,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: If we can go back to page K-2. Department Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$5,833,000.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Does the committee agree that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. I wish to ask Minister Taptuna if he wishes to give closing comments.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I want to thank my official here for all the hard work they have done preparing all of these numbers and keeping me up to date and informed on the events that are happening here, and of course, all the members, my colleagues, for assisting us out here. And I had mentioned before that we will be working together to benefit Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I would like to thank the minister and his officials. I would like to ask (interpretation) the Sergeant-at-Arms if he can escort the officials out, please.

Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would like to ask Minister Curley of the Department of Health and Social Services to make his opening remarks.

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2009-2010 – Health and Social
Services – Consideration in
Committee**

Hon. Tagak Curley: Mr. Chairman, I'll be pleased to do so if you give me one minute.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were actually slated for tomorrow, so I hope that I'll be just as entertaining as the other couple of ministers ahead of me. But I believe, Mr. Chairman, that we are ready now.

I am pleased to take this opportunity today to the present the 2009-2010 Capital Estimates for the Department of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Chairman, every year, we must make difficult choices as the GN, as a whole, has limited funds to deliver on all capital projects submitted by departments.

The Department of Health and Social Services' total capital budget for 2009-2010 is \$4.69 million. It can be broken down into ongoing projects which are multi-year, small, and minor capital projects.

Currently, the department is engaged in four ongoing capital projects which include the two continuing care centres in Igloolik and Gjoa Haven, the Pangnirtung Health Centre, and the Kivalliq Health Centre.

Mr. Chairman, the continuing care centres in Igloolik and Gjoa Haven are proposed to open some time in the fall of 2009. The centres enable the department to provide 24-hour professional and personal support services for Nunavutmiut who require higher levels of care. In 2009-2010, funds are requested for warranty year inspections in the amount of \$50,000 for each of the continuing care centres.

The construction of the Pangnirtung Health Centre has experienced some delays, but construction has proceeded with a scheduled opening in August-September 2009. A substantial inspection for the building has taken place and we are awaiting the results. The department is requesting an additional \$200,000 for furniture that will be brought in on this coming summer sealift.

In 2008-09, funds were transferred from the QGH Furniture, Fixtures, and

Equipment (FF&E) project to fund the designs for the three replacement health centres in Repulse Bay, Taloyoak, and Arctic Bay. The department is requesting a reinstatement of funds.

Mr. Chairman, a consultant hired by the Department of Community and Government Services has recommended some renovations to improve the Kivalliq Health Centre's periodic ventilation issues that are due to changes in environmental conditions. Health and Social Services is requesting an additional \$300,000 to correct the problem.

Mr. Chairman, we are ensuring that work will be done on all of our older facilities to maintain the integrity of the buildings.

- The \$500,000 requested for small capital would be used for repairs, such as boiler replacement, ventilation system improvements, and the replacement of obsolete communications technology.
- The \$500,000 requested for minor projects would be used to replace medical/dental equipment and vehicles.

The replacement health centres in Repulse Bay, Taloyoak, and Arctic Bay are in the design stage. The Department of Health and Social Services will include these projects in its 2010-11 capital plan submission. Any funds remaining in these projects will be requested to be carried over into 2009-2010.

Similarly, Mr. Chairman, funds for the renovation of the QGH Baffin Wing will be included in the 2010-11 capital plan submission.

Mr. Chairman, as I mentioned earlier, each year, we have to make difficult decisions regarding our capital projects. We work hard to meet the health needs of all Nunavutmiut. Our ability to meet these needs is challenged by financial limitations.

Mr. Chairman, these changes set our course as many of Nunavut's health centres continue to age. In fact, 60 percent of our health centres are 20 years or older. And with anything that ages we must allot funds for upkeep, repairs, and renovations to keep our buildings in good condition.

Mr. Chairman, we will continue to ensure that health centre components, such as structure, boilers, electrical and data systems, are repaired or replaced until such occasions arise when sufficient funds are made available to replace the building in its entirety.

I look forward, Mr. Chairman, to your support and I welcome questions from the members at the appropriate time. Thank you.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Schell. 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. I will now rise to report progress.

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Ningeongan: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? My *Annuraaqatik*, Mr. Tapardjuk. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

(interpretation ends) Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. (interpretation) There are none. (interpretation ends) Orders of the Day. Ms. Tupik.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Deputy Clerk (Ms. Tupik) (interpretation): Orders of the Day for March 26:

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 1
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
 - Bill 2
 - Bill 3
 - Bill 4
22. Orders of the Day

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) This House stands

adjourned until Thursday, March 26, at
1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:47*

