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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Uqqummiut)

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(Iqaluit East)
Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for the Status of Women; Minister responsible for Immigration

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(Tununiq)

Moses Aupaluktuq
(Baker Lake)

Hon. Tagak Curley
(Rankin Inlet North)
Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

Ron Elliott
(Quttiktuq)

Adamee Komoartok
(Pangnirtung)

Hon. Lorne Kusugak
(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)
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(Akulliq)

Johnny Ningeongan
(Nanulik)
Deputy Speaker, Chair of the Committee of the Whole

Paul Okalik
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Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Eruk Pauloosie
(Nattilik)

Hon. Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)
Minister of Finance, Chair, Financial Management Board; Minister of Justice

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Fred Schell
(South Baffin)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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)
Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness

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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Thursday, November 26, 2009****Members Present:**

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. James Arvaluk, 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 Paulosie, 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): Thank you and good afternoon. Before we proceed, I would like to ask Mr. Curley to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. A very good afternoon, Premier, Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, and Nunavummiut. Going to the first item on the Orders of the Day. Ministers' Statements. If there are none... (interpretation ends) Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 045 – 3(2):
Housing Needs Survey**

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, I am very pleased to inform my hon. colleagues and indeed, all Nunavummiut

that the Nunavut Housing Needs Survey will be delivered in all Nunavut communities over the coming months.

Soon, Mr. Speaker, interviewers will knock at the doors of all residential dwellings, including public housing, staff housing, and privately owned and rented homes. The survey will begin in 13 communities this month, November 2009, with all communities being surveyed by the spring of 2010.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation is sponsoring the survey and the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics is responsible for hiring and training interviewers and for overseeing the data collection. Statistics Canada is providing technical support and analysis of the survey results.

Recognizing the importance of local hiring, more than 100 Nunavummiut from across the territory have applied for interviewer positions. To date, the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics has hired and trained 22 senior interviewers. The Nunavut Bureau of Statistics is moving forward with the hiring of community interviewers.

The housing needs survey is an important opportunity for Nunavummiut to help build the future of housing in Nunavut. We ask that all households in Nunavut participate in the official language of their choice and Mr. Speaker, all responses will remain confidential.

Mr. Speaker, given the critical shortage of housing, we will use the information collected by the survey to update the Nunavut Ten-Year Inuit Housing Action Plan and to secure additional funding to address the growing housing crisis in

Nunavut. The survey's results will also allow us to better plan for the delivery of housing resources throughout the territory.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important means for Nunavummiut to have a say in the delivery and the quality of housing in the territory, and this survey will afford them the opportunity to have their voices heard. I encourage all people to participate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Minister, can we have a copy of the statement brought to the table by the page, please.

Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health and Social Services, Hon. Tagak Curley. I'm sorry. Hon. Peter Taptuna.

Minister's Statement 046 – 3(2): High Arctic Communities Trip

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank you for this opportunity to rise today before the Members of this House to inform them of a trip I took this past October to the Quttiktuq communities of Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, and Grise Fiord.

As you are aware, the current government has made a commitment to visit every Nunavut community to find out first hand the issues facing our territory and I am pleased to be able to take this trip into some of our most northern communities.

I was accompanied on this trip by the Hon. Daniel Shewchuk and the Quttiktuq MLA, Mr. Ron Elliott. All of us took this opportunity to meet with

councils, stakeholders, and interested people in each of the communities we visited.

As the members are aware, as we go north, the longer distances and lower volumes of people and goods moving raises the costs and reduces the options available for transportation.

This is even truer in the High Arctic and because of this, my department is undertaking a study on solutions to the cost of living people in these communities face every day. While it was an honour to be able to visit this beautiful part of our territory, my prime purpose for this trip was to hear first hand how these high costs impact people's lives up there.

Mr. Speaker, the most basic demonstration of sovereignty is in the everyday treatment of people.

It was very apparent that the extremely high cost of transportation in the High Arctic would not be acceptable anywhere else in Canada. For the sake of those people, for the sake of the economy of our territory, and for the sake of sovereignty, it is necessary that we develop a solution to offset these costs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who welcomed us to their communities and shared their stories and their thoughts on the changes that are needed to improve the lives of people in the High Arctic. I would also like to thank the member from Quttiktuq for his hard work both before and during the visit.

Mr. Speaker, thanks in part to this trip, the study is nearing completion and there will soon be a discussion on its findings and how to advance them into changes that can make a difference. I look forward to bringing this discussion before the Members of this House in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

**Minister's Statement 047 – 3(2):
Aboriginal Firefighters
Competition**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to provide information to members about the Annual Aboriginal Firefighters Competition.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut sent a team of firefighters to this event which was held this year in Listuguj, Quebec, and I'm sure I didn't pronounce it properly. This is the fourth year that firefighters from Nunavut have attended this event. In 2006, 2007, and 2008, Nunavut firefighters won the award as the team with the best sportsmanship.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that this year, our firefighters placed fourth out of eight teams in the competition. Each year, we have improved our standing at this annual event. This improvement demonstrates the dedication of our volunteer firefighters and shows continued improvement the territory has made through the training programs offered by the Municipal Training Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Samson Amarudjuak and Johnny Karlik of Rankin Inlet, Sandy Natseck and Jerry Nuluk of Repulse Bay, James Sangoya of Clyde River, and Iqaluk Toonoo of Cape Dorset. These individuals represented all Nunavut firefighters and have demonstrated their commitment to the safety of their communities and dedication to improving their skills.

Mr. Speaker, continued training and the skills developed through teamwork are important to our firefighters and our communities. These individuals are an example of what we can accomplish when we put our minds to it. Congratulations to these individuals and thank you to all Nunavut firefighters for their services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

**Minister's Statement 048 – 3(2):
Nunavut Signs Greenland-Canada
Polar Bear MOU**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform members that on October 30, 2009, we have signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, and the Government of Greenland for the conservation and management of our shared Baffin Bay and Kane Basin polar bear populations.

Sixty percent of the world's polar bears range in Nunavut. This effort is an indication of the important role that

Nunavut plays in the management of polar bears in Canada and the world.

The MOU includes the creation of a joint commission comprised of representatives from the Canadian Inuit organizations, including Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, as well as representatives from harvester groups in Greenland. The role of the joint commission is to recommend the combined total allowable harvest for those populations that we share and to coordinate science, traditional knowledge, management, and outreach activities.

This MOU will facilitate further collaboration between co-management partners on key priorities for polar bear management. Coordinating our efforts with respect to research methodologies and the exchange of multiple sources of knowledge will help us uphold our ongoing commitment to protect this important species for future generations.

We look forward to exploring the many ways this joint commission can work toward our shared vision for polar bear management and conservation. *Ma'na*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Tagak Curley.

**Minister's Statement 049 – 3(2):
Diabetes Month**

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. November is Diabetes Month. It is intended to build public awareness

that diabetes is preventable in most cases and that it is manageable with physical activity and proper nutrition.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's rate of diabetes has historically been well below the national average due to a traditional lifestyle that includes country foods, lots of physical activity, and low sugar intake. However, our world has changed here in Nunavut during the past 50 years and with it, a change in lifestyle that involves risk factors for developing diabetes.

Mr. Speaker, my department partners with Nunavut communities, Inuit organizations, and Health Canada to deliver and support activities that prevent and teach proper care of diabetes.

Mr. Speaker, during this month, the staff members of Health and Social Services are arranging diabetes workshops in the communities to provide training to frontline health staff and other interested or affected individuals. These workshops will continue throughout the winter months in just about every Nunavut community.

Mr. Speaker, while we work to keep Nunavut's rate of diabetes low, we know it takes a great commitment on the part of the individual – daily physical activity, proper nutrition with low sugar intake, and more country foods. Health care workers continuously strive to provide the necessary support to individuals and families to make good diet choices throughout the year.

We know additional work is required to prevent diabetes. Issues like inadequate nutrition, the high price of nutritious

foods, and lack of physical recreational activities work against us. I would like to acknowledge our partnership with Health Canada, who is contributing \$1.4 million to Nunavut to assist with our efforts. These funds have been allocated to clinical prevention as well as health promotion, prevention, and awareness.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, we have some new pamphlets and information sheets about diabetes available for the public in all official languages and you can request this information at your local health centres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Peter Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 050 – 3(2):
Update on the Nunavut Business
Credit Corporation**

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to provide the Members of this House with an update on the recent activities of the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation.

On August 28, 2009, Alex Buchan of Cambridge Bay was appointed chairperson of the corporation, while Greg Cayen of Iqaluit was appointed vice-chairperson. I am confident that these two individuals will provide the leadership necessary to consolidate the recent improvements that the corporation has made both in terms of its governance and its service to Nunavut's business community.

Mr. Speaker, the corporation's board of directors has recently taken steps to enhance its effectiveness. Policy and planning, finance, and credit facility committees have been created to streamline the corporation's operations and provide additional support to the corporation's staff.

I want to thank Peter Ma for his hard work and dedication during his tenure as the interim chairperson.

Mr. Speaker, there is still much work to do at the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, but we are making progress and maintaining the service to Nunavut's business community. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. There are no more. Item 3. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Member for Baffin South, Mr. Schell.

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 073 – 3(2):
Support our Northern Airlines**

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my firm support for our northern airlines.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of air travel to and from the North is of great importance to my constituents and communities. The recent news that Air Canada Jazz has announced plans to enter our territory has caused us to look closely at this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there's an old joke in the airline industry which goes like this, "What's the easiest way to make a small fortune in the airline business?" The answer, Mr. Speaker, is, "To start with a large fortune."

Mr. Speaker, Canada's challenging geography and scattered population has always made it difficult for airlines to survive and thrive. Smaller companies have often failed when they are trying to compete head to head against large, established carriers.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Air Canada is not a fair competitor. It's a dangerous and unwelcome predator. We need only to look at what's happening to our neighbour to the west to take a glimpse of the dark future that threatens us all.

In the NWT, the predator tactics of Air Canada Jazz and WestJet has driven down fares on the lucrative Edmonton-Yellowknife route, but have they started new services to the smaller communities? No. Have they distinguished themselves by providing generous support to the communities' sports teams, youth activities, and charities? Not at all. Have our aboriginal owned northern carriers that have been serving the North for many years been forced to cut routes and throw people out of work? Sadly, yes.

Mr. Speaker, the arrival of Air Canada Jazz to the capital city of Iqaluit might help overpaid bureaucrats to enjoy cheaper tickets to Ottawa as they head out to conferences or all-inclusive vacations to the Caribbean, but our smaller communities and their residents will not benefit at all.

Mr. Speaker, we need to take a firm stance against companies that use predatory tactics to drive their competition into the grave. That always has been Air Canada's strategy and we should be under no illusion that it cares at all about the North.

Mr. Speaker, I call on our government to immediately implement a policy to ensure that not a single penny of public money goes to supporting the unwelcome entity. I call on our government to ensure that there is not a single GN civil servant using public dollars to buy a seat on Air Canada Jazz. I call on our Member of Parliament and Senator to lobby the federal government to adopt a similar approach for their travel procedures.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will be seeking a clear commitment from our government that it will stand up for the northern owned air carriers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 074 – 3(2):
Traditional Food Airfreight Rate**

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased that Mr. Curley, the Minister of Health and Social Services, made a statement on November being Diabetes Month. I would like to say that the federal government helps with nutritious foods through the Food Mail Program,

especially through Northmart and the co-ops. There are also people who can write in English who utilize this program.

It says here and even in our health centres that caribou, polar bear, walrus, seals, and fish are nutritious, but the federal government hasn't given us any financial support when we order food from the other communities, despite the fact that country food is good for our health.

We would like it to be known that we believe country food deserves to be included in the food subsidies, particularly in light of the fact that some communities experience shortage of country food.

We believe there should be inter-community trade in country food, through the HTOs. I would like to urge the Government of Nunavut to examine this issue. I also urge the federal government to conduct a study to determine how the inter-community trade in country food can be included in their Food Mail Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 075 – 3(2):
Support for Nunavut's Remote
Communities**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to once again urge the government to ensure that residents of Nunavut's more remote communities

have the support they need to participate in territorial events.

Mr. Speaker, in March, I rose in the House to congratulate the students from Nuiyak School in Sanikiluaq on attending the trade show in Igloolik. Following the trade show, those students travelled to Kelowna, BC, where they again displayed their business plan and products with great success. That trip would not have been possible without funding from the Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Kakivak Association.

Mr. Speaker, I have learned that there will be no participation from Sanikiluaq in trade shows this year. Representatives from the Nuiyak School have informed me that they are not receiving any funding this year because the cost of sending students from Sanikiluaq to these types of events is too high.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, my colleague from Quttiktuq raised the issue of athletes from his constituency having difficulties to raise enough funds to attend territorial sporting events due to the high cost of travel from their geographic locations. As I have noted in the past, the same barriers face athletes from Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, once again, we have a situation where community residents are left out of events because of where they live.

Mr. Speaker, this government and other organizations which exist to support the people of Nunavut need to make a better effort to ensure that all Nunavut communities and all Nunavut residents

have equal opportunities to participate in events throughout Nunavut.

The high cost of living is a fact of life that we face everyday throughout the North. It should not be used as an excuse to deprive individuals of opportunities that are made available to other residents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 076 – 3(2):
Happy Birthday Rachel Uyarasuk**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today for another reason, but first, I would like to say "good afternoon" to the communities of Igloolik and Hall Beach.

I wish to acknowledge the oldest individual currently living in Igloolik. She calls me by my namesake of her previous husband, so I call her my *Nuliaq*, or wife, and I have done so since I was a child and was introduced to her. On November 17, she celebrated her birthday and all of her relatives got together and celebrated her birthday on November 20.

According to government documents, it states that she was born on January 1, 1914. However, she herself knows that she was born in the fall. If government documents are true, she would be 95 years old presently, but a lot of people know that she's a lot older than 95. She has also stated that Noah Piugattuk, her late brother, was about four or five years younger than her and according to the

records, he was born in 1900. If that was the case, then she would be 105 years old this year.

Due to the possibility of mistaken government records muddling the issue, I am not going to argue with the age but rather celebrate the fact that she is the eldest person in the Baffin region, at least in my estimation.

I would like my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her current birthday and in wishing her the best for her next birthday. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 077 – 3(2):
Conservation Officer's Actions
and Consequences**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to raise a concern brought forward by my constituents and which continues to be a public issue even though our government seems to consider the case closed.

Mr. Speaker, news reports have indicated that in mid-September, a newly hired Government of Nunavut conservation officer shot two musk oxen in the region between Chesterfield Inlet and Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, although it is not uncommon for conservation officers to hunt while they are out on patrol, it is certainly unusual that they would break the very laws that they have been hired

to enforce by hunting animals out of season and in an area closed to hunting.

Mr. Speaker, any individual hired to perform a job related to the enforcement of laws and regulations should be held as accountable under those same laws and regulations as every other individual in the same jurisdiction, if not so, more.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding, in the case I am referring to, a supervisor within the Department of Environment indirectly granted this conservation officer permission to do what he did by providing incorrect information. Surely, any senior official within the department should be fully aware of the rules and regulations relating to their work, especially in the field relating to law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, there is a saying that ignorance is no excuse for breaking the law. This is often applied to the average citizen who has to pay consequences of their actions even though they may have been unaware that they were breaking the law.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that there is a public perception that employees of the Government of Nunavut can act as though they are above the law and face no consequences for breaking it. How can the public have confidence in the actions of individuals who try to enforce the law when it is well known that he is not held accountable under that same law?

Mr. Speaker, how can the public have confidence in an organization that investigates itself and determines that there is no wrongdoing?

Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my Member's Statement.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A number of my constituents feel that it is time for the government to stop sweeping its mistakes under the carpet. Mr. Speaker, it is not enough for the government to say that it will provide better orientation or better training in the future. Now is the time to be accountable.

Mr. Speaker, section 148 of Nunavut's *Wildlife Act* states that the minister shall be responsible for administering this Act. I urge the minister to act accordingly.

At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I shall have questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Member's Statement 078 – 3(2): Steps Towards Social Advocacy

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to start by thanking Minister

Taptuna for his Minister's Statement. Sovereignty is definitely an issue near and dear to our hearts up in the High Arctic.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Premier for her commitment to have the ministers travel. To date, we've had six ministers come to the High Arctic, which I know residents are very happy and thankful for. They have made comments that in the past, they rarely saw their elected officials and they are greatly appreciating the fact that they have come up.

We've had, as the minister pointed out, Minister Taptuna and Minister Shewchuk come up during the High Arctic transportation meetings. Minister Kusugak came up with his representatives. Back in the spring, Minister Peterson spent a week in Resolute Bay. As well, Minister Tapardjuk and the Premier came up during the Nunavut Quest. Thank you for coming.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an important step forward in addressing the needs and issues of one of the most vulnerable groups in our society, children and youth.

Mr. Speaker, following our October review of the GN report card, it was agreed that an independent position to represent and articulate the needs of children and youth will be established during the life of this Legislative Assembly. I am very pleased that my colleagues in the House have agreed to support this initiative.

Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that the government has also committed to

opening a social advocacy office within the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs that will seek to assist disadvantaged and vulnerable groups within our society.

Mr. Speaker, while I am in full support of all efforts to address the social issues and challenges that face our territory, I am concerned that having an overlying, broad mandate will weaken the ability of the social advocacy office to realistically address distinct areas of concern.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the government to make every effort to focus its efforts and resources on specific and tangible goals. I believe that by moving forward step by step, we will be more effective and successful in reaching each milestone. By jumping in with both feet first, we risk losing sight of the path we are on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 079 – 3(2): Need for a Swimming Pool in Repulse Bay

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to bring attention to a letter that I received from one of my younger constituents in Repulse Bay. Jenny is nine years old and she wrote a letter to me as her MLA explaining how she would like to be able to learn how to swim. She would like to have a swimming pool in Repulse Bay.

Later today, at the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will be tabling her letter. I am

very proud that my young constituent has the initiative and courage to write a letter to me.

The lack of a swimming pool in Repulse Bay is an issue that is not unlike the issue of equal opportunity for young Nunavummiut that was brought up yesterday by my colleague from the High Arctic.

My colleague spoke about the importance of the physical and mental health of young Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, he spoke about the importance of ensuring equal access to sporting events for all youth Nunavummiut.

Today, I am pleased to have the opportunity to raise both his message with an actual letter from a young constituent who seemed to know just as well as anyone the significance of having access to recreational infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 080 – 3(2): Long Gun Registry Questionnaire

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about an issue that is something that I have been raising for the last ten years. I remember our very first leadership forum here in Iqaluit back in 1999. It was a question I raised and it has been an issue for Nunavummiut since before that and that is Nunavummiut's frustration in dealing with the federal government's gun control legislation.

Mr. Speaker, we all know and governments have always been accused that the wheels of government move very slow. This is something that has been going on for over ten years now.

I was very happy to see in town here when I picked up a mail-in thing with free postage to send back, it's a little pamphlet or questionnaire and it says, "Should the long gun registry be scrapped?" Mr. Speaker, it doesn't cost you anything to fill it out and it doesn't cost you anything to mail it back.

Mr. Speaker, I am filling it out. I will show you right now, I'm clicking yes, the long gun registry should be scrapped by the federal government and I will be sending it in to them. I encourage all of my colleagues and their constituents that have been raising this issue for over ten years now to do the same thing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>>Applause

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

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very delighted to introduce this person who many Nunavutmiut call a friend as he has arrived into Iqaluit. I would like you to join me in welcoming Reverend Roger Armbruster of the Canada

Awakening Ministries near Winnipeg.
Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Arvaluk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 103 – 3(2): 2010 Year of the Inuit

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

With respect to this question, we heard yesterday at 5:30 p.m., November 25, 2009, that the President of ITK, Mary Simon stated that the upcoming year 2010 would be the year of the Inuit. She spoke to many issues facing Inuit, including the fact that Inuit pay income taxes, our continuing shortage of adequate housing, as well as the high cost of living in the North even though Inuit have some of the smallest incomes in Canada. As a matter of fact, some make far less than the average.

I would like to ask the Premier if the Nunavut government will be involved in substantiating Ms. Mary Simon's statements with respect to the issues facing Inuit and especially in orientating the federal government about the challenges we face, in particular the fact that Inuit are not equitably treated as it relates to the extremely high cost of living as well as the shortage of adequate housing. We have faced these challenges ever since the Nunavut government was

created and even prior to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, (interpretation ends) Hon. Eva Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like my colleague, as he made his statement about this announcement yesterday, that was the first I have heard of it, but it is a news item that is of interest, especially the statements Ms. Simon made about our challenges.

Last month, I had an opportunity to speak with Mary Simon in Charlottetown, when she was there to make a presentation. We also spoke to the issues facing northern peoples and governments, although Mary spoke more to the issues facing the northerners who she represents and I spoke to the challenges that Nunavut faces, including our needs as a territory. We were able to present our views on these issues.

As a government, we have also wanted to communicate this since we have also orated that in our *Tamapta* document, it states that we need to inform people outside of Nunavut about these facts and this is interrelated to this principle.

I appreciate the member's question with respect to whether the Nunavut government will be involved in this area because it's a very good initiative to consider. I will also discuss this matter with my colleagues at the Cabinet level. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has a position been drafted or has the government prepared a mechanism that will be used to deal with this initiative?

As it relates to orientating the federal government about the situation Inuit are in, there are many issues we can include, such as the High Arctic exiles, Henry Larsen of the RCMP, who traversed the Northwest Passage with his Eskimo friends, with no reference to their names.

Some of these Inuit are still alive today, including their descendents. Based on their recollections, the Inuit had to look after them and to coddle them so that they would not perish and therefore, they were able to survive this ordeal. If the Inuit had not looked after their welfare and survival, they would not have been able to succeed, as previous attempts without Inuit assistance had not been successful.

Has our government started preparations to tell the Inuit story to the federal government or our southern counterparts about the tremendous assistance Inuit have provided, especially in the High Arctic? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a very important issue to Nunavummiut, especially as it relates to Inuit, who Inuit are and where they originated from. This is especially important that we communicate this information to other countries outside of Nunavut, particularly overseas countries.

The need to communicate this is vitally important to this government and it is obvious that my colleague shares that view, particularly in representing the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. We continue to discuss this and we also make presentations to our southern counterparts and overseas governments. We try to incorporate this into everything we do as a government.

However, with respect to the details included in this initiative, we still need to finalize what will be included and that is obvious. I agree with my colleague on its importance, especially as it relates to the definition of Inuit, where they came from, and how interconnected they are with the northern environment. This is something that people around the world have to realize and I thank the member for raising that issue. Thank you.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Premier for responding to my question. I believe they're going to consider it accordingly.

My supplementary question is... I think it was on the same day, in the southern news media, it was mentioned that they realized southern Canadians don't know Inuit at all. They believe that they know Inuit because during the 2010 Olympics, there will be an Inuksuk there.

We have a perception where the southern people know us, but it's obvious that they don't know us. Lots of Canadians don't know Inuit, their

culture, and the many challenges they face, like the housing shortage.

Will she be making that information available to all Canadians and the federal government? If we don't do this properly, Inuit of Canada will not be too happy. My question is: will you be planning to make sure that all of this information about Inuit and the North is provided to southern Canadians? How will it be planned? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the *Tamapta* document, there is a statement in there on how *Tamapta* will be implemented. The Nunavut government has been in place for ten years now and the public needs to know all about it. That's going to be part of our plan. Thank you.

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

Question 104 – 3(2): Former Deputy Minister of Justice

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

I thanked her yesterday for acknowledging the issue that we spoke about and she apologized for her mistake. I thank her for the apology she made.

In spite of that, we have to be a transparent government, so I'm going to

be asking questions on this. My question is why the position of Deputy Minister of Justice became vacant. Did the individual resign or was he asked to leave? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Premier of Nunavut, (interpretation ends) Hon. Eva Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Members of the Legislative Assembly, we want to be as transparent and understandable as possible.

As I stated in prior dialogues with my colleague several times, I have reiterated the same statement each time, but it seems that he can't comprehend my repeated answers.

With respect to the contents, I am not at liberty to discuss them based on the policy we are following in regard to confidentiality. We can't speak to the particulars of any dismissal case nor with respect to any human resource issues.

With respect to our employees, we are dealing with section 23, which relates to the Access to Information and Privacy Protection Act, which speaks to any member of the public requesting information. I apologize for not using the proper term in Inuktitut, but it relates to confidentiality.

We are aware of this, as are my colleagues, that we have to deal with confidential matters, especially when they are personal, and we have to accept this confidentiality policy as it is applied in order to keep that trust. (interpretation

ends) We agree that we must respect their privacy.

All of my actions, I believe I practice in transparency. There is no secrecy, as the member stated, and all procedures were followed. There is nothing more I can say on this issue. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to this issue, I don't wish to pursue this incessantly. All I wished for was an adequate response as to what happened and this seems to have been answered indirectly in that the deputy minister didn't resign.

What I'm trying to get at is: for these types of senior position dismissals or resignations, the government should inform our fellow Nunavummiut immediately about the changes and introduce any replacements as required.

I would like to see this reincorporated in the near future as a government practice since it seems to have been waylaid. It was not done properly in my opinion. My question to the Premier is whether she will be returning to this practice from past governments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Premier Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we talk about staff, we have to look at them case by case. As I said before, there is a secretariat of senior officials and we

have to go through them if we need to do anything else. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The *Public Service Act* of Nunavut, section 16(1), states that the commissioner in council, "on the recommendation of the Premier, has the exclusive right and authority to appoint persons to the position of Deputy Minister in the public service."

We have not amended that legislation. So all I'm asking for is some accountability that if there is going to be a change in the public service at this level, the Premier has to announce those changes, not through some gazette that we have to try and research. We have to be open with our constituents and the governments that we deal with elsewhere. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have not violated any legislation or Act. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. If we are going to be giving this responsibility to the senior officials' secretariat, they have to abide by the Act. If it's not good to deal with, we shouldn't be giving it to the secretariat, we have to be able to account for

ourselves. Every time I asked her a question, she talked about the secretariat committee, but you do have the authority through the Act.

In the future, if you are going to vacate any DM position, you have to make sure that you publicize it to Nunavummiut and to people outside of Nunavut. I believe that needs to be rectified. As a government, who are we going to look to? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I didn't hear a question, so it's up to you if you would like to respond, (interpretation ends) Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said with the senior officials' secretariat, they can tell me after meeting and it's at my discretion because we didn't violate or breach any Act. I didn't want to make that decision myself; I want to be able to make it with others. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan.

Question 105 – 3(2): Government Response to Conservation Officer's Actions

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, in my Member's Statement, I referred to the actions of a conservation officer in shooting two musk oxen out of season and in a closed area outside of Chesterfield Inlet.

Can the minister clarify for this House exactly how this incident occurred and how it could have been allowed to happen? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I thank the member from Coral Harbour for his question and concern. At this point in time, I am not prepared and I cannot comment on this investigation.

There is an incident that happened and I don't feel proper to speak about a specific person or community. There is an incident that happened and I will respond to that in general terms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. (interpretation) Any more? (interpretation ends) Your first supplementary, Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess that's just the point of my issue here. The minister, in my opinion, should have been prepared to be available to answer my questions.

By the way, I am from Coral Harbour but I represent Nanulik. So therefore, I would like to ask the minister if he could at least update the House as to what happened in that incident. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There was an incident that happened that did involve a conservation

officer and others where an illegal incident was allowed to take place.

Senior staff in my department did an investigation, a very thorough investigation, involving the community involved as we are committed, under our new *Wildlife Act*, to involve the community and the HTO in the local community. That was definitely the case in this case. The outcome of the case was, at this point in time, not to lay any charges and the community was in compliance with that and agreed to that step taken right now.

There are mistakes that were happening here in our orientation of our officer staff and we recognize that. I am prepared to speak to that and how we can try and address that issue. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Even though I sense hesitation to get to the point of the matter from the minister, I would like to ask another question here. Is the minister confident that this conservation officer will be able to continue to do his job effectively given the circumstances? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the member has stated, conservation officers in the position to authority are very highly looked at. However, everybody is a human being.

The investigation that happened with this officer would be no different than any other member or resident of Nunavut. I assure the member that this is the case and this investigation took place, that he was treated as such. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Mr. Speaker, I'm a bit stunned here. The spirit of *Tamapta* that this government wishes to pursue and the principles of it directs into this kind of incident from happening.

I wish to ask the minister: will you be prepared to make the necessary corrections and to look at the issue of being able to do an investigation on a department rather than utilizing an independent source? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to advise the member that yes, we would be willing to look at, if one of our staff members within the department, especially in the high authority of a conservation officer, has alleged to commit an offence, bringing an independent, outside body to investigate such a case in the future.

I also would just like to state that I think this incident that has happened has opened our eyes that we have to do a much better job in the orientation of all our staff within the Department of Environment and maybe other departments within Nunavut where there is very clear direction given on culture,

living in Nunavut, and dealing with the people in Nunavut.

I think it's very important that we can improve on this and have people who have been living here and experienced deliver that orientation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. A Point of Privilege has been requested. Mr. Arvaluk.

Point of Order

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My Point of Privilege is that the minister is making contradictory remarks here. He said that there was an investigation done by his staff and he said that he cannot comment in detail because this investigation is going on to a member, my colleague.

Can he state to us whether the investigation has been done or is it going on? He did not make that clear. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. A Point of Privilege was requested and it sounds more like a Point of Order. If the minister would like to respond to that, I'll give you a chance. Mr. Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The investigation, to my knowledge, is not completely done yet, so that's why I'm saying what I'm saying. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you, Minister. A clarification of the question has been made and the Point of Order has been dealt with. Thank you.

Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 106 – 3(2): Status of Water Truck Fill Station in Sanikiluaq

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

As the minister is aware, helping to ensure that communities have adequate and safe drinking water is one of the department's responsibilities. As a community's population grows and its infrastructure ages, the need to upgrade facilities is crucial.

In previous year's capital budgets, the minister's department has allocated approximately \$340,000 for a new water truck fill station for Sanikiluaq.

On March of this year, I asked the minister questions on this issue in the House. He indicated that once the new fiscal year starts, the department's plan is to get the request for proposals out. A capital carryover for this project was approved by the Legislative Assembly in June of this year. However, the project has still not gotten underway.

Can the minister update the House today on the status of the Sanikiluaq water truck fill station? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question, Mr. Rumbolt.

Given that the project was not approved through the Building Canada Fund until we were into March, it was not practical to have the planning and design done to meet the shipping season.

As a matter of fact, the planning and design phase is going to be completed in January and the water fill station should be in Sanikiluaq at the next shipping season. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Building Canada Fund portion of this project was approximately one million dollars. Can the minister update the House on the status of the third party funding and if this amount will be sufficient to complete this project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it should be sufficient to complete the project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 107 – 3(2): Transportation Infrastructure Needs of Baker Lake

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Yesterday, I tabled the transcripts from the recent hearings of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, during which the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Baker Lake made an important presentation to Members of Parliament.

In their presentation, they discussed the need for major improvements to Baker Lake's transportation infrastructure, including its airport. However, the presenters told the committee that although key federal ministers are in support of plans to relocate the airport, they are "still trying to get the Government of Nunavut to come onside and support this thing."

Can the minister update me today on what the GN's position is on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Hon. Peter Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question, hon. member from Baker Lake.

Yes, I can attempt to update you on the position of the Baker Lake Airport. As you mentioned in the statements that were made to the Standing Committee on Finance for the federal government, yes, everybody supports the proposed projects, so does this government. As indicated before, we do support it. Initially, we support the initiative, but at this time, we do not have the financial resources to build a new airstrip for Baker Lake.

The current levels of federal funding, including the Building Canada Fund,

will only be able to address the most critical needs of airport infrastructure and Baker Lake, at this point in time, is not one of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Hon. Minister Taptuna for the response. A supplementary question that I would like to ask is Agnico-Eagle Mines has appeared before the standing committee. Their presentation also stressed the need for improvements to infrastructure in the community and region, including improvements to Baker Lake's dock and the development of a regional deep water port.

Can the minister tell me how his department is working with Baker Lake and the mining companies to achieve these goals? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My department is currently working with Transport Canada on two studies. The first is the overall transportation needs of the Territory of Nunavut and the other is more focused on feasibility of ports, including Rankin Inlet, Pond Inlet, and Cambridge Bay. At this time, the federal government is tendering through their system on these studies.

Of course, all municipalities, including Baker Lake, all mining companies that are working in this region, the marine carriers, and stakeholders are being

consulted throughout the course of this study. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the hon. minister for his response. (interpretation ends) Earlier this week, the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development held important hearings in Iqaluit on the subject of barriers and solutions to economic development in the territories.

Did the Government of Nunavut make a presentation to this committee and will the minister commit to tabling the presentation in the Legislative Assembly, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Bob Long appeared on behalf of me as a witness before the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. He also participated with the Mayor of Iqaluit, the economic development officer for the Hamlet of Pangnirtung, and the acting Chair of the Nunavut Economic Forum.

Throughout the process there, Deputy Minister Long, throughout the presentation, indicated the need for more improved standard of living in the North and the need for Ottawa to build north just as Canada has been built from the

east to the west for the last 140 years. And yes, I will be prepared to table that presentation in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I would like to thank the hon. minister for that response. In noting that there was a presentation, I just want to note as well, the deputy minister indicated what position or how did the Members of Parliament react. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Overall, Deputy Minister Long's discussion on infrastructure... the needs of infrastructure was accepted by the standing committee. There was a general agreement that additional investment in the infrastructure would lower transportation costs and improve the prospects for the fishery and tourism industries, and overall, the economic well-being of the North. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

Question 108 – 3(2): Government of Nunavut's Travel Policies

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance, who is responsible for the government's duty travel policies that are contained in the government's Financial Administration Manual.

As I noted in my Member's Statement, I am calling on the GN to ensure that it supports northern owned airlines. Will the minister commit to immediately reviewing the Financial Administration Manual to ensure that GN civil servants travelling to the south fly on northern and Inuit owned carriers only, yes or no?

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister of Finance, Hon. Keith Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Schell for that question. What I can tell Mr. Schell is that Government of Nunavut employees are required to comply with the Financial Administration Manual and that includes travel. So as long as they're adhering to the policies, then they're not breaking the rules. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: My first supplementary question is: are you going to review the Financial Administration Manual? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Schell again for that question. Mr. Speaker, what I can assure Mr. Schell is that the Financial Administration Manual has been under review for a period of time already.

A number of directives have gone through the Deputy Ministers Committee and made it to Cabinet. I think they were at least 60 to 65 percent completed on the review of the policies and regulations

in the Financial Administration Manual.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When will this review be completed?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank Mr. Schell for that question. I think that if we're on schedule, the review should be completed by some time in 2010. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I'm asking is because Air Canada is moving in, in March and I was hoping that that would be done before that, but it's obviously not. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. I didn't hear a question, but maybe Minister Peterson wishes to reply to that. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank Mr. Schell. I just want to assure Mr. Schell and all Members of the Assembly that I, too, come from a smaller community and we are concerned. I have been up north most of my life and I'm well aware of the services that the northern airlines provide to the smaller communities. So we are concerned and I'm personally concerned because it affects my riding.

So we will be taking a close look to ensure that Government of Nunavut employees comply with the policy. That's what they are there for. We committed to strengthening financial management throughout the Government of Nunavut and that's where our commitment will remain. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 109 – 3(2): Progress towards Social Advocacy

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier during my Member's Statement, I'm concerned that the mandate of the government's social advocacy office may be overly broad and not specific enough. Can the Premier clarify what steps have been taken to date to establish the social advocacy office? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Hon. Eva Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is something that we consider very important, to protect people who cannot take care of themselves. Under my department, we are starting to set up the social advocacy office and I will inform the members as soon as the dates are established. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess I'm a little concerned because back in June when we met the last time, I had concerns and brought up and mentioned the fact that I felt that the mandate was too broad and also mentioned that with that mandate being so broad, one of the issues I saw in particular was the ability of the government to be able to find an individual with the skill sets to staff the position.

So has the Premier's office been able to... oh, sorry. Has your department been able to find someone to fill that position? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): We are currently working on this issue. We have an employee who works for the Status of Women Council and we will be getting additional staff. I will keep you updated on the progress of this issue as it goes. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I'm a little concerned because the year is almost finished and it sounds like maybe there hasn't been a lot done working towards this social advocacy office. I know the Premier has mentioned and said it was important, but if there is no progress to report, then I'm a little worried as to why there is no progress.

I seem to remember that in June, there are actually three positions from Health and Social Services and three positions from EIA, so that would be a total of six positions for that office. I just wonder: what are those people doing? If there was some information that the Premier could give us in terms of whether they are reviewing legislation or whether they are looking for office space. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a part of the social portfolio. So we are going to be working closely with Health and Social Services to look at the social aspects, child advocacy, and family issues, (interpretation ends) child and family services legislation.

With the Department of Health and Social Services, as part of the *Tamapta* mandate, we will conduct a comprehensive review of child and family services legislation, programming, and current delivery methods. Beginning this year, my colleague, the Minister of Health and Social Services, will be leading the initiative with the focus on ensuring that children receive appropriate and responsive services.

(interpretation) I think that's part of it. It's something that's very important to this government, to make sure that children are properly protected, that they are properly housed. The child and family services legislation is very important.

(interpretation ends) My department, through the social advocacy office, will research the creation of an independent

child and youth representative. The office will be created in cooperation with the process of a child protection review so that the priorities we give the system over the coming years will continue into the future.

(interpretation) It is something that is very important. I will make sure that there is a proper review done and that Inuit traditional knowledge is incorporated into the legislation, especially when it comes to social issues. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know if that's any different from what we have already heard. At the beginning, I felt that the social advocacy office was going to be set up and the youth and child representative... it would just be years and years and years before anything positive came.

Could the Premier sort of elaborate? She said that with research that have been done in terms of a youth and child representative office. Could she provide what type of research has been done and what her government has done to work towards that? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't say that it was completed. I said that we will conduct it. (interpretation ends) We will conduct a comprehensive review of child and family services. (interpretation) That is for clarity.

The reason why we're waiting is we're looking at the *Tamapta* Action Plan. At this time, we are reviewing it. We seriously want to put that action plan into motion and I'm very pleased that we're now working on it. Thank you.

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

Question 110 – 3(2): New Landfill for Repulse Bay

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The clock is going faster now.

I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services. I believe he knows that last summer, he was in Repulse Bay and I'm sure that he was receiving correspondence from the Hamlet of Repulse Bay and their applications.

The community dump is very close to the airport and the community, so they don't really want to burn the refuse at the dump because the smoke drifts over. I had received a letter from my constituent in Repulse Bay, who is a member of the hamlet council. I have also spoken to the hamlet council in Repulse Bay.

Have you made any plans on the Repulse Bay dump relocation? Thank you.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): The review of the dump in Repulse Bay was completed. We will be working on the final draft of an agreement with the hamlet for the community dump construction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, to supplement his comment, I wish to thank the minister for his response since this gives us hope for the resolution of the issue. Is the minister in a position to advise me as to when the work will commence? I imagine that his officials will have to visit the hamlet in Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Yes, perhaps this upcoming summer. I'm sure that they will commence on the project once the fencing materials have been received by the hamlet. We will also be working on the completion of an MOU agreement with the hamlet.

As we all know, a lot of the debris from the dump has been blown all over the area and we will be looking at the fenced-in area which will be subject to the agreement. This is to ensure that when the hamlet has to clean up, they are not solely responsible for cleaning up the windblown debris from the dump. We are hoping that it will occur this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): My second supplementary, Mr. Speaker: will the work revolve around relocating the dump further from the community or will they only be installing a fence around the dump?

The wind blows debris all over the environment. Based on comments from residents, they are concerned about its proximity, especially when the garbage is burned as the smoke tends to blow into the community. So they are not burning the materials due to this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you. According to the information provided to me by staff, they will be reviewing the material for the fencing, but the dump will not be moved. That is what I know currently, that they will do that at the same location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My final supplementary relates to whether the fencing project will indeed commence this summer. Can the minister advise me as to the dates of construction on the dump and sewage facilities in Repulse Bay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Yes, the fencing material has been shipped and the hamlet is in receipt of the materials that arrived in the community.

The drilling company will be travelling to Repulse Bay and once they are in the community, they will start working on the project. This is not the only drilling project that they have to undertake in the community. They first have to drill the support beams for the fencing prior to stringing up the fence. Once these have been drilled, the construction would commence.

What I can tell the member is that the material for the fencing is already in Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Komoartok.

Question 111 – 3(2): Completion of New Bridge in Pangnirtung

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

As we are now all aware, last year, our community experienced problems with the bridge connecting our two community areas and the bridge was damaged during a storm on June 9, 2008. Our community was provided a replacement bridge.

The new bridge material arrived and it was constructed immediately. However, this bridge was not the type the community would have chosen. Due to the fact that this was an emergency replacement and it had to be hurriedly constructed before the end of October, it was appreciated by our residents as it became useable upon completion.

We are thankful for being able to cross the river at our leisure again. However, we are still experiencing some issues, such as the proper lining up of the outlet roads to the ends of the bridge which could not be completed due to the snow cover and the ground freezing due to the lateness of the season in the fall.

These areas were to be completed this spring as soon as conditions allowed for completion of these tasks, but we then ran into problems with the financing of this emergency bridge replacement. We were led to believe that the federal government would cover the funds for the emergency replacement, but we were informed later on that this would not be the case.

On another matter, the surveyors had completed the surveys for the road connecting to the bridge. They started surveying on the north side and it was incomplete to the bridge, but the one closer to the original community has never been surveyed or worked on. Will they be working on that area and will they complete that thoroughly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will look into the issue raised in your question and I will want to get further understanding as to what the status of it is and once I get the status, I will relay that information to you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The question has been taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 112 – 3(2): Investigation of Conservation Officer

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just barely made it, I think.

When I raised the Point of Privilege earlier, the minister clarified that the investigation is still going on, it's not completed. My question then is: when it was reported that the wildlife officers said wildlife officers caught musk oxen out of season and out of area, how is it so difficult not to press charges then? Why do you need an investigation? What are you investigating?
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I believe you're referring to media reports that stated that in the paper. Through an investigation, there is more that comes out than what's relayed in the media report.

In all cases, I think you have to be very thorough, talk to specific people who are involved, take statements from people

involved, and gather evidence that you need to have to substantiate a case. So it's not that easy because you hear about it in the paper that it's reported like that, that charges can be laid, you have to have the evidence behind it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister then clarify to me that the report in the paper is wrong, that we need an investigation in order to substantiate that it is wrong? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't say that the report in the paper is wrong, but I think the paper is making assumptions and not having all of the evidence that is in front of them. It's taken its investigation that goes in front of a court of law. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you. It is very difficult for Mr. Ningeongan and me, and some other members, probably. Yes, human beings make mistakes. We all do, but we try not to when it's our job. Our job is to police the *Wildlife Act*, and that particular officer who is supposed to enforce that is said to be or at least suspected to be breaking what he was supposed to enforce. It is very difficult to swallow.

First, I should ask: how long do you expect the investigation to last? Will it last more than this session?
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I expect the investigation to last a while yet because I think this is going to be re-looked at with the guidance and the concern that Mr. Ningeongan has from bringing up that maybe an independent investigation should be done. So I think it's going to take a little while yet.

But I do agree with you that in the public perception and in the public's eyes, an officer should be held at very high standards. I think that we have to investigate it as we would investigate any other person, resident of Nunavut or non-resident of Nunavut. But I will commit that once this is complete to advise the House on the status of this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 113 – 3(2): Vacancies in Quttiktuq

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought I wasn't going to have time. James was up, so... .

My question is directed towards the Minister of Health and Social Services, the Hon. Tagak Curley.

In March, I asked questions about the social worker and CHR being hired in

Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay. At that time, he said that the government was aware of that and it might take up to six months to hire someone in that position.

Since that time, the situation in Quttiktuq has gotten a little worse in a sense that our social worker in Arctic Bay who was servicing Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay is no longer in Arctic Bay, and all of my three communities were being serviced out of Pond Inlet. I was just wondering if the minister could give me an update as to how the hiring process is going. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. I would like to take the question as notice and provide a proper response once I get the update on the status of the social worker for his constituency. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The question has been taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Komoartok.

Question 114 – 3(2): Correspondence with Pangnirtung Housing Organization

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Although I asked him a question a few days ago and he said that there was a correspondence coming to me, I still haven't received that letter.

Construction workers in Pangnirtung are all local people. Will they not be working from November 24 until March? Have you got that information for me now? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That draft letter was across my desk yesterday and I asked them to make some minor changes to it. I can assure the member that that correspondence will probably be signed off if not today, tomorrow, depending on how long I'm in Committee of the Whole this afternoon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. So if that's the case, did you understand the fact that the Pangnirtung construction crew can work inside the building where it's heated or will they cease the construction for the winter?

The community residents say that once you construct the outer shell of the building and if the building can be heated, they can work inside the building. Will my local construction workers be able to work during this winter in the construction of units? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the member knows and I have said before, one of the strong main components behind the Nunavut Housing Trust Delivery Strategy was a training component.

Mr. Speaker, we know in Pangnirtung, there were a couple of journeypersons who were there doing the training. The local people who are employed need to work under the supervision of a journeyperson in order for those hours to count towards their certification and training. It's not a simple cut-and-dry thing and that's why it's explained in the letter.

The delivery strategy that was approved in the past at the beginning of the Housing Trust had stipulated that construction would be closed down for a certain period of time. I know that has been exempted in the past because of the delays that have occurred in some of the communities.

In this case, I think they're just going back to what the initial delivery strategy was for the Nunavut Housing Trust and the projects. Like I said, it's clearly explained in the letter that I saw and you will be getting that either later today or tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Komoartok. Going back to the Orders of the Day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Ningark.

Item 12: Tabled Documents

Tabled Document 058 – 3(2): Letter from 9-Year-Old Constituent Concerning the Need for a Swimming Pool in Repulse Bay

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a copy of a letter that I received from a young constituent from Repulse Bay. As I stated earlier today, this young constituent said that she would like to learn how to swim. I trust the same is true for other young Nunavummiut. I urge the government to consider the construction of a swimming pool in Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Okalik.

Tabled Document 059 – 3(2): Correspondence Regarding Qulliq Energy Corporation's Inuit Employment Plans

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to table an email regarding the Qulliq Energy Corporation on the Inuit Employment Plan. I want to thank the courageous employees who are willing to let their names stand on this email in this matter. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Tabling of Documents.

Tabled Document 060 – 3(2): Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut re. Mr. Paul Okalik, MLA

Thank you, Members. I wish to table today the Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut regarding Mr. Paul Okalik, MLA. Thank you.

Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 009 – 3(2): Appointment of Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole – Notice

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, November 30, 2009, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Akulliq, that Mr. Fred Schell, Member for South Baffin, be appointed a Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.

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

Speaker: Thank you. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Hon. Tagak Curley.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 19 – An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act – Notice

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, November 30, 2009,

that Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of my colleagues to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Motion 009 – 3(2): Appointment of Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole

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

WHEREAS section 43 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly shall elect two Deputy Chairpersons of the Committee of the Whole;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Eruk Pauloosie, Member for Nattilik, has resigned his position as a Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Akulliq, that Mr. Fred Schell, Member for South Baffin, be appointed a Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Minister of Finance, Hon. Keith Peterson.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 13 – An Act to Amend the Retirement Plan Beneficiaries Act – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat, that Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Retirement Plan Beneficiaries Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 with Mr. Ningeongan in the Chair.

Before we proceed, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 15:24 and
Committee resumed at 16:03*

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

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan)
(interpretation): Good afternoon.
(interpretation ends) I would like to call
the committee meeting to order. In
Committee of the Whole, we have the
following items to deal with: Bills 6, 7,
8, 9, and 10. What is the wish of the
committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. We wish to continue with Bill
8 and the review of the Nunavut
Housing Corporation, and if time
permits, the Department of Justice.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq.
Are we in agreement that we first deal
with the capital estimates for the
Nunavut Housing Corporation?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2010-2011 – Nunavut Housing
Corporation – Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
(interpretation ends) I would now like to
ask Minister Tootoo of the Nunavut
Housing Corporation to make his
opening remarks. Mr. Tootoo, if I may,
think of the interpreters, please. Thank
you.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. You may think of them and I
will too. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to meet
with you here today as the Minister
responsible for the Nunavut Housing
Corporation, which from now on I will
refer to as NHC or the corporation.

Joining me today at the witness table
will be Ms. Patsy Owljoot, who is our
acting president, and Lori Kimball, who
is our executive director of corporate
services and chief financial officer. Also,
another individual who will be in the
Gallery will be Melody Nice, who is our
manager, I believe, of policy and
planning. For two of those individuals,
this is their first time being in
Committee of the Whole, so I welcome
them here. It will be just like Mr. Schell
when this is his first time chairing the
Committee of the Whole, so he's not the
only one doing it for the first time.

Mr. Chairman, the corporation's capital
plan for 2010-11 has been set at
\$27,269,000 from the Government of
Nunavut and an additional funding of
\$4,290,000 from Canada Mortgage and
Housing Corporation (CMHC), for a
total capital budget of \$31,559,000.

We are pleased with the news from the
recent federal budget of the allocation of
\$100 million over the next two years for
the construction of affordable housing in
Nunavut. This is another step in
achieving our goals set out in the *Ten-
Year Inuit Housing Action Plan*.

The 2010-11 capital estimates main
highlights are as follows:

First, the Nunavut Housing
Corporation's funding for Modernization
and Improvement (M&I) Retrofit to the
LHOs, or the local housing
organizations, the Fire Damage

Replacement Fund, the Mobile Equipment Fund, and the Seniors and Disabled Persons Preventative Maintenance Program remain at approximately the same level as last year.

The corporation has responded to requests for more staff housing by adding the funding for the new schools in Clyde River, Cape Dorset, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Sanikiluaq, as well as additional units for the new correctional facility in Rankin Inlet.

The corporation continues to renovate older staff units in communities with the greatest needs.

In addition, the corporation has responded to the public demand for homeownership programs by increasing the funding levels.

The corporation is also taking steps to address the Office of the Auditor General's concern over inventories at the LHO level by purchasing new steel buildings as well as some fencing for secured storage.

I am pleased to report that the Nunavut Housing Trust delivery is proceeding with the last of the 725 units. All materials to complete these units have now been delivered. Construction on the housing units is continuing despite challenges in prior years. We have learned lessons from these challenges and have remained flexible to suit community circumstances. In addition, preparation has begun for the new 285 units funded by the CMHC affordable housing initiative. We are finalizing our contract to purchase 141 SIP, or structural insulated panel, units which

will provide single family dwellings in 20 of our communities.

Across Nunavut, most construction projects are meeting or exceeding the Nunavut Housing Trust targets of 60 percent Inuit employment and there are over 50 Nunavut apprentices working on job sites across the territory.

Funding for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's affordable housing units have been appropriated outside of the capital estimates process and has not been included in the information provided today.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you here today. I look forward to a meaningful discussion and we will be pleased to hear your comments and to answer any questions you may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. Do you have witnesses you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. (interpretation ends) For the record, Minister Tootoo, please introduce your witnesses. I realize that

you mentioned them in your opening remarks, but for the record.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to do that.

To my right is Ms. Patsy Owlijoot, who is usually the vice-president for Housing Corporation, but right now, she's acting as president for the Housing Corporation. I would like to also take this opportunity to thank her for coming up on very short notice to appear and assist us in our deliberations here in Committee of the Whole. On my left, Mr. Chairman, is Lori Kimball. She's our executive director of corporate services and chief financial officer. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. (interpretation) Welcome. (interpretation ends) Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment have comments? Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Komoartok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2010-11 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Chairman, the ongoing shortage of housing in Nunavut's communities is an issue of significant concern to all Members of the Legislative Assembly. The announcement in January 2009's federal budget that Nunavut would receive \$100 million over two years in new funding for the construction of housing units was very welcome news.

On March 31, 2009, the corporation announced that 285 new housing units would be constructed with this funding. During the corporation's recent presentation to MLAs on October 20, 2009, it indicated that the breakdown would be as follows: 141 single family units, 19 stick build single family units, 105 multiplex builds, and 20 other units.

Members look forward to receiving ongoing updates on the construction of these new housing units and urge the minister to table the delivery strategy for these units in the Legislative Assembly at the earliest possible date. Members also encourage the Nunavut Housing Corporation to work closely with the Department of Community and Government Services on such issues as inspections of new units so as to minimize delays in their completion.

In May of 2009, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts held hearings on the Report of the Auditor General on the Nunavut Housing Corporation. The Committee presented its report and recommendations in June of this year. In light of the federal announcement of new funding for housing construction in Nunavut, it is essential that the Nunavut Housing Corporation act on the Auditor General's recommendations and those of Nunavut's MLAs. Members urge the corporation to provide ongoing updates on the status of its responses to these recommendations.

Mr. Chairman, the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated jointly submitted a *Ten-Year Inuit Housing Action Plan* to the Government of Canada in September of 2004. The action plan called for federal

investment of approximately \$1.9 billion over ten years for the construction of 5,700 new housing units in the territory.

On January 26, 2009, the minister announced in the Legislative Assembly that the Nunavut Housing Corporation will be undertaking a housing needs survey. Members are pleased to note that the survey is in the process of being delivered across the territory. Members encourage the minister to table its findings in the Legislative Assembly when the survey is completed. Members are hopeful that the findings of the survey will help the corporation to make a strong case to Ottawa for additional federal investments in housing.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation administers a significant number of programs to assist homeowners and potential homeowners in Nunavut. According to the Nunavut Housing Corporation's recent annual reports and other information provided by the corporation, the Nunavut Housing Corporation's expenditures on its homeownership programs were approximately \$3.7 million in 2005-06, \$7.4 million in 2006-07, and \$6.1 in 2007-08.

The number of Nunavummiut benefiting from these homeownership programs has increased significantly, as is illustrated by the increase in the number of approved applications for Nunavut Housing Corporation programs. Members have been informed that approximately 425 applications were approved in the 2008-09 fiscal year and that 361 applications were approved between April and August of this year. Members look forward to receiving

ongoing updates on the corporation's homeownership programs.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation has allocated \$4.0 million in its 2010-11 capital estimates for homeownership programs. This is a significant increase from the corporation's 2009-2010 capital estimates. While it is unclear if this amount will be sufficient to meet demand, members support this increase and encourage the Nunavut Housing Corporation to regularly evaluate its homeownership programs in order to determine which are successful and which are not. Members also look forward to the Nunavut Housing Corporation providing ongoing updates on the status of the GN's condominium program for staff.

On September 18, 2009, a joint news release by the Nunavut, NWT, and Yukon ministers responsible for housing indicated that "Ministers reiterated the need for long-term, predictable funding to build and operate housing in Canada's north. Territorial Ministers will continue their dialogue with the Federal government regarding the fundamental links between housing and the pillars of Canada's Integrated Northern Strategy. The territories are unanimous in calling for a new approach to Northern housing that recognizes and supports the essential role that housing plays in addressing issues such as economic development, health, education and Arctic sovereignty. The Ministers are looking forward to presenting their position to the Federal Housing Minister, the Hon. Diane Finley, before the end of this year." The standing committee looks forward to receiving ongoing updates from the minister regarding his success

in obtaining additional support from the federal government.

In September of 2008, the former minister announced in the Legislative Assembly that as a result of oil spills and fuel leaks in various communities throughout Nunavut, the corporation and local housing organizations have compiled a Nunavut-wide report resulting from fuel tank inspections. The minister indicated that the corporation would be developing a strategy for the acquisition and replacement of outdated fuel tanks in the public housing stock and that such a replacement strategy would “likely involve a five-year action plan.” The minister indicated that the corporation had already ordered 260 new fuel tanks. Members recommend that the minister table a copy of this action plan in the Legislative Assembly.

Members also note that the corporation’s 2009-2010 business plan indicates that one of the corporation’s priorities for the current fiscal year is to “explore addressing issues of environmental liability because of ageing oil tanks throughout Nunavut by initiating an oil tank replacement program that prioritizes the replacement of oil tanks of senior and vulnerable homeowners.” Members support the introduction of a new program to assist homeowners with the cost of purchasing new fuel tanks.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s proposed capital estimates for 2010-11 include \$1.3 million in funding for new staff housing units associated with the GN’s new school additions in Cape Dorset and Qikiqtarjuaq. \$8.92 million in funding has been allocated for new staff housing units associated with the Rankin Inlet

Correctional Centre and the Clyde River Cultural School. \$1.5 million is budgeted for staff housing units for the GN’s new school in Sanikiluaq.

An additional \$2.0 million for GN staff housing has been budgeted, although the corporation has not yet identified the communities in which the units will be constructed. Members support the construction of new units in communities where there are shortages of housing for frontline education and health staff. The committee also notes the importance of the Nunavut Housing Corporation working closely with departments to ensure that budgets adequately account for the incremental operating costs that accompany new units.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s proposed capital estimates for 2010-11 include \$900,000 in funding for secured storage facilities for local housing organizations. The substantiation sheet for this project indicates that the Nunavut Housing Corporation has “proposed 3 new warehouses which include a compound fenced area to secure materials.” The standing committee urges the corporation to provide ongoing updates on its actions to address the needs of local housing organizations for adequate secure storage facilities. The committee also notes that the corporation is not projecting funding in future years for additional storage facilities.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the 2010-11 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates. Do members have any general comments pertaining to the opening remarks of Minister Tootoo? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome Mr. Tootoo and his staff. In your opening comments on page 2, you referred to M&Is as retrofits.

In the past, retrofits kind of had a different meaning. I'm just wondering if you can clarify whether you mean retrofits as a building being stripped to the skeleton and rebuilt or as minor repairs to older units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe it's the combination of minor and major repairs that are included in that. Maybe there should have been a slash in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My second question is on page 3. You mentioned about staff housing for the new school in Sanikiluaq. Can you indicate to us what types of units will be built? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was looking at the \$1.5 million worth of staff housing going into Sanikiluaq and I believe that's going to be in the form of a five-plex. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we all know, we're having problems in a lot of communities with having lots ready for new housing. Have you worked already with CGS in making sure there would be lots available for the staff housing in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The corporation obtained the lots from the municipality. So what we have done is as soon as we're aware of what units are going where, we notify the municipalities to let them know, let's say, in what community X we're going to need six lots and if the communities have identified those lots.

I know that the communities work with the Department of Community Government and Services for land

development. I was just in Kugaaruk or Taloyoak. They're working on their plan already for next year. I would also like to just stress this is one of the issues that we've had and faced, especially over the last couple of years and we're looking at over the next two years, is being able to have lots available for units.

When we find out at the last minute that we're getting, in this case, \$100 million, it's tough, as soon as we find out where it's going, to let the municipalities know. That's part of our argument with the federal government. More long-term, stable funding will allow not only us to be able to plan out further but also gives more time for the municipalities to develop the land that's going to be required as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question is: with the purchase of new steel buildings in the previous year, can you indicate to us how many were built, where they were built, and how much they cost? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the funding for last year and again based on the motion that was made in Committee of the Whole to change it from fencing to secured storage, we're able to ship these steel buildings into Hall Beach, Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Sanikiluaq, Kugluktuk, and Taloyoak.

The material costs for these were about \$53,960 each. We don't have all of the rest of the costs yet in on it, but that's the one we know for sure so far that has the cost for the actual structure itself. These buildings, I think they're about 1,860 square feet, 31 by 61. They are quite large. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: I said I didn't have any more questions, but he created one.

>> *Laughter*

He said the steel buildings cost about \$54,000 each. Does that include delivery to the community or that's just at the dock in Montreal? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said, those were the material costs. As to the docks in Montreal, we haven't finalized all of the numbers for the rest of it yet. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not really in the opening remarks, but I wanted to find out exactly what the money is going to be used for.

We have heard that the Housing Corporation has bought oil tanks for around 500 million dollars. Could the minister give us a briefing on exactly what's happening in that area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish we had \$500 million to buy oil tanks. That's what I heard, so I don't know if I could just get it clarified. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I wish we had \$500 million for housing.

I understand there has been some contract awarded for 500 tanks. I would like to get some more details from the minister. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those oil tanks that he's referring to were ordered last year, so they're last year's capital. They were ordered to replace aging tanks in our public housing inventory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I think one of the questions is yes, it is last year's, but how that contract was awarded is of interest because we're going to set aside more money for contracting. So I would like to know how that contract was awarded and to whom. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm pretty sure I answered that last year, but I'll reiterate again. I was questioned on that in the past; I recall responding to it.

I believe that contract was a sole source contract because there was only one manufacturer that was found at the time to be able to produce the tanks that were specced. Those were special tanks where they were double lined on the bottom half of the tank, so you weren't getting the cost of having a fully double lined tank. It also had some additional safety features on there.

I did receive some inquiries from other parties that indicated if I could provide them with the specifications that we required on these tanks. I did that and they have informed us that they have been able to find someone else who would be able to manufacture to that specification.

I had indicated in the past that if we do go out again as a result of being informed of them finding someone else to be able to manufacture to those specifications, we would be going out for public tender. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) So it was sold first and where it was sold first to, were they affiliated, in some way, as former employees of the Housing

Corporation? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As far as I'm aware, no, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I asked earlier who the contractors were, and the officers and the suppliers. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just had the information for this year's capital here, but I will be more than happy to go back and look at the stuff that was done last year and provide that information to the member. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) A lot of times, my colleague used to ask, "What happened to this money last year?" And that's why I'm asking him too. I will give the benefit to the minister and pass on and look forward to getting further responses to my question on these matters. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I didn't hear a question there. Minister Tootoo, if you wish to respond to that.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He's quite correct; I used to ask lots of questions. But I know in the past, "That's not dealing with what we're looking at here today" was the response we used to get all of the time too.

I have committed, even though it's not dealing with what we're looking at here today, to provide that information to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I look forward to getting a reply. This information should be readily available. Hopefully before the end of tomorrow, the minister can provide us with that information. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will provide that information as soon as it is available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. Does that mean tomorrow?

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: If it's available tomorrow, I'll get it tomorrow or as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. (interpretation) Is that all, Mr. Okalik? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to start my questions on page 3 of the opening remarks by the minister.

On June 8 of this year, you informed the Legislative Assembly that this summer, the corporation will be delivering the last of the housing units from the trust, bringing the total up to 750 housing units. However, in his opening comments, he said that there will be 725. I'm just wondering why there's a difference in numbers. Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know I was asked this question in standing committee as well. The 725 units are actually units that were constructed. Also, with the Housing Trust funds, we're able to acquire units as well in various communities. That's where the difference comes from. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So if I understand what the minister is saying correctly, he's saying that there are going to be 750 units built, 725 units were done, and for the other 25, the materials have been received and delivered and they will be constructed soon. Is that what he's saying? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To be clear, when I said acquired, I meant there were some units that were already in communities that the Housing Corporation would be able to purchase. In Kugluktuk, for example, there was a five-plex, I believe, that was purchased out of those funds. There was a building for sale in the community that we were able to purchase and acquire to use as a public housing unit.

So there are 725 new units being constructed out of the fund and then some of the other ones, we're dealing with the acquisition of units that, for some reason or another, we were able to obtain. Some of them might have been turned over to the bank or for whatever reason, we were able to acquire those units and that's where the difference comes from. Hopefully that clarifies it for the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It clarifies it a little bit, but I'm still a little bit confused. So out of the \$200 million, 725 were actually constructed brand new and then there are going to be 25 quasi-new, new to Nunavut Housing Corporation, through the acquisition of homeownership. Is that correct? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make sure I got it right for the member.

There are 725 new units constructed out of the trust. There was a combination of acquisitions through third parties and there was a couple, I believe, some MAP units as well that were funded through the Housing Trust program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's great. I think I have it clear in my head now, but there is one question that still remains. You didn't actually give us a grand total. So there are 725. How many are on top of it in terms of acquisitions and stuff like that? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. I believe the grand total was given. No? Pardon me. Minister Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I don't have that information with me as the trust isn't part of the capital budget this year. If memory serves me correct, I think it was around 754 units in total that were constructed, purchased, or whatever through the Housing Trust dollars. I can double-check that number and provide the member with that information if I did make a mistake. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. You are not the only one here with a mistake. Pardon me. Mr. Elliott.

>>Laughter

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I make mistakes all of the time. You've got to learn to laugh at yourself.

Continuing on with that first sentence on page 3, I'm finding I have to be very careful in how I ask questions to you. You said that all materials to complete these units have been delivered. Now, that means they are in the communities now and construction is underway.

With what some of the questions that Mr. Komoartok from Pangnirtung was asking and construction crews going on holidays and moving out of the communities, when will these be finished? My understanding was that everything would be done by December 31 of this year. So is there going to be carryover into next year? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated, all of the final materials for the trust, the final units were delivered to the communities on this year's resupply.

I'm not sure where the December 31 number came from, but I know I might have said that in the past or it might have been said in the past from the corporation, I don't recall. We usually have the following building season it takes to finish the existing units.

I know in some communities, there have been backlogs as well. So we are pushing to get as much of this work done as soon as possible. We're hoping to have it all completed by next year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When does the minister think that the Nunavut Housing Trust Delivery Strategy... when will he be able to table some type of a document with the final figures with a breakdown of the number of units and cost per unit? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the member knows, one of the things that the corporation has done is undertaken a third party to evaluate the delivery of the trust.

Phase one has been done, phase two, I know, is being almost complete in its final stages, and phase three will cover off that last year. I would imagine that they would have to wait until everything is completed next year before them being able to finish that off because if it's still a work in progress, you can't put everything together until it's all done.

As soon as everything is done, I'm sure that that is something that will be put forward and looked at. Not only for our purposes and your purposes but I'm sure we will provide that information to our federal partners as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As well, on page 3 down on the bottom, he mentions, "We are finalizing our contract to purchase 141 SIP (structural insulated panel) units."

I know where he mentioned about the \$200 million and probably the \$100 million is not actually part of what we're doing with the capital, but he has it in his opening comments and we're commenting on the opening comments. So I'm just wondering if he could give us an update as to how that has progressed and a little bit more information on those houses and how they're constructed. Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe the actual contract to manufacture those units has just recently been signed. I know part of the proposal call that was put out there for the successful proponent was to provide a demonstration on how it worked. It happened late this summer down at the marshalling yard in Illamar. Some final design changes were made as a result of that demonstration that have satisfied the technical group within the corporation, that all of the challenges that are faced will be covered off.

But I know that once that's done, the contract has now been signed that that company will be starting to manufacture the 141 units under the contract. As he's asking, the SIP panels are actually just structural insulated panels where they will have the plywood on the outside, plywood on the inside, and compressed foam insulation in between. Now, when they come up, they're put together like a puzzle.

I must say that when the demonstration was held down in Illamar this fall, there was participation from contractors throughout the North. One of the reasons

for that is we wanted to be able to have... they always come up with technology that works great somewhere else, but we wanted to make sure that it would be okay in Nunavut.

So one of the reasons for bringing down or having our technical people and other contactors with northern experience at the demonstration was to be able to identify any issues and challenges they may face with that technology being able to be effective and work well up here in the North. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. I'm not a carpenter and not into construction very much, so I just envision these panels coming up and then I have seen, somehow, when things come up on sealift, they're handled not so gently sometimes. I had the vision of these pieces of houses not fitting together because they were warped, or broken, or damaged. With your answer, I'm assuming that this has been put into consideration in terms of what we could expect. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's the exact same question that was asked of me in standing committee. I went on with a long list of some of the things that were identified by our northern contractors as challenges with regard to shipping and having materials up there. At the end of it, I said, "Why didn't you just say you guys

did a very extensive review and input to make sure that everything was covered?"

I can assure the member that with the input of the northern experience and the contractors and the people who are used to doing construction in the North, a lot of the different things, issues, and recommendations to address that were raised, identified, and dealt with as a result of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. As I mentioned earlier, the more detailed questions can be asked when we get into the page-by-page. I would like to remind the member that we do have other members who also want to speak to the opening remarks. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll say what I said before and that's the fact that these were comments made in his opening statement and there is no place, as far as my understanding, to ask these sorts of questions.

My next question is actually, it's nice to see that the target of 60 percent Inuit employment has been met, which is great. We seem to be fighting to try and get employment in the communities and whatnot. So I'm just curious about the 50 Nunavut employees and I have asked this question before.

The 50 apprentices that you have... maybe this is not the place to ask. At some point, I was wondering if the minister could provide a detailed breakdown as to where these apprentices are. Are they at level 1, level 2, are they all carpenters, are they plumbers, or are they electricians? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if we have that information. I know we have over 51, I think it's around 51 or 52 apprentices, at various levels, but their level and that has all been done through the apprenticeship program through the Department of Education. They would probably be the most appropriate, so I can check with them and if that information is available, I will provide it to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that would be great. To me, it's something that I really want to see pushed to make sure that we can get as many trained local people as possible.

In terms of the \$100 million project, the funding that's coming through, does the Nunavut Housing Corporation have a delivery strategy for building those 285 new houses?

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for asking that question. It's the same strategy we're using with the Housing Trust and again, a lot of focus being on the training and apprenticeship at the community level. We're still trying to achieve the target across the board of 60 percent Inuit employment throughout the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo.
I have Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the first page of the opening remarks of the hon. minister on the last paragraph in there, the Fire Damage Replacement Fund, I'm just curious to know about that. I wonder if, through that, any damage caused by a fire would be covered by fire insurance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish that was the case, but for the Housing Corporation, this is strictly dealing with public housing damage by fire. Anything under a four-plex or under \$2 million is self-insured. So if we have a fire in a duplex or something under a certain level amount, that's self-insured, that we have to fund, that we don't have any insurance for. Hopefully that answers the member's question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. Moving on to page 3 of the minister's opening remarks. He talked about public demand for homeownership programs which is increasing, according to the statement made by the minister.

In my community, I have heard people talking about willing to sell homes because of the increase in costs to operate and maintain homes. In fact, there was one person who told me that a family has to turn over their home to the local housing association because they

were not able to afford to maintain the home.

Is there really a demand for homeownership programs in Nunavut when economic downturn has been one of the damaging things for homeowners in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As far as homeownership goes, there are different types of programs, not just funding out there to purchase or build a home but part of this funding includes funding for the Home Repair Program.

I know that we have quite a long waiting list of people on the Home Repair Program and also, there have been people who have applied for homeownership who have been put on a waiting list too because there hasn't been sufficient funding available for it. It does vary from community to community. So in some communities, there is more of a demand than others. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record, I would like to state publicly that I support homeownership programs. For every home that is built to be a private home, we are, as a government, able to build two for that cost. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I didn't hear a question on that one.

Minister Tootoo, did you wish to respond to that?

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just agree wholeheartedly with the member that I think if more individuals who we can support to get into homeownership, it's better for the territory, better for the community, better for the individual. I appreciate the member's comment and his support for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. The last person I have on our list is Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just trying to go back to what Paul Okalik had said just to confirm that I got this correct. If I remember right, I think the original sole sourcing of those fuel tanks was 250 units. So you're trying to tell me that there were no other units ordered since then, since those 250. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I said that's last year's stuff, so I'll look into it. As far as I'm aware, there have been none ordered this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going back to the 754 units that you have said that were built with the \$200 million trust fund, my question is: was there money taken from elsewhere to cover the costs of the 750 units because we knew there was some overruns on

stuff? Was it all taken out of the \$200 million or was it taken from some other program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the exact number, but I know there was \$200 million plus the corporation was able to utilize the interest that was earned on that as well. So that's where some of the additional resources came from for the extra units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going back to these SIP panels here, how many corporations or companies showed interest and put a proposal in to manufacture these panels? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the information as to exactly how many proposals were received on that, but I know that there were a number of proposals received and evaluated by the technical staff at the corporation before making a recommendation of which proposal to go forward with. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Obviously, you decided on a company to build these. My next question is: are these panels CSA approved?

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would assume that after going through all of the technical specifications, they would have to meet national building code standards and everything else before being approved. So I would assume yes. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. Mr. Schell, thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a very short question from the opening comments on page 3, but I'm not sure if that's the correct one. On the homeownership programs, there are also homeownership renovations being done in the communities with the assistance of the Housing Corporation.

However, I was told that after they had been notified, the house would be assisted with renovations to make it more energy efficient and then they give them a second notice that they will only change their fuel tanks and their furnaces, etcetera, rather than actually renovating the building. How typical is that? Is that rare or that happens all of the time? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't quite understand, so I'm just wondering if I could ask the member if he could clarify the question.

I know, under the Home Repair Program, there was \$50,000 that was the max for that program and there would be

an additional \$15,000 that was on top of that for energy related renovations as well for a total of \$65,000. It just kind of piggybacked the other program.

I hope that answers it. If not, he can still ask me again, I'm sure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With that funding, there have been some changes after actually approving the plan to renovate certain homes. There have been some changes made and only partial renovation for replacement of furnaces, etcetera, and fuel tanks has been done and not actually doing the renovation as planned for this particular year. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That's what I'm referring to.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think what the member is referring to is there have been applications that were put in totalling a certain amount and when it came down to the actual approval and allocation, it was just a fact of, because of the demand on the program, limited resources there to deal with everything.

So things were prioritized with the client and the district staff to identify which were some of the most pressing things that needed to get done, and those things were addressed given the resources that were available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer. I don't know if this is related to the capital, but the housing associations, after constructing buildings, assign tenants and it's being reported to me over and over and over again that only people with children are considered.

I'm probably just talking about Pond Inlet, but it seems to me that we need housing for these young people who seem to be producing a whole of children just to get a house. But there are actually a few working homeless people in my community with full-time jobs staying with families and friends because they have no children.

Do you assist housing associations in developing policy as to who should qualify when the buildings or houses become available or after they have been constructed? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's not a capital question, but I will respond to it. I know that all of the LHOs are obliged to follow the point rating system that has been used to allocating units. That's what they use. They go through the point rating system and whoever has the highest points ends up number one on the waiting list.

As the Auditor General pointed out, that's not always followed in every case and that's one thing that the corporation or district staff in the programs area are

looking at trying to work more closely with the local housing organizations to ensure that the policy is followed and adhered to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. Again, I would like to remind the member that we're trying to deal with capital items here. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I know that, Mr. Chairman. At the same time, the building that's being constructed, I think, is capital, but it's only for a certain part of the community.

For the rest of the community, if you're young, single, have no children, and your job is not high enough to purchase a new house, then you're out of luck. You don't qualify for purchasing a house because your income is too low. Most of these people work for co-ops, or Northern, or some other low-paying jobs.

Are there any plans in the capital plans to construct perhaps single unit type accommodation or housing for the single people who want to purchase their own homes or rent homes? It could be a multiplex, it doesn't matter, but for that part of the population, which is quite a few, that they could be accommodated. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the only program we have in there that could probably fit under that type of area right now as far as homeownership goes is the Material

Assistance Program. If an individual came up with a design and said, "This is the material I need to build my house," if it was a one or two-bedroom unit, whatever they wanted, and came forward with it, I'm sure that would be looked at by the staff as something that could qualify under the Material Assistance Program.

I know that the program hasn't had a lot of draw over the last three years and that's something that we're looking at, not only that program but I think all of our programs. Over the next little while, we will be reviewing on the adequacy of all of them to make sure they are achieving what we want. That's where our priority should be as far as homeownership goes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. Mr. Arvaluk, thank you for your short question.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is in relation to the question that Mr. Elliott brought up earlier. I believe that under the apprenticeship programs, I think it should be important to get the facts and figures on how many apprenticeships or which program they're taking.

When are you going to be able to give us the information on the apprenticeship program? It seems like 50 is the highest that we have been able to get so far. So I would like to ask the minister when he will have that information available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said, there are 51 registered apprentices throughout the territory. I know when the member and I attended the turnover of the unit here in Iqaluit, a number of those apprentices were there. When I was in Cambridge Bay, Taloyoak, and Kugaaruk, I met a number of apprentices in those communities as well. I know we keep track of the number of apprentices in the communities.

I think, as far as what levels they're at and what trade they're at, it's something that is done through the Department of Education and their apprenticeship program. As I committed to Mr. Elliott, I would check with them and get that information and provide it to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You should urge the ministers to be able to respond to questions. I would like to urge the ministers to go through their briefing notes and to make sure that they're able to respond to our questions.

Is the number of apprentices staying at 50 because some of them leave the program, or what's the reasoning for the number? Why does the number of apprentices completing their apprenticeship program stay at 50? That's my next question on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I believe you understood the question. Do you wish to respond? Minister Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to assure the member that I read my briefing book, but I don't read the Minister of Education's briefing book, so that's why I don't have that information handy.

As far as the apprenticeship programs go, Mr. Chairman, the number that we have seen in the apprentices has fluctuated. Right now, we're at 51 in the program. We don't control the number of people who apply into the program.

I know that the corporation has worked very closely with the Nunavut Arctic College. There has actually been a requirement, over the last couple of years, to provide additional programs for the pre-trades courses and entrance exams for the students who wish to enter into that program.

Like I said, right now, we're at 51 apprentices. I'm hoping that with the continuation over the next couple of years, we can see more people take interest and apply in becoming a tradesperson in their community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to get a full update on this program to find out why we're stuck at 50 and why they are not increasing. We have to make sure that these apprentices finish their program and become journeypersons. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I take that as a comment, no questions. Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question regarding the 285 houses that are going to be coming up. Are they going to be on the same scheduling as we have today?

In our community, they set up a schedule so they take a break in between and I'm not very happy with the winter stoppage. They have to keep those houses warm. For these new units that are going to be coming up, are you going to be following the same schedule that we use today?

There is a long break in the winter when we have a severe shortage of housing, but I hear that they are going to not be working until March or something. That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it was part of the delivery strategy for the Nunavut Housing Trust. It did have a break during the colder months of the season, but there was also a time when apprentices had the opportunity to take the schooling that they required as part of their trades. Every year, they have to take so long in school before they can move on to the next level in their trade.

Having said that though, I think one of the advantages that we're looking at being able to capitalize on with these structural insulated panel units is right now, the traditional stick build method,

it takes, once it gets off the boat and everything... a lot of communities don't get their materials into the community, some as late as November. So if you get five single family dwellings coming in, you're not going to be able to get five single family dwellings closed in and airtight before it gets too cold to do any of that work outside.

With the structural insulated panels, if a community is getting five of these, it's anticipated that they will be able to be closed in and airtight in a very short period of time, which will allow for the season to go all year round, apart from that little break where it's necessary for the apprentices to go out and take their training.

So it will extend the construction season because you will have an airtight structure in a much shorter time and more of them in a quicker period of time to allow for the other work to go on throughout the rest of the year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. 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 J-3. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Branch Summary. Total Capital Expenditures. \$27,269,000. Details of these are on J-4 and J-5. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question on J-5 and it's in regard to the homeownership programs. What are these programs going to be used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. There are a number of different homeownership programs offered by the corporation right now. One of the main ones is the Nunavut Downpayment Assistance Program. We have the MAP program, or the Material Assistance Program, the Home Repair Program, the Emergency Repair Program, the Senior Citizens Home Repair Program, and the Senior and Disabled Persons Preventative Maintenance Program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have heard quite a bit about homeowners' fuel tanks leaking and I think that there should be a program set up where they can get assistance from the government to replace the fuel tanks before any leakage or spillage happens. I have asked this question on this issue, but I haven't heard about any of that type of program being set up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I totally concur with the member. Currently, under the existing programs that we have, the only program that someone would be able to get any assistance would be under the Emergency Repair Program.

Having said that, the corporation experienced a number of incidents where

we've had to replace public housing fuel tanks. Also recognizing if it's an issue with public housing units, it's also an issue with homeowners. I know here in town, there have been a number of sometimes quite costly fuel tank leaks that the cleanup is quite considerable.

The corporation, as I had mentioned in standing committee, is developing a program for the Homeowners Fuel Tank Replacement Program. So once that new program is finalized, it will be brought forward for final approval by the corporation and will have to go to Cabinet as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. When are we going to see that type of program being made available to the homeowners?

There is going to be an annual ship coming up next summer. I would like to ask the minister if that type of program would be set up so that we could plan and bring in the supplies that will be required. Can we anticipate looking at this type of program set up for this year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure the member is quite cognizant of how new programs are developed as they're brought forward by the staff to me for approval and going to Cabinet as well. But I said that the development of that program itself is

almost in the final stages of development and once that's done, it will be brought forward for April for your approvals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's going to be very beneficial to the homeowners, and I will be available and look forward to the plans.

That's the end of my questions and I'm sure there are other members who have questions too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In June of last year, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts presented its report on the hearings that were held on the Auditor General's report on the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

The standing committee recommended that the Nunavut Housing Corporation work with the Department of Community and Government Services to identify ways of pursuing cost savings in relation to the delivery of housing materials on the annual sealift. What has the Nunavut Housing Corporation done to respond to this recommendation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The corporation has done just that. Currently, our staff are meeting and looking at different options available for the corporation to find ways to be able to save money as far as shipping of materials from the south throughout Nunavut. Those meetings and those discussions are underway as we speak right now, not right now but at this current time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to this new design of units that are coming up, obviously, they are going to be more bulky than the way it's been shipped in previous years. Are we anticipating an increase in the cost of shipping for this new design? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are a little more bulky, so we are anticipating a little bit of a higher shipping cost in relation to these SIP units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the minister have any idea of how much extra this will cost? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a specific cost

for what potentially could be the extra costs for shipping, but I'm informed that we are still anticipating that the overall cost of a unit will be the same. So if it cost us a little bit more in shipping, we may save that money in other areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. I have no names on the list, therefore... Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Prior to answers being provided for some of our questions, it seems to me that we cannot proceed. Therefore, (interpretation ends) I move to report progress. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: 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 the Orders of the Day. 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 8 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole... (inaudible) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Can you please repeat

what you stated because we lost the audio. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 8 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. Mr. Arvaluk is the seconder. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the Day for November 27:

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
- Bill 12
 - Bill 14
 - Bill 18
 - Bill 21
18. Second Reading of Bills
- Bill 13
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
- Bill 6
 - Bill 7
 - Bill 8
 - Bill 9
 - Bill 10
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Friday, November 27, at ten o'clock in the morning.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:37*

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
This House stands adjourned until

