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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Uqqummiut)

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(Tununiq)

Moses Aupaluktuq
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Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Fred Schell
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(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
Monday, November 30, 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, 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): Thank you. Before we proceed to today's agenda, I would like to ask Mr. Elliott to say the opening prayer. Mr. Elliott.

>>Prayer

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation) Good afternoon, Premier, Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Nunavummiut, and the people of Clyde River, especially my grandchildren.

(interpretation ends) Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Tapardjuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 056 – 3(2):
ASIST Training**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 97 teachers from across Nunavut who participated in the Applied

Suicide Intervention Skills Training workshops in Iqaluit this past September.

The goal of the ASIST program is to help people feel more comfortable, confident, and competent in helping to prevent the immediate risk of suicide. The ASIST program is being culturally adapted to meet our needs and will be renamed *Uqaqatigiilluk!*/Talk About It!

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform my colleagues that in February, we will be offering the ASIST training to our school community counsellors. I am pleased as well to inform my colleagues that the Nunavut Teachers Association and the Department of Education are hoping to offer the program to a second group of teachers in the New Year as part of their Professional Improvement Program.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that all community leaders strive to promote positive, healthy life choices for our youth. This requires all of us to be the best role models we can be so that our children, the future of Nunavut, choose to live positively, are proud of their language and culture, and are contributing members of their community.

Mr. Speaker, I must take this opportunity to thank our partner, the Nunavut Teachers Association, for helping to make this training program such a success. Please join me in congratulating the 97 teachers for successfully completing the training and their willingness to address this most difficult subject. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 057 – 3(2):
Nunavut Film, Television and
Digital Media Summit**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to inform Members of this House of an important meeting which took place recently here in Iqaluit on September 22 and 23 of this year: the "Nunavut Film, Television and Digital Media Summit."

This summit brought together filmmakers from across Nunavut, as well as guest filmmakers from other parts of Canada, local businesses, Inuit organizations, and funders from territorial and other national agencies.

A highlight of the summit was the presentation of the first economic impact study on the film industry in Nunavut. This study documents the considerable impact of this industry on our territorial economy. In the past four years, total film production spending has averaged almost \$10 million annually.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Mr. Speaker, the cultural industries in Nunavut, of which film, television, and digital media are very important parts, is playing an increasingly important role in Nunavut's economy. As members know, the government is committed to working with artists and the business community to create a more cohesive cultural and arts sector.

I want to congratulate the Nunavut Film Development Corporation for their sponsorship of the Nunavut Film, Television and Digital Media Summit and for all of the work that they do to strengthen the cultural industries in the territory. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 058 – 3(2): Land
Based Camps Program a Success**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to inform members of a very successful initiative of the Department of Environment. This summer, students from across Nunavut participated in innovative land-based camp programs run in partnership with a number of community based organizations.

The pilot camps, which took place outside of Kugluktuk and in Katannilik Territorial Park outside of Kimmirut, were part of a curriculum development project involving elders and representatives from several organizations, including the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, the Department of Education, and the Nunavut Arctic College. The goal of this project is to develop land-based camp curriculum that engage Nunavut youth in Inuit traditional knowledge and science learning activities on the land.

One of the main successes of the camp curriculum was that it involved many

different stakeholders equally in program development and delivery. While out on the land, elders, scientists, teachers, Department of Environment staff, and students came together to share knowledge and unique perspectives on the environment. These camps helped students to see the local landscape through the lenses of both science and Inuit traditional knowledge and deepened their understanding of the cultural, traditional, and scientific significance of the surrounding environment.

Mr. Speaker, these camp programs are a key step in building capacity among Nunavutmiut to become future leaders in environmental stewardship, management, and research in the territory. The Department of Environment looks forward to continuing in partnership with the multi-stakeholder working groups to make these land-based learning opportunities available in many other communities in the future. *Ma'na*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

**Minister's Statement 059 – 3(2): 2009
Canada Summer Games**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to provide an update to members on Team Nunavut's participation in the 2009 Canada Summer Games hosted in the province of Prince Edward Island August 15 to 29.

The Canada games provide an opportunity to promote athletic excellence and provide participants with an opportunity to share Nunavut's unique culture while celebrating in the diversity of life in Canada.

Preparation for an event of this scale requires commitment and effort from not only the athletes and performers but from the volunteers, parents, and support personnel. All should be congratulated for the role in preparing the participants for the games.

Team Nunavut was well represented in the sport of wrestling by Augaaruk Karetak from Arviat, Joe Karetak Jr. from Arviat, Saul Netser from Coral Harbour, Eli Paliak from Coral Harbour, and Levi Enuaraq-Strauss from Iqaluit. The team was trained and coached by Mike Soares from Nova Scotia, Marie Claude Grenier from Iqaluit, and Patrick Angoyuaq from Baker Lake.

Nunavut was equally well represented in the National Artist Program by the Inuksuk Inuit Drummers from Iqaluit. The National Artist Program participants managed by Mary Piercey were Crystal Mullins, Christine Tootoo, and Marley Dunkers.

Mr. Speaker, in continuing the pursuit of excellence, these young people represented Nunavut well and are now role models encouraging others to follow their example and reap the benefits of participation in sport and the arts.

I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the participants, coaches, managers, and mission staff for their role in representing Nunavut at the 2009

Canada Summer Games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Peter Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 060 – 3(2):
Nunavut's Participation in the
Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic
Games**

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to rise today to update the Members of this House on the government's preparations for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games. These games are an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to promote Nunavut to a worldwide audience as a place to visit and invest.

I am happy to report that Nunavut will have a presence at the games that will make all Nunavummiut happy and proud. Together with the Northwest Territories, we have leased a venue in downtown Vancouver that we are calling "Canada's Northern House," which will host a variety of tourism, investment, and industry displays. Its stage will be used to showcase our performing and visual artists, as well as Nunavut's fashion designers and furs.

Mr. Speaker, I'm also happy to report that we have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the District of West Vancouver for cooperation during the 2010 games, which will include a major mining reception and numerous opportunities to share Nunavut's culture and tourism potential.

The Inuksuit Project, through which authentic Nunavut Inuksuit are sold as official VANOC merchandise, has meant revenues of at least \$300,000 for Nunavut carvers, while the Uqqurmiut Centre was commissioned to create a tapestry which will be displayed at the Richmond Olympic Oval.

The performers we are sending down to Vancouver – circus performers, throat singers, drum dancers, break dancers, and storyteller Michael Kusugak – are all busy designing outfits and holding rehearsals, and I am confident that they will make us proud as they perform at Olympic events, including a victory celebration before a global television audience of millions.

Mr. Speaker, there are many opportunities associated with the 2010 games in Vancouver and I want to assure the Members of the House that Nunavut investment in the games will be returned for years to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Tagak Curley.

**Minister's Statement 061 – 3(2): Child
and Family Services Knowledge
Sharing Forum**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome the people of Rankin Inlet and I miss them all.

Mr. Speaker, one of the major priorities of *Tamapta* is to help those at risk and vulnerable in our community,

particularly our children and youth. The Department of Health and Social Services takes its role in working towards this vision very seriously.

As a result of ongoing and growing concerns regarding the current way we deliver child and family services programming and how we apply the *Child and Family Services Act*, we have acknowledged the need for a comprehensive review of both programs and the Act itself.

It is my plan to engage Nunavutmiut and our communities in the review process following traditional Inuit approaches and values.

Mr. Speaker, I am taking immediate steps towards influencing positive changes as we collaboratively work towards reaching the goals of *Tamapta*.

Mr. Speaker, I am inviting representatives from each regional Inuit association, as well as Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, along with other requested participants from Nunavut to attend a three-day knowledge sharing session. This session will provide an opportunity for my department staff, Inuit organization representatives, and other invited participants, including elders, to take part in candid conversations about the current state of child and family services in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the session's goals are: to create better and locally sensitive support services for the future of children and families in Nunavut; to find common agreement on an approach to improve the *Child and Family Services Act* and its systems currently in place;

and provide encouragement and support to families and children.

Both positive and negative aspects of the child welfare system will be explored and participants will be able to share their vision of the future for Nunavut children, families, and communities. In addition to reviewing current child protection practices, participants will also be invited to explore community-centred ways to support parents in fulfilling their duty to protect and nurture their children.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important step to gather strategic guidance and direction as to how the *Child and Family Services Act* can be best administered in accordance with Inuit societal values and culture.

Mr. Speaker, it is the goal of my department to seek guidance as to how it can best support Nunavut communities to ensure that all children have healthy and safe environments to grow up in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Going to Item 3. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 091 – 3(2): Congratulations to Montreal Alouettes

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Friday, we had Funny Friday and today

is a very sad day for me because of the Grey Cup last night.

Of course, I had a wager with Paul Okalik and I had the unfortunate part of taking the Saskatchewan Roughriders. I am glad, actually, that Paul Okalik won because at least he has something to cheer for, considering that his Montreal Canadiens are not doing that well. I also thought, because Saskatchewan was a nine-point underdog, that they would be allowed the 13th person there, but apparently, that's illegal.

I was going to buy a watermelon and cut it up and put it on my head as a hat, but I thought that would be a waste of a good watermelon. So what I have done is I brought a watermelon over to the Members' Lounge so you can enjoy with me some humble pie which is in the form of a watermelon.

I would like everybody to join me here in congratulating the Montreal Alouettes for a great season and winning the Grey Cup. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 092 – 3(2): Need for Social Workers in the High Arctic

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to repeat and reiterate the need for dedicated social workers for the communities of the High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, I have raised this issue in the House on a number of occasions. Instead of the situation being addressed and

improved upon, it appears to be getting worse.

Mr. Speaker, according to the vision of *Tamapta*, one of this government's priorities is to "Address social concerns at their roots." In order to do that, I believe that every effort must be made to ensure that the appropriate resources are in place.

Mr. Speaker, for the three communities in my constituency, social worker service has gone from one to none. These communities are now receiving service from a loaned social worker based in Pond Inlet. Providing service to the combined populations of these four communities is a heavy burden to place on one individual's shoulders.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of Kaujak Komangapik, the social worker who is providing social work service to the communities of the High Arctic. Providing services such as this to three communities across such a vast area must be challenging and demanding. I applaud her ability to adapt to handling the work of three individuals.

Mr. Speaker, it is unacceptable to me that the social work situation in the High Arctic has not been resolved today. I understand that advertising and hiring for these positions is handled by human resources. Given the ongoing delays and lack of success in hiring full-time staff into these positions, I urge the government to consider alternative measures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Peter Taptuna.

Member's Statement 093 – 3(2): The Olympic Flame in Kugluktuk

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to Kuglukturmiut and Kitikmeot. Good afternoon to Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, on November 5, 2009, a very important and rare event happened in my home community of Kugluktuk. The Olympic flame arrived and was greeted by the cheering of people in Kugluktuk. The Olympic flame was carried by dogsled that was driven by one of my constituents, Colin Adjun. Mr. Adjun was one of the four torchbearers from Kugluktuk.

As the people of Kugluktuk stood on the side of the road to welcome the flame to our community, there was much cheering and waving, including homemade signs and of course, a lot of Canadian flags. The flame arrived at the community arena and everyone in attendance was served a feast of traditional foods and drum dancing. Games were played throughout the day and of course, enjoyed by all.

The torch relay is a journey across Canada to engage all Canadians from coast to coast to coast. For those of us in Nunavut lucky enough to have the flame visit our community, it provided the chance for us to promote our communities to Canada and to the rest of the world.

Mr. Speaker, for an event like this, it requires the efforts and services of many

volunteers. I would like to thank all those who have dedicated their time to this very important event as without their time volunteering, events such as this would not take place.

Mr. Speaker, the torchbearers selected from my community to carry the Olympic flame were as follows: Colin Adjuk, Terry Kuliktana, who was the silver and bronze medal winner in the last Special Olympics in China, Gavin Ayalik, and Helena Bolt. I would like to take this time in congratulating each and every one of them for a job well done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 094 – 3(2): Coral Harbour Men's Group Steps Forward

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge the courage and strength of a group of men who are doing their best to become better husbands, fathers, and grandfathers.

Mr. Speaker, in September of 2009, a regional meeting in Coral Harbour brought a group of men together for the first time to address their role and responsibilities within their family. Their focus was to become better stewards of their families.

Mr. Speaker, this meeting was inspired by the realization that too many men in our society have drifted away from their responsibilities as the head of the

household. In too many cases, the mother of the family was left to take on her partner's role as well as her own and this, in turn, lead to other problems.

Mr. Speaker, the Coral Harbour Men's Group was initiated by Mr. Willie Eetuk, who decided to embark on the journey to become a better father, husband, and grandfather. It did not take long for the men to see his example and admit that they too could change for the better. With the support from the Kivalliq Outreach Program, the men's group got together to revisit what it meant to be the head of the family: to take on those responsibilities and to recognize the importance of family unity.

Mr. Speaker, this group continues to meet every week for men to join with their peers on the journey to becoming more loving, caring, and compassionate. Mr. Speaker, the men in this group seek to understand and meet the expectations of their families. It is not enough to be just an authority figure; it takes much more than that to be a steward of your family as a father, husband, and grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage men from across Nunavut's many communities to look for inspiration on how to be better fathers, husbands, and grandfathers. The Coral Harbour Men's Group is one example of how you can support each other. It takes courage and strength to realize the importance of this journey, but it can be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Members' Statements.

Going to Item 4. (interpretation ends)
Returns to Oral Questions. Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to clarify to the question asked by the Nanulik MLA on November 26 with respect to a recent investigation involving a conservation officer.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify to the House further to my response during the Oral Question that an internal investigation with respect to a conservation officer was conducted. The investigation was in collaboration with the local HTO and other community members. This recent investigation was concluded and I considered the case closed at that time.

However, with new information received from the community as well as the local HTO, I have decided to reopen the investigation to look into the process of internal investigation and the new information received recently. I have also instructed the department to utilize an independent investigation for impartiality and transparency.

I expect to receive recommendations shortly after the independent investigation is completed and will advise the members accordingly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize an individual who was great support to me on more than one occasion. Even today, this individual is my friend and roommate. I would like to recognize Lori Morina. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize a visitor in the Gallery, Tommy Tatatuapik from Arctic Bay. He is on the Parks Canada Board, Nunavut Water Board, and is also the chairperson for our elders committee in Arctic Bay, Mr. Tatatuapik.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a visitor here from Whitehorse who is probably no stranger to a lot of members here in this House, Mr. Jean-Francois Laurier, who is sitting back there. He's the regional vice-president for the Public Service Alliance of Canada. He used to

be based down south. Thanks to a lot of good work of Public Service Alliance members, they were able to relocate that position into the North where it belongs. I would like to welcome him to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Elliott... Mr. Okalik

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take Mr. Elliott's place. I know he wanted to recognize an individual from Grise Fiord. I have known him for a very long time and I would like to welcome to the Gallery Mr. Japatee Akeegok. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. If there are no more, Item 6. Oral Questions. (interpretation ends) Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 123 – 3(2): Five-Year Funding Agreement with Health Canada

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

I'm sure he recalls that when I was with the government, the federal government approved getting funding which we worked very hard to obtain. We had

wanted this money to go on indefinitely, but the federal government set a limit up to five years, which we're approaching the fifth year, and the funding lapses on March 31. I would like to ask the minister to give us an update on what is happening with this situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for posing that question. The Member for Iqaluit West brought up a very important subject.

The federal government, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut agreed on that funding, but it's going to lapse on March 31 when it's \$175 million, which our government agreed to. Through collaboration, they wanted to see what they could put up with health prevention and mental health services, especially with the public health issue.

It's a five-year funding that was used also for medical travel. For the past five years, we have used \$75 million for medical travel. So we are concerned with the agreement about to expire, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking that question, but we haven't been told if they're going to renew the agreement.

The three governments for the Yukon, NWT, and Nunavut are looking for a total of \$215 million. We still haven't received a reply, but we did hold a teleconference last week with their finance minister and he has submitted that to the finance department. But to

date, we haven't heard whether there is going to be an extension or if anything is going to be happening on that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, it's something that should be of concern to the department. If we don't get those additional funds, we're going to have to look elsewhere. At this time, I would like to urge the minister to keep lobbying the federal government.

I will be giving my support. Would it help if we tabled a motion to see this funding be made available indefinitely? Would it help to table a motion? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member and we would really appreciate it.

At this time, I can say that the Premier has written to Mr. Harper last week. We are currently asking for \$85 million for medical travel. The continuing care centre is set up in Igloolik and there will have to be training programs. With that funding, we had been able to get the staff to come here to train.

The NWT, the Yukon, and Nunavut are lobbying hard to the Prime Minister and we don't know exactly what's going to be happening, but we would like to get a response. We are also utilizing

consultants to help lobby the federal government.

If it's possible, we could write to the MPs. A motion from this House would be a definite asset when we're requesting that money. If we don't get that funding or if there is no extension, then we will be losing the \$215 million. Thank you.

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

Question 124 – 3(2): Status of New Dozer for Grise Fiord

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for overlooking Japatee over there. I was so engrossed in my Member's Statement about trying to get social workers in the High Arctic that I overlooked him. He's a great supporter of the Legislative Assembly and my role.

My question, Mr. Speaker, is directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Earlier this year, the Assembly approved the 2009-2010 capital estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services. As I recall, the department's budget for small capital projects included \$280,000 for the acquisition of a new dozer for the community of Grise Fiord.

Can the minister tell me today why the community of Grise Fiord has not received this dozer even though funding for this item was approved by the Legislative Assembly earlier this year? Thank you.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. It was decided by the department that we had fixed block funding for all municipalities to enable all municipalities to be able to purchase heavy equipment of their choice, at their convenience through this block funding program. It became part and parcel of that, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the minister is referring to our main estimates for 2009-2010 where there is \$1.5 million for mobile equipment block funding.

My question again is: if the community of Grise Fiord is now supposed to draw on this new mobile equipment block funding to purchase the dozer, what happened to the \$280,000 that was already approved for the dozer in the department's 2009-2010 capital estimates? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: My understanding is that it became part of that \$1.5 million. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess I'm a little confused because one is O&M money and the other is capital

money. I don't know how they mix and how they combine.

But as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I was asked to support funding for specific capital projects. As I understand the situation, I am now being told that the funding that I approved as an MLA will not be used for the purposes that were originally intended. How can the minister justify this approach? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: I believe the community wanted to get a dozer and they will still be able to get that dozer with the funding that we will be providing, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So the minister is confirming that the block funding will actually be in excess of \$280,000. I know, in speaking to the community, they have been told they were actually going to be receiving \$62,000 instead of the \$280,000, which would not be able to afford buying the bulldozer that he's talking about or that I'm requesting and the community has requested. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: The block funding that everybody will be receiving will enable all of the communities to purchase heavy equipment from the appropriate people. This will enable them to get into some payment plans and so forth. So it would, over time, be able to pay for the cost of the dozer, or

loader, or whatever the community may choose to purchase with that block funding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 125 – 3(2): Update on Federal Funding Request for Small Craft Harbours

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): It is pretty strange, Mr. Speaker, when we're not talking about the arena. Thank you, Minister.

I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Transportation.

The minister made a comment to the standing committee that he was going to review the possibility of getting a docking facility through the federal government. Can the minister state now and give us an update on the response from the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I can give the hon. member from Tununiq an update.

At this present time, we're working to find a way to get these items on the agenda for Pond Inlet and some of these other smaller communities that I have previously mentioned. For Pond Inlet, we are working on several issues and at this time, I will be in a position to actually put out a number possibly today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. (interpretation ends) Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 126 – 3(2): Update on Language Laws Consultation

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

On September 25, 2009, the minister's department issued a news release regarding the consultations on the implementation of Nunavut's new language laws. Round table dates and locations were listed for all three regions. These consultations were scheduled to occur from late September to early November 2009. The news release also stated that key findings from the consultations will be tabled by the Minister of Languages to the Legislative Assembly during the fall session.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister to provide us with an update on the results of the consultations. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Languages, (interpretation ends) Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to also thank the member for asking the question. We had a consultation tour in the communities and the report is ready to be tabled in the House. The report has to be approved by Cabinet and it was just approved recently. The report will be tabled during this session, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So the minister is confirming that it will be tabled before the end of this session. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, before we go back home after this session, I will be able to table that report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that the legislation for the Act is complete and that through the consultation, the GN will come up with a plan for implementation and regulations. Could the minister indicate when the regulations will be complete? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once we implement the *Inuit Language Protection Act*, the Minister of Languages... it states that before March 2010, these will be implemented as to how the system will work. I will table that information.

In February, they will do another Nunavut-wide meeting for the preparation. According to the law, in March 2010, I will have to table that

report once we have the Act enforced, Mr Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that update. I know the minister was in Arctic Bay with the Premier to do a round of questioning. I thank the minister for allowing us to participate. There was a lot of good conversation and it was nice to see the different Inuit associations and the Government of Nunavut working together.

I know there are meetings that are set up in February. I'm a little worried with the meetings in February and the March 31 deadline. Is that going to allow them enough time to incorporate the information and the consultation that happens during that meeting to be incorporated into the regulations for March 31? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, we are still working on the preparation. Even though we are close to that day, we are developing and progressing well. Once I table the report in regard to the language legislation, there will be clear information as to what still needs to be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Schell.

Question 127 – 3(2): Funds for Kinngait Studio

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

As I noted in my Member's Statement on Friday, the Kinngait Studio in Cape Dorset is celebrating its 50th anniversary. The building that houses the printmaking studio is also 50 years old. Concerns have been brought to my attention with respect to the condition of the building, including compliance with the fire code provisions.

It is my understanding that the Government of Nunavut is looking at providing up to half a million dollars in support of the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation for the construction of a new media centre in Iqaluit. I am pleased to see this kind of initiative towards supporting culturally relevant endeavours such as those undertaken by the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation.

Given that the Government of Nunavut sees merit in providing funds to the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, would the Department of CLEY also be willing to consider setting aside funds towards a new building for the Kinngait Studio in Cape Dorset? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member from Cape Dorset for asking the question. The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth

has grants and contributions which could be applied by the members out there.

If we get an application from Cape Dorset, we will be able to consider the application. If we get one from Cape Dorset, there are some funds available, but you will have to go by way of an application form. I will be able to discuss this matter with the member on how we can deal with this in detail, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's answer to my question. I would like to just affirm here that the Kinngait Printmaking Studio has been a profound and positive influence on Cape Dorset's art community and the entire Inuit art community. Given all of the hard work that the artists have done over the years, I believe that they deserve a new building.

I trust that the government also sees merit in providing support to a printmaking centre which contributes so much to preserving Inuit heritage and culture. I would just like to ask the minister if he would be willing to meet with officials from the studio in order to discuss this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, once we receive an application and correspondence, we will be available to meet. We're willing to meet with anyone because the museums and other

infrastructure need funding. So if they want to have a meeting, then we're willing to meet with them; we're available, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Schell. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Question 128 – 3(2): Eliminating Violence against Women

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Last week, November 25 was International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

I recall passing a piece of legislation in the last term on how we can try and eliminate violence against anybody, family members in particular. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice how this legislation is being implemented today and how it can be improved to eliminate violence against women. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Okalik asked a very good question... asked two questions, actually.

It took some time to implement the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*. I know we have 23 folks working in the communities across Nunavut. I think there are two vacancies. I don't have the detailed stats, but I have talked to some of the committees and individuals in the communities when I travelled. As I said, there is good response.

In terms of improving, I guess there has to be a lot of education about violence against women and violence against families. I recall, as a collective of the Legislative Assembly, we stood up unanimously in the Second Assembly to denounce domestic violence. I think that as leaders, we should continue to do that.

We should provide more support to workers in the communities and more education to all of the individuals and organizations which do the good work in the communities to help educate people. There are a lot of community counsellors and volunteers who are involved. It has to start at the top, where we support the people who are in the communities. I think that we have to continue that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) It has been about two years since we passed legislation, so I would like an update perhaps in the next session on how the legislation is being implemented, if it's having an effect, and see how we can build on it. So that's what I would like to see perhaps in the winter session, for the minister to update the House on how much impact it's having.

I know that we have tried to formulate it in a way that it could assist with our traditional ways of healing and moving on with our lives. So that's what I would like to see from the minister is an update during the winter session, if that's okay. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for asking that question. Yes, it was a very good piece of legislation. I said I have talked to people and I think it's working well, and I will commit to providing that update in the winter session. I'm sure there are a lot of stats being gathered as we speak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 129 – 3(2): Capital Planning Process

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed towards the Minister of Finance.

In regard to my questions earlier to the Minister of CGS, is this a sampling of what's to come? To me, I feel, as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I am voting on one thing in terms of capital of \$280,000 for a bulldozer in Grise Fiord, which is part of the issue that that needed equipment is not there now, and I was under the assumption and the community was under the assumption that it would be coming.

At the same time, it has now been moved to mobile equipment, which is fine, but the bigger issue is the fact that during the sitting of the Assembly, we decided as members that this money was going to go to a certain line item, an allocation of that, and to date, I haven't seen any appropriation saying it was going somewhere else.

So we will be passing some more capital this afternoon for the Housing Corporation and there's a line item for

secured storage. Are we going to find out that's going to a fence or something in the future? To me, that's not the way the process is supposed to work, unless I'm misunderstanding the process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for asking that question. I'm not familiar with the specific issue he's raising, but there is a capital planning process.

At the hamlet level, it starts. Hamlets work with the officials of Community and Government Services, they take it through the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee, and then it works its way up to the deputy ministers' level where they hash it out, thrash it out, and determine priorities. It then gets to the FMB where again the ministers do that, we will send it back to the deputy ministers, it comes back to FMB, we approve it, we take it to standing committee where the MLAs get their input, and then it comes into this House for consideration and approval.

That's my understanding of the process, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was my understanding of it as well.

To me, what happened was in the House, it was presented to us and presented to myself as a regular member that there was \$280,000 for capital that was going

to be spent on a certain line item and that did not happen. I'm just concerned. Why is this allowed to happen? In terms of you being the Minister of Finance, I would hope that it wouldn't be overseen. I imagine there are rules under the FAA, which you quoted before.

We've got airlines creeping into the North and you need to follow regulations for that and make sure that the lowest fare goes to whoever, but we can't follow our own legislation that we passed in the House in June. I'm just curious. Could the minister maybe explain a little bit as to why we're not following our own procedures? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank Mr. Elliott for his question. He's presuming that the government is not following their own rules. I can't stand up here and say that we aren't. There are rules, yes.

I can tell Mr. Elliott that if he wants to meet with me after the session or after the day to give me the details of his concern, I can give them to my officials and my officials can sit down and talk to the Community and Government Services officials, who will try and identify what his concern is and if we can work things out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 130 – 3(2): Annual Sealift Resupply for Kugaaruk

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have received a list of things that the Hamlet of Kugaaruk wants and one of them is to bring the yearly sealift from Montreal by NTCL instead of Coast Guard. I am not certain, Mr. Speaker, that this is the cheaper way of doing business for the annual resupply.

My question is directed to the Minister of Transportation. Will the minister commit to directing his staff to determine the cheapest way to bring the annual sealift to Kugaaruk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will certainly look into that, but I believe that NEAS operates out of Montreal rather than NTCL. I will have to work closely with my colleague from CGS to see how some of the concerns that you raised can be looked into, but I believe there are a lot of impacts there that you raised.

At this time, I don't know if Coast Guard does deliver supplies into Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we speak, the goods are delivered either from Montreal to Nanisivik or Arctic Bay, I think it is Nanisivik, and then over to Kugaaruk.

I am not comfortable, at this point in time, to suggest that NTCL is the cheapest way to do business. I would really want to make sure that we don't pay more than we should, so I would really ask the minister to look into our request. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll certainly look into that, but as I indicated previously, there's another department that would be involved as they do most of the procuring of supplies for transportation and that department is CGS. I'll certainly work with the department involved and get back to the hon. member from Akulliq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Question 131 – 3(2): Metal Waste in Iqaluit

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

Within my constituency area, there exists a metal dump consisting of abandoned vehicles and other scrap metal waste. It seems that these waste metals are stuck in that area, although we initially had made arrangements to ship the scrap metal via the sealift to collection depots where they would be recycled.

However, with the price of scrap metal dropping to where it doesn't break even, it seems that this project to ship the

metals has been deferred to next year. Now, we're hearing news that during this current fiscal year, it was left too late into the season and the icing of the bay didn't allow for the shipping of the metals, so they are now just sitting in that metal dump.

We would like to be notified as to what the future plans of the department are with respect to this ongoing scrap metal project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. (interpretation ends) Minister of Environment, Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much for the question. At this stage, I think everybody is disappointed that the vehicles never left Iqaluit this fall. Yes, it was due to the ice conditions and the weather, and it was also due to a lack of coordination and negotiation between the contractor and the sealift service. So we are very disappointed.

They will be here for this year, but we will be committed to working with the city and with the contractor to ensure that they leave early on the next sealift season next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his response. I would like to urge the minister to make sure that they get on the first ship of the season and to make sure that the whole process goes ahead. It was a pilot project where we

put the scrap metals together, but we're seeing more and more.

What is going to be the process or what program does the government have to make sure that we get all of those out of the North? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will respond to the member again in just saying that we are as interested in getting those vehicles shipped down south as everybody else is. Again, we weren't involved in the brokering of the arrangements. That was between NEAS and the contractor. Things broke down and then the weather came in due to the late shipping season.

I will assure the member that we will work with all of the parties involved to make sure that these vehicles get out on the first or the earliest they can next year on the shipping season. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question was: this was just the beginning, so what kind of plans do you have for the future? There is more and more scrap being generated. My question was: what plans do we have for the community of Iqaluit and also for Nunavut communities? What kind of programs are you going to have made available in regard to scrap metal automobiles? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to advise the member that first of all, once this project is complete, it has to be reviewed to see what the costs are to the Government of Nunavut. We will be reviewing this process and seeing how worthwhile it is and how feasible it is that we can do this throughout all communities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 132 – 3(2): Sale of Inuksuit for 2010 Olympics

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues for that early present.

I would like to pose this question to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation based on the Minister's Statement regarding the Inuksuk figurines that were made in Nunavut.

I imagine that they are selling these items now and I would like the minister to inform us how the sales of these items are going down south. I would first like to find out how that is proceeding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The translation broke down, so I never caught the question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Please repeat your question, Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): I apologize. The minister made a statement saying that there was \$300,000 given to the film industry, but they've had to sell the Inuksuit in the south. How are the sales doing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that question. The statement I made was that Nunavut carvers made approximately \$300,000 for their carvings of the Inuksugait Project.

At this time, I don't have any numbers on the other artists that contributed to the VANOC and the amount of sales that were generated through this project. Once I do get the numbers, I'll update the House on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 133 – 3(2): Federal Funding for Medical Travel

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

You mention about the medical travel. The contract for medical travel, in terms of deciding which airline receives that contract, when is that contract up for renewal? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question, but I'm not sure whether I indicated there was a review or not. He's going to have to help me to update my memory first.

What I can say is that the current contract is still going on; we still have one more year after the current fiscal year. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. One fiscal year, that would be 2011, is when the contract comes up for renewal and that leads to my next question.

By 2011, I imagine Air Canada will be well underway in terms of making its way into Iqaluit. Will they be allowed to apply to that contract as well as our other two northern carriers? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot definitively state whether or not Air Canada would be part of this. They will likely not be bidding for the air transportation contract. But I think our rules in Nunavut are really quite strong, that we do have various incentive policies that apply for northern contractors, including airlines, and so on.

If it comes about or shortly before, I'm sure that the Cabinet or the government as a whole would be able to brief the

caucus or the committees of the legislature. I can say to the member that the current arrangement that we have with the northern airlines, I think, is pretty secure. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So in terms of the *Financial Administration Act*, which Minister Peterson was quoted as GN employees need to go with the lowest ticket fare, this is a contract, so you have to follow the NNI Policy. Is that what the minister is implying or saying? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Certainly, we will abide by the *Financial Administration Act* and contract regulations for any substantial contract that the tender is issued and based on.

What I can say to the member is that at this moment, we're not in a position yet to announce exactly how the new RFP, or request for proposal, or the public tender would be shaped a year and a half from now. If it does, I'm sure that my colleagues here, including the Cabinet, will have a final discussion first before we would make such an announcement. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that neither airlines that have the contract now actually fall under the eligibility of NNI because of the location of their business,

which, in turn, would allow any other carrier to have the same standing.

Is there any possible way that the minister could look into, since we know it's a year in advance, to allowing our northern air carriers to be receiving the ability to have contracts and allow them to provide the services in the other communities?

I know for my three communities in the High Arctic, our costs to fly from Grise Fiord down to Ottawa for a medical travel visit range anywhere from \$5,000 and \$7,000. Ultimately, that translates into a big concern for how are we spending our money, where is the money going, and how can we actually lower some of these costs. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I'm not the minister responsible for air transportation. I know my colleague is working hard to try and address all of the various airlines that have an interest in flying and serving Nunavut, including Air Canada or any other competitor that might come in.

In terms of medical travel, I think the government and previous governments have done quite well in supporting northern carriers. I think that's a commitment that my colleagues in Cabinet are standing by and we will continue to do so to make sure that Nunavutmiut have the best medical travel and scheduled flights throughout the Nunavut communities. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Question 134 – 3(2): Implementation of New Language Laws

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues. It sounds like someone is celebrating Christmas.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Languages in regard to the *Official Languages Act* that is in now in effect. I would like to ask the minister how we can give further support to private businesses.

It's very good to see companies that have the information out there in Inuktitut and also provide services in Inuktitut. So I would like to ask the minister if he could recognize those types of business to promote the use of Inuktitut in the workplace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for posing that question.

After the bills were enacted, we just started working on the programs and services that are provided. Recently, we had a meeting with the *Taiguusiliuqtiit* authority just this past week. At those

meetings, we had regional representation. We're currently working on the plans, including Inuktitut and signs that are required to be in the Inuktitut writing system. We are currently working on those issues.

We are starting to get staff with the language authority. After we have been established, we're going to start the implementation process, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Based on my recollection, the media usually has award ceremonies or recognition of private media businesses that have surpassed their peers' efforts.

I wonder if the minister could work with the departments of ED&T, CLEY, and others to look at the possibility of awarding excellence, particularly with respect to Inuktitut, as an example, to recognize businesses that showcase their Inuit language services, and whether this could be undertaken to recognize these businesses as promoting Inuktitut.

This could be a way to promote the businesses that work towards offering services in Inuktitut and provide incentives to businesses to emulate these recognized businesses, not just to scold or force businesses to utilize Inuktitut. This is an option to consider, especially as we try to implement the *Inuit Language Protection Act*.

I would like to ask the minister if this idea could be taken into consideration by

the Department of CLEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Minister Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, this idea could definitely be a good option when we're looking at this issue. I will commit to having this idea reviewed by my staff and I will provide an update as we start to implement the different requirements listed in the Act.

With respect to the member's idea, I think that this is a very good idea and something that we will look into adopting in our department, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 135 – 3(2): Bilingual Bonus for Educators

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When you don't smoke, it seems that you are left alone.

My question will be directed to either the Minister of Finance or the Minister of Human Resources. As I am unsure of its applicability, it may end up being directed to CLEY or Education for that matter. It is difficult to pinpoint exactly whose portfolio it falls under. So at this time, I will direct it to the Department of Human Resources.

This is with respect to employees in our schools, specifically the teachers who are bilingual in both Inuktitut and

English, as well as school counsellors who, as part of their duties, need to speak both languages.

Why is the requirement there for bilingual counsellors? This is so that the counsellors can speak to the parents of the students, specifically as it relates to the behaviour of the student and most parents are unilingual Inuktitut speakers. Further, they have to speak to the principals in the main working language, English, as many principals are non-Inuit in the communities.

Why is it that these school counsellors are not under the bilingual bonus program? I would like to be informed as to what the reasoning is for these positions being left out of the bilingual bonus program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the member is right. This question goes right across everybody, but maybe my colleague, Minister Tapardjuk, could answer the teacher and counsellor questions because that is mandated by the Department of Education.

However, when you refer to the bilingual bonuses, there are processes and stipulations in place for people who are allowed to get the bilingual bonus and they should be applied across the public service in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand his response and I'm aware of the background. However, what I'm asking is about is it states that if the person is an interpreter or the position requires a bilingual speaking staff member, then they will receive a bilingual bonus of \$1,500.

However, if it's not stipulated in the position, such as for teaching positions or student counsellor positions that are required to speak both languages but are not included in this program, they're left out of the bonus program.

I would like to ask why this stipulation is not included in these positions where we know that the requirement for bilingual staff members is prevalent. Does the position require this bilingual bonus application or do we have to now list it under all positions that we may require bilingual speakers?

Why can't it be set up this way, where any position requiring a bilingual staff person automatically falls into the bilingual bonus program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As far as my knowledge that I have on this is that it is up to the supervisor in the department of the person who is going to get a bilingual bonus to establish that fact in a job description. If it's warranted and the

supervisor requests that it is a bilingual bonus position or bilingual position, then the bilingual bonus should apply. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although we don't qualify, sometimes we require bilingual language. Does that mean in the case of school that the principal who is the supervisor determines that a particular teacher or counsellor who is required to speak both languages should get a bilingual bonus? Is that up to the principal then, not at the direction of the minister? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, it's my understanding that the supervisor has a process in recommending this and if there is a discrepancy, I believe that it would go to our human resources department, to staff relations, and then a review would be done at that point and a decision made there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Then that supervisor who is the principal I'm referring to in this example would go to resources and say, "This particular person in my school should get a bilingual bonus because we require him or her to be bilingual in her or his work."

My question then is: have you notified all of the supervisors across Nunavut that they must determine whether that particular employee of the government deserves a bilingual bonus or not? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I believe they have because the bilingual bonus is defined under the collective agreement with the Nunavut Employees Union. So it would be in there and every staff member would have access to that. However, I would like to just state to the member that if he has a specific case, I would be more than willing to get the information from you too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Question 136 – 3(2): Union for Nunavut Nurses

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Not long ago, when the Department of Health was devolved into the Northwest Territories, there used to be a union specifically for nurses and this was eliminated when the devolution took place and the *Public Service Act* of the Northwest Territories was amended to remove the union that represented the nurses.

I would like to ask the minister for public service if he is open to reopening the representation of nurses with their own union with our legislation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Okalik.
Minister of Human Resources, Hon.
Daniel Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. Yes, we would be open to reviewing that and looking at that scenario to see if that could happen again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) From what I understand, this removal of the union was not at the call of the union. It was a legislative change that took place from the legislatures at the time.

So I'm hoping that the minister can talk to his nurses' representatives and see if they're open to the idea and see how we can represent the nurses better so that we can have more stability and reduce our health costs for the entire territory. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Okalik.
Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can commit to the member that we will review this with all parties involved, the Department of Health, the union, and the Department of HR, and we will review his request. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I didn't hear the nurses' part, so I would

like the nurses to be represented as well in those discussions. If the minister can commit to reporting to this House on those discussions during our winter session, I would like to ask the minister for a commitment. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Okalik.
Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do apologize for leaving the nurses out.

We will conclude the ministry review. I know that at present, they're involved with the union right now, but I do commit to the review that the member is asking for and hopefully we can move on and see if this could be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Please note that Question Period is now over. Before we go back to the Orders of the Day, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:02 and resumed at 15:27*

Speaker (interpretation): Going back to the Orders of the Day. (interpretation ends) Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Peter Taptuna.

Item 13: Tabled Documents

Tabled Document 062 – 3(2): House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table my speaking notes on the presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, as requested by the hon. member from Baker Lake, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

Tabled Document 063 – 3(2): Nunavut Housing Corporation's Report to Cabinet on Provincial/Territorial Housing Ministers' Meeting

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Nunavut Housing Corporation's report to Cabinet on the Provincial/Territorial Housing Ministers' Meeting in St. Johns, Newfoundland, that was held on August 19, 2009. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabling of Documents. Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

Tabled Document 064 – 3(2): 2008 Qulliq Energy Corporation Annual Report

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to be able to table the seventh annual report for the year

ending March 31, 2008 for the Qulliq Energy Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Tabling of Documents.

Tabled Document 065 – 3(2): 2008-2009 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut

I, too, have a document to table. I wish to table the 2008-09 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut. Thank you.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 16: Motions

Motion 011 – 3(2): Acceptance of the Report of the Integrity Commissioner to the Legislative Assembly Regarding Mr. Paul Okalik, MLA

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly has tabled the Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut regarding Mr. Paul Okalik, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Iqaluit West;

AND WHEREAS the *Integrity Act* requires that the Legislative Assembly shall consider a report laid before the House within 10 sitting days after its tabling and shall respond to the report before the end of the session in which the report is laid before it;

AND WHEREAS the Integrity Commissioner has made certain recommendations in his report;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly may either accept or reject all of the Integrity Commissioner's recommendations;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Cambridge Bay, that the sanctions and recommendations contained in the Report of the Integrity Commissioner be accepted.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. The motion is in order. Before we proceed with the debate on the motion before us, I have a few comments to make as to procedures.

Every member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first and the seconder speaks second. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply which closes the debate. To the motion. Mr. Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the mover to the motion, I would like to start off with comments made on May 24, 2001, by our House Leader at the time when Bill 7, the *Integrity Act*, was in front of Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, the House Leader at the time had indicated that, "This new legislation creates standards for Members of the Legislative Assembly in performing their duties of office. It

establishes the highest standard for ethical leadership in Nunavut."

Mr. Speaker, again, when we're dealing with something, it was on September 17, 2008, in regard to a motion on the Report of the Integrity Commissioner and I'll quote from *Hansard* to that day. It says, "The *Integrity Act* establishes the parameters within which MLAs and ministers are expected to execute the powers and responsibilities that have been entrusted to them. It is the responsibility of all of us in this House to adhere to these provisions."

Mr. Speaker, I think the Integrity Commissioner's report is pretty self-explanatory. I do agree with the Integrity Commissioner's comments in regard to the fact that a sitting Premier should not solicit campaign contributions from deputy ministers as these individuals serve at the pleasure of the Premier and the sitting Premier has total control over their employment.

Mr. Speaker, I don't believe that any employee should be put in a position like that, where they feel uncomfortable or intimidated by such a request from an individual who has complete control over their employment.

Mr. Speaker, I can understand that this isn't clearly stated in the *Integrity Act*, but I also agree that the appropriate legislation should be amended to clarify it so that a situation like this doesn't happen again. I believe that such an amendment would serve as a protection mechanism for both the employees who are involved in a situation like this and also any future sitting Premier running for re-election in our system. That's the

only individual who has the authority and control over people in that position.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to just encourage all members to support the motion and move forward. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. I'm very sorry that I have to be here after approximately a year has passed since the election. In spite of that, we have to deal with this issue and so I would like to make a brief comment.

I will make it in English and Inuktitut because I want to be understood by everyone. For that reason, I will not want to be here when you're deliberating on that. I want you to know that I'll be leaving here as soon as I finish my statement.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that I have to be here before you today to deal with a complaint that took place over a year ago in the heat of an election campaign.

I will keep my comments short and to the point. If you do not mind, I will be leaving this Assembly after I am done as I do not wish to be perceived in any way in influencing my colleagues' decision.

First on the matter that I found a little confusing is that I and only I was found to be covered by this legislation. No other candidate in the entire territory would have been found to be in a conflict. If any other campaign had done

what mine had done, your candidate would have been fine.

I do not blame anyone as all of us were following the *Elections Act*, which states clearly that any campaign is entitled to seeking donations and contributions from anyone in Nunavut or from those businesses that are carrying out their work in Nunavut. Our *Elections Act* is no different than other governments elsewhere in our country. To find that there is an added burden after the fact is a little difficult for me to swallow.

(interpretation) First of all, I was confused in the beginning when they applied this Act only to me. Neither one of the candidates, if they were in that position, wouldn't be here. For that reason, my colleagues, because they wouldn't deal with them as I am being dealt with.

I don't want to deal with negative impact, so I was trying to follow the *Elections Act*. It states in there that anyone who is from Nunavut, they can ask for campaign funds and also they can also request for funding from any individual private companies. This is only similar to the election process outside of Nunavut. Once the elections were over, I'm going through difficult challenges right now because it's been a year since. One thing that I didn't have any place else to go. I was the very first one during the elections for the complaint.

Mr. Speaker, if we look outside, no matter who is within the elections, have they been blamed? Was there any wrongdoing? Even the person who made the complaint couldn't find where the breach was.

There have been many elections outside of Nunavut, but on the very first and only one, that is being accused of this. For that reason, I find it unbelievable today. If I try to run in another election, I don't know what else to do. What am I going to do? I tried to abide by the laws and now, I'm being accused. I'm very...

(interpretation ends) The other matter that I found far more disturbing and unsettling is that no other candidate in our entire country has ever been found to be in a conflict over an election campaign.

Mr. Speaker, have there been complaints made of Cabinet ministers in the past in other parts of our country in situations like mine? The answer is yes. And has there ever been one found to be in a conflict of interest? No, Mr. Speaker. The person doing the review could not even cite a single case where there has been such a conflict.

Thousands of campaigns have been carried out in our country and I happened to be the first one to ever bear such a burden. As such, how was I supposed to know that I would find myself in such a predicament? What other burdens will this commissioner place on me on my next campaign?

It is a little difficult to follow our laws when they're being carried out after the fact. Mr. Speaker, for this very reason, I contemplated asking a court to quash this decision. When I weighed my options, I found myself in a dilemma as this would add more costs to our already cash-strapped government. Accordingly, at the end of the day, the decision was an easy one as my constituents' needs are

far more important to me than that of my personal issues of the day.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, due to this issue, I had to look at my options, especially in how I would respond to this finding. I wondered if this was even adhering to the law and whether I ought to request a judicial hearing on the issue and have the courts remove this decision.

However, as I deliberated upon this matter, I had to look at what the consequences would be. It would add costs to our already financially strapped government, which is already hard up for adequate funds. After deliberating on these issues, my decision was that I was not going to be concerned about this issue at all. It didn't even trouble me as I am more concerned about dealing with the concerns of my constituents than I am about this personal attack on my person.

I am grateful that this will be dealt with today so that we can move forward to more important issues facing us. Further, I will adhere to whichever decision is arrived at by the Members of the Legislative Assembly as I believe that Nunavut's needs are more important.

(interpretation ends) I am glad that this matter will be dealt with today so that we can move on and do far more important work. I will honour whatever my colleagues decide and continue to work for the betterment of our wonderful territory and my fellow Nunavummiut. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise today to speak to this, but first of all, I would like to state that I am not saying that my colleague is right or wrong, and I will not be making that decision.

Nonetheless, this report, to me, seems to be making an arbitrary case whereupon I have to make a judgment on whether or not this is acceptable. As an example, the Integrity Commissioner speaks to the situation and he states cases where this type of event occurred and he uses examples from the south where there were breaches found and he also uses examples where he states that these people made mistakes.

However, I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that the robe they use down there doesn't fit up here in Nunavut. I found the punishment in the report degrading because it repays in the Integrity Commissioner's report. If he was an MLA, the Integrity Commissioner could not have touched him because regular MLAs... because he's an MLA. He's not the Premier we're dealing with.

Personally, after a year of investigation... perhaps used quite a large sum of funds and after a year is passed, Mr. Okalik is no longer a Premier. I believe we need to reject the report, so I will not be wording to accept the report. I will say why I'm choosing that way. The reason being, as a minister, if they were companies or businesses, my campaign manager for contribution from those companies... .

This is likewise with that and also the electors, the voters, I don't fully understand, although I understand that

the deputy minister was... a campaign letter sent out to the deputy ministers. But I don't understand here whether they were written a letter addressing to the deputy minister's title. Were the correspondence sent to the individuals' names, or were they sent to their home addresses, or were they sent out to office addresses? I don't understand that part for that reason.

I think this has bended the rules. For that reason, I will be voting against this. I hold the Integrity Commissioner in high regard, but he states himself and asks me to make a decision on Paul Okalik when he was a Premier.

On page 11, it states (interpretation ends) and I'm going to read in English. I have a very complex understanding why it doesn't appear to be, in my view, clear-cut. It appears, when I spoke in Inuktitut, the burden of proof, I think, was bended quite far and stretched a bit.

He said, Mr. Integrity Commissioner said, having said all of these presumptions of guilt, he concluded on page 11 and I'm going to quote it, "... I am not suggesting for a moment that there is any evidence that Mr. Okalik did use or would have used his power as Premier to terminate or otherwise discipline any Deputy Minister at any time who did not contribute to his re-election campaign."

Now, Mr. Speaker, if I'm going to be asked to be the judge, that his crime is that he was going to use his influence to fire the deputy minister who did not contribute, then I would gladly say let's vote for the report. But the commissioner did not say that. He's

saying to you, “Your better than I to judge your peer.”

I don't think he has proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that Mr. Paul Okalik is guilty of what he's supposed to be guilty about. So for that reason, what I said in Inuktitut is that one-size-fits-all perception used down south and take it up here delivered doesn't fit.

In my view, the *Elections Act* should be clearer. It should mark that deputy ministers should not be solicited for funds or contributions not only by the Premier but by all candidates. That I would understand.

For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I will be asking and probably be writing a letter to Elections Nunavut that they clarify the rules so that we do not have to ask one year later to try and judge an MLA who is no longer a Premier in this case.

It's a little difficult for me to support this motion, so I will be voting against the motion in order that we may have a clear set of rules to abide by in the next election. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. To the motion. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, was very confused about this for quite a long time. Although I still don't know at this time, I don't believe this decision is going to rectify the issue. I have been trying to look at the Integrity Commissioner's report.

Mr. Curley had stated some of the reasons why, but the *Integrity Act* was established and the Integrity

Commissioner was contracted out to deal with that.

But once he couldn't make a decision, he made a report and he couldn't make a decision for quite some time. Once the report was given to us, he didn't make a recommendation as to how we should be dealing with it. He left that judgment part to the Members of the Legislative Assembly. I cannot be a police and be a judge for that, personally for myself, so I won't be able to follow or accept the report.

The Integrity Commissioner was supposed to make a recommendation and that Paul Okalik had contravened an Act, but it doesn't say so. Also, the Integrity Commissioner stated it was an undisputable breach, but there is no information like that. It seems like the Integrity Commissioner is confused to make a decision. If it's going to be that way, it would have been that way.

The Integrity Commissioner doesn't know, but the Premier... maybe he's not a Premier anymore and perhaps he's not that way anymore. For that reason, when the Integrity Commissioner provides that kind of a report to us, I personally wouldn't want to deal with that.

I would also like to reject the report and return it back to the Integrity Commissioner and ask for a clear report and make a report that the *Integrity Act* requires amendment. So I would like to see some form of letter like that.

I can't tell Paul Okalik that because the *Integrity Act* is not clear. I don't know which section he was talking about. Perhaps they are asked whether this situation is hypothetical or that it may

have been possible, but it wouldn't apply since he is not the Premier.

Further, because he didn't write it up, it would not apply to that either. When it is that confusing, when stories are not consistent... I'm not saying that we ought to leave Paul Okalik alone. What I'm trying to state is that the report is not acceptable to me and I don't approve of its contents or findings.

I would like to get a more succinct and clearer report format from the Integrity Commissioner based on the requirements of the *Integrity Act*. If this report is tabled, then I would want to review this latest report.

However, if the majority approves this action, then it's up to all of the members to make that choice. Personally, I will not be approving this report as it stands. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. To the motion. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to this matter, all of us have had to deliberate on the issue and make our conclusions. I also wish to comment on the findings contained in the report after I have made some preamble comments.

With respect to the review of the Integrity Commissioner, it states in his report that the letters sent to the deputy ministers were slightly different in their composition so that it would be easier to identify as to which person it was sent out to.

I actually had difficulty sleeping over this matter, Mr. Speaker. The reason is that when we became candidates for these territorial elections, we all had to get a financial agent as well as a campaign manager who looked after these matters. However, it looks as if Mr. Paul Okalik's workers didn't review the requirements under the *Elections Act* prior to drafting up these letters.

The main difference between the current sitting members who ran to represent our ridings is that we were mostly new candidates running for the seat, while the person in question was still the Premier and he retained his powers up to the eve of the election even though he was also a candidate. He was the Premier right until someone else got elected.

I have noted, Mr. Speaker, that we are the judge, lawyer, and the jury in this matter. We have already conducted several reviews whenever something arises and when developments occur, we have to debate the issue and come to a decision.

As part of my deliberations on this matter, I took into consideration the two communities that I represent and what their advice on this situation would be. I didn't want to go only with what Johnny Ningeongan wants but what his two communities of Coral Harbour and Chesterfield Inlet want him to do. What decision would they come up with if they were faced with this type of issue?

Mr. Speaker, I note and realize that the Integrity Commissioner has a very important position and he does his work to the best of his ability, and that is obvious. We, as a government, continually state that we have to be

accountable to the people of Nunavut and make decisions in times of need. Therefore, whenever we are faced with difficult issues, we have to look at the best interests of our constituents.

With those reasons, Mr. Speaker, and in keeping the best interests of the people of Coral Harbour and Chesterfield Inlet in mind, I believe in the Integrity Commissioner's work. When we're voting on this issue, I'll be voting in favour of the report based on the issues that I brought up. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. To the motion. Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a fairly delicate situation at times, but I have to stand up here and say that my community is looking at me to make a decision. I'm not going to be sitting down here abstaining because that will mean that I'm not capable of making a decision.

I'm not a lawyer or anything like that, Mr. Speaker, and this is not a personal thing for me. I'm just trying to say that there are laws and legislation to uphold, whether it's the *Elections Act* or the *Integrity Act*. As far as I know, there are laws and statutes that are unclear in every jurisdiction, not just in Nunavut. But being elected and representing a community, I do have to make an opinion and my opinion is that there is legislation to protect people, officers, Premiers, ministers, elected MLAs, and most of all, the public.

Therefore, with the findings that have been found by the Integrity Commissioner, my ultimate thinking is that the number one thing that we have

to consider is to protect our people out there. There is no real reason why anybody should be intimidated by an elected official. Therefore, I'm going to be standing up to accept the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Taptuna. To the motion. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) About a year ago, I was part of the Nunavut Electoral Boundary Commission. I wished then the legislature had the guts to discuss a very important report being brought to them.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I'm here on behalf of the people of Repulse Bay and I'm here on behalf of the people of Kugaaruk. I campaigned and I ran, and I indicated more than once that there are times when we are expected to and we have to make tough decisions.

The constitution of the country, Mr. Speaker, recognizes that every person in the country has the right to seek a job without the hindrance of the country. Every eligible voter in the country has the right to campaign and seek funding for their belief and the belief of the people who they want to represent, but I'm also expected by the people of Akulliq to uphold the law.

During the time when the Report of the Integrity Commissioner was put forward, I changed my mind, Mr. Speaker, at every turn. For one thing, Hon. Okalik is a good friend of mine. Hon. Mr. Hunter Tootoo is also a good friend of mine. In fact, I call each and every one of you a good friend.

As my colleague, Mr. Taptuna, stated, we are elected to make the system that upholds the law. I will vote to accept the Report of the Integrity Commissioner not because I believe that Hon. Okalik has breached the *Integrity Act*, I'm not a lawyer, and not because I think that Mr. Tootoo did the right thing. It is because of someone, the Integrity Commissioner, who is appointed because of their expertise in the system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. To the motion. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and also the people in my riding, Igloolik and Hall Beach.

I think it was 1999, we were very proud when we were going to be getting our own Nunavut government. At that time, the people were very proud that they were going to have their own government, a culturally relevant and people-friendly government. That was at a time when we were going to be getting our own Nunavut territory and then just afterward, when we were dealing with the government, setting up of the government, the Legislative Assembly, we tried to make sure that it was culturally relevant.

I also note the people of Nunavut are looking forward to see this government as people-friendly, closer to the people type of government. I'm sure they're still looking forward to that. What the issue at hand is and looking at the report, I don't see anything that is Nunavut relevant. The people who think that they own the government, I think, are farther and farther away.

Reading the Report of the Integrity Commissioner... I want to be quite clear that Mr. Okalik is my friend. Right now, this has nothing to do with our friendship. I'm thinking about the people of Nunavut who want to have ownership of this government. So with that and with the people who we're representing, we have to be accountable to the people out there and question ourselves if we're doing the right thing.

The Report of the Integrity Commissioner has a lot of questions and even he doesn't quite know what the wrongdoing is, whether it is for the behaviour of the individual or whether it has anything to do with the *Integrity Act* or the *Elections Act*. I would like to see changes or amendments made to those Acts so that they're concise and clear and that there are no grey areas.

With that, I'll be opposing this motion because it's not relevant and we have to review those Acts before we can make a decision. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. To the motion. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to start with a bit of clarification because Mr. Okalik was talking about why was it him and whatnot. Again, with the way the *Integrity Act* works and our Integrity Commissioner works, there was a complaint that was actually put forward. So someone actually felt, before any investigation that was done, that there was a breach of our *Integrity Act* that we sort of have sworn to.

So that was the first part and then the second part was the confusion about why him, and I know Mr. Curley was

mentioning it too, if he was a regular member and it was in the report that since he was not a regular member and since he was acting as a Premier until the new Premier was put into power, he was acting as the Premier. I wanted to point that out.

The other thing I wanted to point out is that we have shown in our actions from last week that we, as the House and elected officials and full members participating in the Legislative Assembly, want to be accountable for our actions and we want to be accountable to the people of Nunavut. This situation is no different in the way we're handling it.

Again, Mr. Okalik spoke about a law being broken and I don't see it as a law being broken. Integrity is not a law; it's a principle which you live by in terms of living up to the integrity and not doing things that are deceitful.

From what I got from the Integrity Commissioner's report, it was stating that letters were written with sort of encrypted codes to know who was making donations or who was maybe whistle-blowing and letting people know what was happening. To me, that's not a sign of integrity, that's a sign of hiding something. To me, that's the principle of what I have been thinking and deliberating.

I know, when I think back to my three communities that I represent, if I was to send out a questionnaire and that questionnaire had in it a little code where I could find out whether it was a government worker who was answering it or if it was a person on social assistance who was working on it and

they found out, that would not be very honest and not living up to the integrity code that we all took and swore an oath to.

So I agree with Mr. Curley's comments that the legislation sometimes maybe is not totally clear. Perhaps with the review of the *Elections Act*, maybe it would be recommended that letters don't go to deputy ministers so that this does not happen again.

So speaking to what we're looking at, I'll be voting in favour of accepting the report. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. To the motion. I wish to inform the House that I have no more names on my list. Does the mover, Mr. Tootoo, have a last reply? Mr. Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As in two previous occasions where we dealt with the Integrity Commissioner's reports, it's never a fun thing, or something that anyone looks forward to doing or enjoys doing.

I want to make it very clear that my concern was the fact that the *Integrity Act* was breached. Absolutely nowhere in there does it say that I alleged that the *Elections Act* was broken. I think the way our system and our legislation are set up... this is a piece of legislation that we developed in Nunavut back in 2001 for Nunavummiut. The Act stipulates that anyone can make a complaint if they feel that the Act has been breached.

Mr. Speaker, there was a comment made that I couldn't even point out what was breached. If I could not identify where I thought that the Act had been breached,

I'm sure the Integrity Commissioner would have dismissed my allegation and my complaint.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, on the first page of his report, he indicates that I alleged that Mr. Okalik contravened section 4(a) and 4(b) and section 10 of the *Integrity Act*. So there is a specific point to where I believed a breach had happened.

Mr. Speaker, it also points out that, and we know that the procedures for doing this, once the Integrity Commissioner receives a complaint, the person requesting the review must have reasonable ground for believing that there has been a contravention of the Act, that the request to the Integrity Commissioner must be in writing, and that the facts to support the allegations must be in an affidavit.

Mr. Speaker, I provided all of that information to the Integrity Commissioner. The Integrity Commissioner, upon receiving that information, provided it to Mr. Okalik for feedback on it. I was just as frustrated that it has taken so long for this report to be completed. I think if you look at the report, in the back section, it's very clear and he spells out why it took so long to do the report.

I think the other thing that is clear or another comment that was made is the fact that he didn't even make any decision as to what happened, that we're being judge, jury, and executioner and that's not the case, Mr. Speaker. In the conclusion of his report, he does point out on page 16 of the report, Mr. Speaker, for the reasons above, I find that Mr. Okalik, "Member for the Legislative Assembly of Iqaluit West,

contravened the *Integrity Act*." And he points out exactly where.

On page 17, it talks about in general the sanctions that are allowed under the *Integrity Act*, of what kind of sanctions he can recommend to us. There was a whole list, I think A to H, of sanctions that are listed. When this legislation was being developed, we wanted, in the way of Inuit, to be able to leave some flexibility for the commissioner to take into consideration the factors and the circumstances of the day, and being able to choose which recommendations and which sanctions to impose.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that the Integrity Commissioner, in outlining his sanctions on page 18, has taken a lot of the circumstances and situations into consideration. I think it's spelled out even on page 17 as to why he is making and only choosing those sanctions.

Mr. Speaker, I know in February of 2008, my colleague, Mr. Curley, had indicated in dealing with the previous report, he said it is stated in the Act that, and he is referring to the Integrity Commissioner, he has to investigate and make a report. That's what he's done. He's taken the allegations. He's asked both parties for their input on those allegations. He's done his investigation based on the information that has been provided to him. And he's come to the conclusion that he's outlined in the report. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Curley also said on that day that he was, in that case, fair and sensitive.

On September 17, 2008, Mr. Speaker, dealing with another Integrity Commissioner report, my colleague, Mr. Curley, had indicated that, "I would like

to say that we have to adhere to the rules that apply to the Members of the Legislative Assembly.” That’s the *Integrity Act*. That applies to all of us. It’s our duty as members to uphold that Act.

Regardless of whether it was done intentionally or inadvertently, as my colleague said last week, ignorance is no excuse for the law.

An Hon. Member: A Point of Privilege.

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

Point of Privilege

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. My Point of Privilege is this: to those who are not here, it appears that we were dealing with the same report or something with the same circumstances. It is very different, I believe, if we’re dealing with the Mr. Simailak case. There was actually evidence that were quite contrary to what he had said before, and so on. So I think it’s not a fair comparison to the one that we’re dealing with today. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. With that, the mover is making his last reply and there was no Point of Privilege. Mr. Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize if I made it seem like we were dealing with the same. I’m sure I said in previous reports in talking about Integrity Commissioner reports in the past.

Mr. Speaker, the other comments made is the one-size-fits-all thing that only works for down south. As I said before, this piece of legislation was developed by the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut for Nunavut in Nunavut. It was not developed down south.

The other thing that’s important, Mr. Speaker, is that our unique system of governance is a consensus style system.

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

Point of Privilege

Hon. Tagak Curley: My Point of Privilege is this: when I say use a reference, the research that Mr. Pickell used gave members here the case studies that he had done and that was the point of the term I used “one-size-fits-all,” not specifically to the fussy issue of whether or not the actual breach has been done. Mr. Pickell did indicate that he has no evidence and I agree with him. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I believe you are asking for a clarification. Thank you. (interpretation ends) Please proceed, Mr. Tootoo.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think as indicated in probably the part that the most controversy is on, I made three suggestions where I believed the Act had been breached. The Integrity Commissioner, after looking at all of the evidence and doing the research, and that’s where a lot of the comments in the report from case law, indicated that I was, in fact, incorrect in one of the

sections that he had indicated in his report that he believed that Mr. Okalik didn't breach section 10 of the Act, but he did breach the other section of the Act.

As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, our unique style of governance, as Mr. Elliott pointed out and Mr. Pickell points out in his report, is why was the sitting Premier at the time singled out on this. Mr. Speaker, that's because in our unique system, that individual, whoever it is at the time, is in a position to have full authority over the deputy ministers. They are appointed at pleasure of the Premier.

That individual, during an election campaign, is still the Premier until the following Premier is selected after the general election. So that person is in a position to have some control over those individuals' employment. I think, as Mr. Curley pointed out where he said that he didn't, Mr. Pickell didn't believe that there is no evidence saying that he did or... that's beside the point.

I think the fact of the matter is the potential is there under the Act where a sitting Premier could utilize that authority under the Act, and I think the whole premise behind this, Mr. Speaker, is that that should not be allowed to happen. That's why I'm saying in my comment that I believe that appropriate piece of legislation, I don't know which one it is, whether it be the *Integrity Act*, whether it be the *Elections Act*, whether it be the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, be amended to make it very clear so we don't run into a circumstance like this in the future.

I said individuals that will receive those letters did feel intimidated, were worried, they didn't know. They were scared if they should or shouldn't. They felt uncomfortable in receiving that letter. I don't think it's fair to put any employee into that position. Again, as I stated, the uniqueness of our situation, the only individual in our style of government that is in a position to be able to do that is the sitting Premier.

So I think that in order to address that so that this doesn't happen again, these changes need to be looked at in the appropriate piece of legislation. Like I said, it would be a protection mechanism for those employees and for whomever the sitting Premier is at the time. We need to get that clarified and I won't dispute that. I think it needs to be done.

Mr. Speaker, I guess, again I can't go on to say, as I, too, am frustrated that it took so long, and without going into the detail as to why, it is very clear in the report why it took so long. When I was asked questions and forwarded information to review based on the information that was provided to the Integrity Commissioner, I responded as quickly as possible to try and facilitate him in doing his investigation.

It is the role of the Integrity Commissioner to take investigations. If he felt that an investigation wasn't warranted, he would have dismissed it. After looking at the information that was provided to him from both sides, he determined, based on the legislation in his report, as to why he felt he had jurisdiction to do an investigation and was compelled to do an investigation. The report, as I said earlier, speaks for itself.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would encourage all members to support this motion. Also, to let you know that I would be asking for a recorded vote on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. We will now vote on the motion. There are no more further comments. There was a request for a recorded vote.

(interpretation ends) A recorded vote has been requested. All those in favour, please stand and sit down when I call your name.

All those in favour, please stand.

Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Aariak.

Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

All those opposed, please stand and sit down when I call your name.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Arvaluk.

All those abstaining, please stand and sit down when I call your name.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Results are: for, 11; against, 3; abstention, 1. The motion is carried.

Going back to our Orders of the Day. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Curley.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat, that Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 19 has had its first reading.

First Reading of Bills. Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Are we on Item 18 now?

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Curley, not yet. We're still on Item 17. (interpretation ends) First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Curley.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for second reading of the bill.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. The minister is seeking consent to waive Rule 62(2) to allow for the second reading of Bill 19. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Curley.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Member for Arviat, that Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Act to provide the services that could be provided to a child under 16 years of age may be provided to a youth of 16 to 19 years of age either by way of agreement or pursuant to a court order following a declaration that a youth is in need of protection. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 19 has had its second reading and is referred to the standing committee.

Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. I'm sorry, it was Item 18. Now going to Item 19. Consideration of 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 with the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 10-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 16:32 and Committee resumed at 16:49*

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

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan): I would like to call the meeting to order, please. 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, followed by the Department of Justice and if time permits, the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, can you escort the witness.

(interpretation ends) For the record, Mr. Tootoo, please introduce your witness. Thank you.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The witness that is here with me today is Lori Kimball. She is our executive director for corporate services and chief financial officer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. Members, please turn to page J-3 in your capital budget book. Last week, the members were on page J-3. Are there any questions on page J-3, J-4, and J-5? Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to know if the minister is ready to respond to the questions that we had asked and he didn't have the responses. I was wondering if he has any responses to any one of the questions that he didn't have any responses to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Okalik, for the question.

Mr. Chairman, in regard to the question that was asked on the RFPs for structured insulated panel units, an RFP was issued with a deadline of July 17, 2009. The corporation received 12 responses to the RFP. Five of those 12

were short listed and a further review conducted. Out of those five, two stood out. The selection group unanimously selected the Clarke Group. The contract was signed on October 29.

As far as the status of the Nunavut Housing Trust delivering completions, I know that as far as when all of the construction dates, that's something that changes fairly regularly for unforeseen circumstances. I have asked my staff and they have requested updated dates from the district offices as those were administered and monitored through three district offices. As far as when those will, once I get that update from the district offices, I'll be more than happy to let the members know when their schedule is as of now.

Another question that was asked, Mr. Chairman, was the fact on when we will table our final delivery strategy. Like I said, we're not anticipating all of the work on the trust to be completed until the end of this year. It's kind of hard to do a final analysis and study on it until that work is completed. But once that work is completed, we will be doing an evaluation on that to be able to bring it forward to members to have a look at.

Again, one of the other questions that were asked is dealing with the cost broken down by unit. Again, as that work is still underway, we're not able to determine what the actual costs are per unit until the year-end or until all of the work is done. So once that is done, we will be able to provide that information to the members and I will commit to doing that.

There was a question on oil tanks. There was a sole source contract issued to

Granby Tanks from Granby, Quebec, in February 2009. At the time, they were the only manufacturer that we found that could provide the tanks to specifications. Also, there were deadlines required to be able to get them done prior to the sealift as well. As I had indicated, the specs for these tanks made them extremely durable and environmentally friendly.

Since then, Mr. Chairman, as I had indicated last week, a local businessperson had inquired to me as to why they were sole sourced and I informed him that they were the only ones we could find who could build to that specification. The individual asked me to provide him with a copy of the specifications for those tanks.

Subsequently, they informed me that they were able to find someone themselves who would manufacture to that specification. So I had committed that when we go out for oil tanks again to that specification, they would be put out for tender.

So I think it was an excellent initiative by that individual or that company to be able to go out and find someone else who will manufacture those tanks so that it could hopefully help us get a better price on them in the future.

I don't know if I missed anything, but I'm sure the member will remind me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On the fuel tank situation, I had asked if there had been past employees who were

part of the contract. That part I did not get a reply.

The other one was on the apprentices. We want to know how they're doing. It's nice to get the numbers, but it would be nice to know if they're progressing well and if they faced barriers to see what else we can do to accommodate their success. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for reminding me of those other questions. There were so many that I couldn't remember which ones were answered.

The contract for the fuel tanks was directly between the corporation and Granby Tanks, so there was no middleman or no one in the corporation, a former employee or anything that it went through first. It was a contract directly from the Nunavut Housing Corporation to Granby fuel tanks.

As far as the apprentices go, Mr. Chairman, I know, as part of the Housing Trust Delivery Strategy of which the member helped approve and implement, there were a number of initiatives in there to be able to help attract individuals in the communities in Nunavut to be able to work in a trades position within there and there were things like limiting the work week and things like that.

So there were a lot of steps that were previously done as far as being able to have individuals that were interested in getting into a trade and the apprentice

program through the trust to make it more attractable for them to be able to work in it.

I know in the past, when you have contractors come in with a workforce coming in from out of town, they would work as long as they could and that didn't work well for people and individuals in the communities who had a family who needed to go out hunting on the weekend to be able to provide country food for their families. So there were changes that were made and approved in the past on that.

As far as exactly the stages that they are at in their apprenticeships and how they are doing, Mr. Chairman, as I had indicated last week, that falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education and their apprenticeship program. I believe the Minister of Education or the appropriate person to provide that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm finished with those questions. I'm sure my colleagues will have some questions. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I have Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to elaborate a little bit more on the question that Mr. Okalik asked the minister in regard to those tanks there you were saying that it was a direct contract with the Housing Corporation to the tank company. What I'm asking is: was any metal company involved in

putting the tender out for bids or did the Housing Corporation do that directly here in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the best of my knowledge, as I had indicated, the purchase order for the tanks was issued right from the Nunavut Housing Corporation through Granby Tanks. Thank you.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had asked the question there on Thursday in regard to those SIP panels and the company that was or is about to be awarded the contract.

I asked the question if these panels are CSA approved and the answer I got was, well, they must be because the Housing Corporation engineers or whatever had looked into it. I would like to know for sure if he can check out for me that these panels are CSA approved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my knowledge, as I had indicated that there would be all of the technical codes and everything, the requirements are there for these panels. So I would assume that the Canadian safety standards, I think that's what the CSA would be covered off under the building code. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When do you anticipate this contract to be finalized for these panels?

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I had indicated earlier, that contract was finalized on October 29. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just in terms of the new SIP houses that are being used and contracted out and I guess the first round is coming up on the boat, is there any cost savings between a stick build home or a SIP home? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For budgeting purposes, we're budgeting the same amount. I know that we know there will be some cost savings as far as constructions go, but they will probably be a little more expensive for shipping. So we figure it will balance out; it will roughly be the same amount as the stick built unit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there is no significant cost difference

between the two types of homes being built, why do it then? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are a number of advantages to going with these structured insulated panel units.

One of them is if a community was getting five units and if all of the materials are reaching the community sometimes as late as October and November, these materials would arrive there. A community would usually only have time prior to it getting too cold and miserable out there to be doing anything. It wouldn't be able to have all of those units closed in and airtight in that season.

With the structured insulated panel units, we're anticipating that they're saying, after the demonstration that was held down in Illamar, the marshalling area this summer, after the first one, once you get the hang of it, they're looking at having the unit from when it arrives to when they start working on it completely, close it in airtight within three to five days per unit.

So what that would allow is be able to get all of the units closed in and airtight, then they would basically be able to extend the building season for the whole year-round and the temporary heat these units and do the work on the inside in all five of the units instead of just being able to get one done because of the timing.

One of the other significant benefits of these units, Mr. Chairman, is the fact

that, as I said in the past, they're expected to be 50 percent higher than a national energy standard.

Right now, we know that it costs us on the average about a little over \$21,000 a year to maintain a public housing unit across the territory. From the numbers that we're looking at with the new energy efficiency of these units, that should significantly reduce our O&M costs on the units, which is a big chunk of our housing budget.

Also, with the condensed foam that's in between the interior and exterior units that comprise of the panel, this eliminates the space and the stuff that allows mould to grow in these units. So that is a considerable amount of benefits to using this technology over the traditional stick build. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is in regard to the apprentices and the training of the people who are working on the Nunavut Housing Trust. You had asked Minister Tapardjuk in terms of the Department of Education. I'll save those questions for a later date because it's nice that we have 51 people in the trades program. It would be nice to know whether they are at level 1, level 2, whether they're involved in plumbing or not.

With the new SIP buildings, is that going to jeopardize any of the time in which these apprentices are working? Are they still going to get the same number of hours working towards in their trade? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Individuals that are working in the apprenticeship program will still have ample opportunity to get the hours that they require for their certification with this method of delivery. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On J-5, where it talks about this secured storage, there's \$900,000 being allocated. I just want to make sure. I know the minister sort of has been very helpful in answering a lot questions on the Nunavut Housing Trust project, which is a \$200 million, and this is the budget for this year so that we don't get them confused or I don't get confused.

The storage area for the housing associations within the communities, are these being used to build storage facilities for the telehandlers that are coming to the community? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These are structures that I indicated last week, they're 31 by 60, roughly 1,860 square feet, I believe. They're going to be provided to the local housing organizations that they're able to use as secured storage for any of the materials that they provide to store their telehandlers and that's their prerogative. It's up to the LHO. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again on J-5, where it's fire damage replacement, the million dollars that's being requested under that... I'm just curious to find out.

In Arctic Bay, we had two homes over the last couple of years that were burned. One was a duplex and that's in the process of being constructed now. The other was a single family dwelling. Is that for one of those dwellings to be replaced in Arctic Bay? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member's correct that that duplex has been covered off and we're still waiting to get a report from the housing authority on the damage and cost to replace that single family dwelling and that hasn't been reported yet. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also on J-5, I wanted to find out in terms of the three regions for the homeownership program, does that include all types of programs like the MAP and all the different types? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's correct, that's \$4 million covers off all of the

homeownership programs covered under the Nunavut Housing Corporation and as I indicated in my opening comments, we doubled that amount from last year because of demand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome back the Hon. Minister Tootoo and Ms. Kimball, the Executive Director of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer.

I apologize for my questions have been previously asked by the members of the committee. Perhaps the chair and staff can educate me if they were covered as I might have copies of the *Hansard* at present.

My questions are directed toward homeownership programs; for example, the Nunavut Downpayment Assistance Program, the Materials Assistance Program, the Senior and Disabled Persons Preventive Maintenance Program. Has the Nunavut Housing Corporation evaluated if any of these homeownership programs are successful and if there are any programs that are more successful or not? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated in the past, I don't quite remember if it was in question period or in previous committee of the whole, our homeownership programs are drawn upon quite heavily.

The only program right now that doesn't have a significant draw on it is the material assistance program. To address that, we are looking at a different design of a structure to try and help make it more attractable to individuals out there to be able to access that program.

But I think overall, under the homeownership program from April until this fall, we have had a total of 558 applications, the majority of those being on the home repair program with 229 individuals apply under that program. So they are quite popular out there with the homeowners and encourage now that we've got more money, double the money in homeownership we will have more money to be able to help address those individuals' needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the 2009-2010 business plan, a priority is to finalize the review of homeownership policies and guidelines. Presently, what's the status of this review? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe I had indicated last spring that that is something; we will be conducting a review of all our programs in the corporation right now. I think I made the announcement earlier this fall that the new president is coming online and that's going to be one of the things that I'm going to task that individual. That's one of the first things for them to

look at along with the rent scale review to be able to move forward on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, in the 2009-2010 capital estimates, budgeted \$500,000 for retrofits to the Baker Lake Local Housing Organization warehouse was provided. Which other LHOs may require similar funding in future years? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are no dollars in this budget right now to deal with community warehouse issues. However, part of dealing with some of this is by being able to provide those steel structures, those secure storage facilities in the communities to help address some of the communities' needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On every line there is a number before a dollar sign. It is not uncommon and I'm speaking for pertaining to my community of Kugaaruk, during the construction of new housing, the homeownership program, retrofits, name it, there is tonnes and tonnes of drywall ending up in the garbage dump. Bottles and bottles of insulation material are ending up in the garbage dump because of the mishandling, shipping, lack of storage in

the community, you name it, maybe vandalism and what have you.

Now when there is a shortage of such a material for construction and the home is not being able to be completed and there are a whole lot of people waiting for homes, who pays for these damaged material? Is it the Housing Corporation contractor, the shipper, or whoever? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would say that in each individual case it would depend on the circumstances and who is responsible for the material at the time.

I think in some cases, if it's as a result of damage during shipping, that may be covered by the shipping company. If it's a contractor, once they start the contract, then they are responsible for the materials, it may be the contractor responsible for that, so it would depend on particular circumstances to who would be responsible for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In such cases, sometimes we have a fill day in the garbage truck and we can collect stuff that are still usable in the community.

Does the Housing Corporation keep track of how much money is being lost because mishandling, shipping, elements, weather, and other damages? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is my understanding is if there are shortages in the community, they report back to the district office, and that all gets rolled in at the time. Now, even for stuff for this year, if they're not starting on that project this season, or until the spring, sometimes it's quite some time before they get into it to find out if any of the materials has been damaged or not. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Damage is one thing, but costs that are being incurred because someone is not doing what they should be doing; that's trying to save money for the government, especially when you need more housing. So is there any way to keep track of things being lost? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was one of the drivers behind providing these secure storage facilities in a community for them to be able to store safely materials that arrive into the community. Also, the corporation just recently updated our MMOS system to be able to track that type of information. So it's just upgrading. They have been doing training in the communities throughout Nunavut on that. Just to be able to track things like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Again, I'll speak on behalf of my community. If the government is willing to too, this means we have a local co-op, I am sure that would be more than willing to do business. They will look after warehousing. When you come to the community then you have all the materials, especially in the area of dry walling and insulation. Have you ever looked at that possibility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When materials hit the ground in the community, they fall under whomever the contractor to build the units.

In some cases, it could be a private contractor, where they would be responsible for storing and looking after the materials. In some cases, it's the local housing organization that has the contract to do that. In some communities, it's the hamlet itself that has that contract to construct those units. So it would be up to them as to how or where they choose to store those materials. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question would be more along the lines of what Mr. Elliott was asking earlier.

Presently, under the stick built system, the ship comes in, the materials shows up, and at present they're building the units up until December, and then there is a three or four month shut down. Then they come in the spring and finish up the units.

You indicated with the new design that you would be able to get them out of the weather a lot faster after the ship comes to the community, and that you could extend the construction season.

So are you indicating that there will be no shutdown during the three or four months that you presently do? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would say that would be up to the contractor who has the contract. The opportunity would be there for them to continue all year round if they chose to do so, that would depend specifically on the contractor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You indicated that it's up to the contractor, but earlier or on Friday, you said that that time period was also used for apprentices to go to schools and stuff. So how can you leave it up to a contractor to make that decision if they want to extend the season or not? I'm just trying to get clear of what the new program will be. Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The corporation is working closely with Nunavut Arctic College and the Department of Education to identify when those training opportunities are required for those individuals who are in the apprenticeship program.

Also, as I had indicated, it was part of the Nunavut Housing Trust that those hours have to be there for those apprentices. So they will have the opportunity and the time that they need to be able to go and do the theory part of their program as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to getting these new design units, so to speak, out of the weather in a few days, I think I heard indications that it was probably like a 20 to 25 percent savings in labour costs, if I'm correct; I may be off. In terms of man hours, do you have any idea of how much savings there will be? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the SIP three-bedroom unit is about 300 hours less than what it would take a traditional stick built unit to be built. I think it's just a little over 2,000 hours for a traditional stick built model and it's around 1,700 hours with a SIP unit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Presently, in my community, I filled out EI applications for a few employees that are on the construction site and a lot of them barely have enough hours to qualify. So if you're going to take away another 300 hours from the construction season in smaller communities, are we not going to put a strain on our income support system? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe, like I said earlier, that there will still be ample time and lots of hours for individuals to be able to work during the construction season before they close down for three months, or four months in some places, to deal with the cold weather.

With these units, like I said, they will be sealed off and closed in, so they will be able to work on them for a longer period of time. Also recognizing the fact of the requirement for apprentices going out to take their theoretical part of the program, I think it's a one-month program, but it doesn't take that whole time, there's still the availability there of extending the current construction season. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't really agree with the minister. Right now, we shut down for a period of time during the winter and then

construction picks up again in the spring. The house still gets built within a year whether you finish it during the winter or you wait until next spring and finish it within a year.

So all I'm trying to get across is you're still going to have less hours per workers on these buildings. I just think that it's going to cause further hardships for families who barely get enough hours to qualify for EI. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated, I believe that there will still be ample work for people in the communities but based on the member's concerns, I would commit to, we'll monitor the hours that are put in throughout this coming year and see if it is an issue or not. Like I said, I don't believe that it will be, but I'm human too. No one is perfect.

I will commit that is something that the corporation will monitor and there is a requirement under the contracts for the contractors to submit for the number of hours that the people working for them are working. So keeping track of that we will build a monitor and if there is issues we will address them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I don't know whether I see it here or not, possibly the minister can help me. I did ask a question on this issue sooner.

There are the warehouses that house things that should be kept in a heated area. Do we have enough heated warehousing in the communities to house the supplies and so on that can be environmentally damaged? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member brings up a good point and I know that's something that is a challenge that the corporation has faced, not so much the corporation but even the contracts when the materials sometimes get to the communities so late in the year, sometimes you have paint that arrives off the boat and it's frozen already by the time it gets there.

One of the things that is in place right now is that when the materials or packagers, the contractors that marshal provides a map if you want to call it of what's in where so that when that stuff does arrive to the community they are able to identify which perishable items or "unfreezables" that could be effected by the cold weather or the rain or whatever, to be able to be moved into appropriate facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question was in the communities we use sea-cans to use as warehouses, which are being used by the LHOs as warehousing, and even though they have warehouses, their workshops and so on, my question was are the LHOs going to be getting

adequate heated warehouses to house all those “unfreezables”? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe right now most communities have or were able to find or obtain adequate storage in the community, but the member brings up a very good issue. If you look over the last number of years between the Housing Trust and the new federal stimulus money, we’re going to be over 1,000 more units on the ground throughout the territory.

As the public housing stock in a community grows, the requirement for facilities to be able to store the materials necessary to maintain those units will become an issue as well. That’s something that we are aware of and looking at trying to deal with. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just moving to another issue, I will be talking a little bit on marshalling.

I have been informed that Illamar Marshalling Incorporated of Ontario were given a two-year contract to be responsible for the handling of delivery of buildings and will be responsible for the structured panels. Who owns Illamar Marshalling? Is it possible for you to table that information to the House? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now, because Illamar is a privately owned company, we cannot find out who the shareholders are by law. I think the individual the president of Illamar is named, I think it was brought up in the House a few years ago and a contract was entered into with them when I was sitting on your side of the House. The individual’s name is Brian Cox that runs Illamar. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the minister saying that besides Brian Cox, is there other principles involved in this company? Although that is a privately owned, the owner is sometimes not mentioned but it’s very often they’re told. We knew who owned Edmonton Oilers before; we knew all the bunch of owners.

Can he at least provide us with principles of that company if there’s not just one owner? If that’s only one owner, fine, but there’s the other principals in that company that he could provide for us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated earlier, if it’s a privately owned corporation in Canada, we cannot find out who the shareholders are.

One of the things that the corporation is doing to be proactive on this, as it seems to have caught the interest of some of the members, any new contracts that we enter into will have a disclosure clause in the contract that tells something that we're working on with the Department of Justice to include into the contracts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can he indicate that to us when that will be ready for our use? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I need to apologize. The corporation isn't working with the Department of Justice on this. Our own legal counsel is the one who is developing that clause for us to go into our contracts. I just want to set the record straight and not get the officials of the Department of Justice worried over there. They're probably wondering what I was talking about when he said that. I'm sorry.

Mr. Chairman, we're hoping to have that within the next week or two and as I said, any new contract that we enter into will have that clause in it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad that we will be able to find the owners, if there is more than

one owner, and who the main players are in that company. I don't want to be surprised later on.

Even though we have no idea who these people are, according to the minister, who owns the companies, we contract them anyways. I don't finally find out later on that there are surprises and surprises. So it would be a good idea if that amendment can be made so that we will know who we are contracting with. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the member's support in the work we're trying to do as far as including clauses like that in our contracts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo. I have no more names on my list. Page J-3. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Branch Summary. Total Capital Expenditures. Nunavut Housing Corporation. \$27,269,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page J-2. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Detail of Expenditures. Department Summary. Total Capital Expenditures. \$27,269,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that the Nunavut Housing Corporation is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to ask the minister if he has any closing comments.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First off, I would like to thank the committee members for very good questions, concerns, and suggestions. Just already, over the short term that I have been the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, we've had some excellent ideas and suggestions that have been incorporated into the way we do business coming from members of the committee.

That's why I appreciate their efforts and helping us, the corporation, to address some of the concerns and issues, as members from their communities know their communities best, and it's always great to get that valuable input from them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Lori, who, like I said, is here for the first time in Committee of the Whole. I also wish to send my best wishes to the other two staff who would normally be sitting here with me in Committee of the Whole who aren't able to be here today.

Again, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, members. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tootoo and Ms. Kimball. (interpretation) We're done with that department. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

Chairman (Mr. Schell): I would like to ask Minister Peterson of the Department of Justice to make his opening remarks.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and welcome to your new position. I am very honoured that this is my first appearance before the new Chairman.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear.

>> *Applause*

Hon. Keith Peterson: I'll try to make it easy on you.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to present the Department of Justice 2010-11 capital estimates. A total amount of \$16,900,000 is being allocated for the Department of Justice 2010-11 capital estimates.

The majority of capital estimates is allotted for construction of the new men's correctional facility in Rankin Inlet. Upon construction, this medium to minimum security facility will accommodate up to 48 inmates. The facility's living unit will contain 32 beds for offenders and there will be an apartment complex with an additional 14 beds to house low risk offenders. The construction contract has been awarded and site work has already started. This new men's correctional facility will alleviate some overcrowding issues at BCC and enable offenders from the Kivalliq to serve their sentences closer to home.

The Baffin Correctional Centre (BCC) is our main holding facility for inmates. It

is an aging facility that was built in 1986. This facility has been operating well above capacity for years. The intended capacity is 66 beds but the average male inmate count is 88. The time has come to assess the future of this facility and its ability to meet our corrections needs. In order to explore options we have included \$300,000 to our capital estimates to commission a comprehensive study of the facility. This study will examine options of modernizing, replacing, and expanding BCC while estimating the costs for each option.

Finally, you will note that we have included \$400,000 for minor capital expenses. These are funds to cover routine capital expenditures that arise over the year such as the replacement of Corrections vehicles, snowmobiles, and technology that is necessary for the delivery of programs.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I would be pleased to take questions. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have any opening comments? Please proceed, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee on Social Wellness has reviewed the proposed capital estimates of the Department of Justice for the 2010-11 fiscal year and I am pleased to provide you with the committee's comments.

The department's capital budget was \$17.1 million in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Standing committee members note

that the department's proposed capital budget for 2010-11 of \$16.9 million is primarily allocated to the ongoing development of the Rankin Inlet men's 48-bed correctional centre. \$300,000 is proposed for the purpose of initiating a new capital project to replace the Baffin Correctional Centre in Iqaluit and \$400,000 is allocated for minor capital projects.

Mr. Chairman, members noted a discrepancy between the budgets of the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the Department of Justice with respect to staff housing costs associated with the Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre. The standing committee encourages the Department of Justice to work closely with the Nunavut Housing Corporation to ensure coordinated planning with respect to staff housing.

Mr. Chairman, members recognize that there is a clear need for additional space to accommodate Nunavut's inmates. Sending inmates out of the territory is very expensive and costs will only increase as time goes on. Members recognize that the Baffin Correctional Centre in Iqaluit is extremely overcrowded. For these reasons, members continue to be in full support of the ongoing construction of the Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre for men.

However, the standing committee is unable to support the expenditure of funds to construct a new prison in Iqaluit to replace the Baffin Correctional Centre. During his appearance, the minister advised the committee that a new prison could cost up to \$150 million.

While members recognize that it is important for as many Nunavut inmates as possible to serve their sentences in their home territory, members also note that the new Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre was, originally, and still is, designed to allow for expansion in the future. Given that the Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre has not yet been constructed, it is premature to consider constructing yet another prison.

Members firmly believe that funds should instead be allocated towards projects that focus on establishing more healing facilities in a number of communities. During his appearance before the standing committee, the minister acknowledged that Nunavut has only one healing facility, which is located in Kugluktuk. He indicated that other communities have expressed interest in hosting healing facilities. Members did advise the minister that the committee would be prepared to support funding for necessary renovations to or expansion of the Baffin Correctional Centre

Mr. Chairman, members are pleased to note the progress that has been made on the construction of the new women's eight-bed correctional facility in Iqaluit, which is anticipated to be opened early in 2010. Members are aware that women have occasionally served very short sentences in RCMP detachment cells in their home communities and that an external building at BCC was used to house female inmates in 2007. The standing committee recognizes that these situations are inappropriate. The standing committee is therefore pleased that female inmates will now have a gender-specific facility.

Mr. Chairman, while members recognize that funding for supporting outpost camps comes from the department's operations and maintenance budget, members continue to urge the minister and his officials to consider setting aside capital funds that could be used in order to establish new outpost camps.

During his appearance before the committee, the minister advised members that his officials will continue working towards commencing an initiative to establish more outpost camps. The minister also advised members that community support is required for the establishment of outpost camps. He also indicated that communities were invited earlier this year to contact the Department of Justice to express interest in hosting outpost camps.

Mr. Chairman, members note that the \$400,000 for minor capital projects is an ongoing yearly amount allocated for replacement vehicles and other small capital items.

Members recognize the importance of rehabilitating inmates so that they can have a smooth re-entry into their communities. Members also recognize the significance of incorporating cultural elements in rehabilitation. For these reasons, the standing committee encouraged the department to consider the introduction of dogsled teams to outpost camps as well as the Kugluktuk Healing Facility.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2010-11 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice. I am confident that my colleagues will wish to offer

further comments of their own. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I wish to report progress at this time. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Schell: 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.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to return to Item 3. I would like unanimous consent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Mr. Okalik is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 3, Members' Statements. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Okalik.

Revert to Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 095 – 3(2): Response to the Acceptance of the Report of the Integrity Commissioner to the Legislative Assembly Regarding Mr. Paul Okalik, MLA

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

To my colleagues, in regard to the proceedings today, I acknowledge your decision and would like to thank you for passing the day. It was not intentional for not abiding by the law and I apologize to all the members, to all my constituents, and the rest of the people of Nunavut.

I apologize to you especially because we had to go through this unfortunately. So I will make sure that this not happen again in the future and that I don't want this to be experienced by any of the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Thank you for your apology.

(interpretation ends) Members' Statements. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder for tomorrow's meetings, at nine o'clock in the morning, the Standing Committee on Legislation in the Nanuq Boardroom, followed by a meeting at eleven o'clock of the Regular Caucus with the Speaker in the same boardroom.

Orders of the Day for December 1:

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 11

18. Second Reading of Bills

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

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, December 1, 2009, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:59*

