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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Uqqummiut)

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(Tununiq)

Moses Aupaluktuq
(Baker Lake)

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(Rankin Inlet North)
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(Quttiktuq)

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(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)
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Eruk Pauloosie
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Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Fred Schell
(South Baffin)
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(Arviat)
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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
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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, December 3, 2009**

Members Present:

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

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. James Arreak) (interpretation): Thank you. Before we proceed with the Orders of the Day, I would like to ask Mr. Ningeongan to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. A very good afternoon, Premier, Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, as well as Nunavummiut.

At this time, I would like my colleagues to know that we will allow the cameramen in the Chambers at this time for a short period while the Rangers are in the House. We will allow cameras in the Chambers for a bit because we are so proud of them.

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister Louis Tapardjuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 073 – 3(2):
Together at a Distance**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Good afternoon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to announce a three-year adult literacy online distance learning project titled *Together at a Distance*. This pan-arctic, Internet-based e-learning project is led by the Department of Education with associates in the Northwest Territories, Nunavik, and Nunatsiavut, and is supported by the federal government's Office of Literacy and Essential Skills of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC).

Mr. Speaker, I believe online learning will help us develop and make new courses and learning resources available to adult learners across northern Canada. Online or as it is better known, e-learning, will help us share our culture, maintain our language, and increase our ability to participate in the world economy by helping to improve literacy levels and teaching essential skills to adult learners.

The first two workshops will provide information to adults who want to know what e-learning involves and what types of skills they need in order to take an e-course. The remaining four workshops target educators in a variety of roles, including teaching participants how to create e-learning resources for northern adult learners. Inuit elders and northern educators worked in close collaboration to ensure *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* principles formed the framework for this groundbreaking project. Workshops have been piloted in Taloyoak and Arctic Bay.

The six free online e-learning workshops, related learning materials, and published project research will be available from www.togetheratadistance.com upon completion of the project in July 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Ron Elliott, MLA for Quttiktuq. His participation, support, and dedication to this project and his continued support while promoting the importance of education in Nunavut have been invaluable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 074 – 3(2):
Climate Registry**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to inform members about an important step that Nunavut has recently taken in the global effort to fight the effects of climate change.

In 2007, Premiers across the country agreed to support the development of consistent and verifiable measurement of greenhouse gas emissions by joining the Climate Registry. The registry is a non-profit organization that sets standards for calculating, verifying, and publicly reporting greenhouse gas emissions.

Mr. Speaker, as of September, Nunavut has joined the other Canadian provinces and territories as a member of the Climate Registry Board of Directors. This is an important step as every

Canadian province and territory is now a member of the registry.

The Climate Registry Board also includes hundreds of members from throughout North America, including 41 US states, the District of Columbia, six Mexican states, and four native sovereign nations. Members of the registry represent 85 percent of North American population.

Mr. Speaker, joining the registry is an important first step for Nunavut as we continue to move forward with climate change mitigation policies and initiatives. By joining the registry, Nunavut is demonstrating that we recognize the importance of a clear and consistent reporting mechanism as well as our own role in addressing greenhouse gas emissions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 075 – 3(2):
Continuing Care Centres in
Nunavut**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to announce that on November 4, 2009, I officially opened the continuing care centre in Gjoa Haven. Early in the New Year, I will be opening another new continuing care centre in Igloolik.

Bringing care closer to home is a commitment that my department has made and these continuing care centres are a step towards that goal. It is our plan

that by March 2010, several Nunavutmiut currently living in the south will have returned to our territory and be living in the new centre in Gjoa Haven. Not long after that, other Nunavutmiut will be able to return to Nunavut to call the new centre in Igloolik home.

We have seen the facility in Gjoa Haven and it is spacious, with room for nine beds, although there is only one bed for palliative care residents. Currently, these residents have to be placed outside of Nunavut away from their families.

Health and Social Services is committed to ensuring that all Nunavutmiut receive the best possible care as close to home as possible. These new facilities in Gjoa Haven and Igloolik will not only provide better care for Nunavutmiut but will provide much needed employment opportunities as well.

Nunavut Arctic College, in partnership with the department, offered the Home and Continuing Care Program in Gjoa Haven last February. Thirteen students graduated in August and these students will all be hired for this new facility. The same program ran in Igloolik and the 11 graduates will also be offered full-time employment at the centre in their home community.

The Department of Health and Social Services and our partners have worked hard to provide these new continuing care centres in our ongoing effort to provide high quality and consistent care for our continuing care patients within Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 076 – 3(2):
Language Statutes
Implementation**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues and our constituents about the ongoing implementation of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* and the *Official Languages Act*.

I would like to begin, Mr. Speaker, by highlighting activities related to the implementation of the *Inuit Language Protection Act*. The provisions for education in the Inuit language came into force on July 1, 2009, for kindergarten to grade 3, and we are on schedule with our implementation activities.

As well, I am pleased to report that the Nunavut Teacher Education Program has been expanded from five to ten communities in the past two years with programs being offered in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, Cape Dorset, Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Baker Lake, Kugaaruk, and Kugluktuk.

Other implementation activities include the appointment of the *Inuit Uqausinginnit Taiguusiliuqtiit*, or the Inuit Language Authority, and the recruitment of its staff. The work of *Taiguusiliuqtiit* will be crucial to the success of our new language legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Department of Health and Social Services for its H1N1 information and

vaccination campaign. Not only is its most current information available in Nunavut's official languages on the newly created H1N1 website at www.flunu.ca but Nunavutmiut were welcomed and served in their language of choice at the various vaccination clinics held in Nunavut communities.

As the Minister of Languages, I am preparing a comprehensive implementation plan that will identify, in consultation with territorial institutions and municipalities, all the activities, human and financial resources needed to effectively implement and administer both the *Official Languages Act* and the *Inuit Language Protection Act*. I will be presenting the plan to the Legislative Assembly in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, public dialogue, participation, and consensus building have served as the foundation for our work to date. Our consultation activities so far have included:

- March 2009, meeting with members of the francophone community;
- April 2009, Inuit Language Leadership Retreat in Arctic Bay;
- Fall 2009, Minister of Languages held four regional round tables in collaboration with regional Inuit associations, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and Nunavut's Languages Commissioner

The views and input received through these consultations and others in early 2010 will help ensure that the comprehensive implementation plan reflects the needs of Nunavummiut.

A language legislation as far reaching and complex as ours must, however, be implemented carefully. It will require strong commitment from our elected leaders, community leaders, and as individuals to achieve these goals. Together, we can achieve them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 077 – 3(2): GN
Response to the Food Mail Review**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to convey Nunavut's participation in the federal Food Mail Program and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs' recent work to renew the program.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavutmiut do not currently see the subsidy in the sticker price at the store. But the Food Mail Program provides tremendous value to Nunavutmiut. Annually, this subsidy is equivalent to \$650 per person but can exceed \$2,000 per person in the more remote communities. As such, we fully support the continuation of a food subsidy program for the North and agree with Canada's plans to renew the program.

The Food Mail Program should be realigned from its present day use to a culturally relevant and appropriate food security program for all Nunavutmiut. We expect that the food mail review will lead to substantial program and administrative changes and we would

like to collaborate in a meaningful way into the design and implementation of this change.

The Government of Nunavut would like to see the Food Mail Program revised to be based on clear principles, measurable objectives, and relevant indicators. In Nunavut, focusing the program on the most vulnerable populations must be the first principle.

Now more than ever, we should be supporting the traditional economy and the health and culture benefits of harvesting country foods. Mr. Speaker, country foods must be adequately addressed in the renewed Food Mail Program. It is no longer acceptable for Canada to discriminate against country foods.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Nunavutmiut must have a voice in the development in the eligibility list for the renewed program. By fully involving our experts on northern diets, nutrition, and healthy food, we will find meaningful ways to work together on nutrition, health education, and promotional activities.

The renewed program should focus on food products rather than a component of cost. Only by focusing on food itself will the program be aligned with the principle of good quality, nutritious foods at affordable prices.

For those individuals in our smaller and more remote communities, for Nunavutmiut with dietary restrictions, for daycares and breakfast programs, some form of individual access should be maintained.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we expect diligent monitoring on the impacts and outcomes of a revamped program. As our communities are serviced by air only, any change to the program has the potential to dramatically affect the cost of living, access to medical care, and supply of other goods and services.

Speaker (interpretation): Madam Premier, I have shut off your microphone and I'm sorry to disrupt your statement, Premier, as your time allotment has expired. If you wish to conclude your statement, you must ask the House for unanimous consent. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Yes, I did try to ask for unanimous consent, but it was cut off right at that time, so I doubt I was heard. Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. The Premier is seeking unanimous consent from her colleagues to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may conclude your statement, Premier Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to conclude my statement.

To reiterate, we expect diligent monitoring on the impacts and outcomes of a revamped program. (interpretation ends) As our communities are serviced only by air, any change to the program has the potential to dramatically affect the cost of living, access to medical care,

and supply of other goods and services, as I said earlier.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will table the Government of Nunavut's response to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs' food mail review.

Mr. Speaker, food mail is an essential program in Nunavut. We strongly support the renewal of the program and offer the Government of Nunavut's time and expertise for the development of a culturally relevant and affordable food program. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 106 – 3(2): Condolences on the Passing of Ashevak Ezekiel

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise here today to send my condolences to the family and friends of Ashevak Ezekiel, who recently passed away in Cape Dorset.

Ashevak Ezekiel was a respected elder who contributed a bunch of his time and efforts to the well-being of the community of Cape Dorset. He served on a number of boards and committees and he was always considerate of the interests of others in his community and in Nunavut. He also had many friends and relatives in Nunavik.

Ashevak was very involved with a variety of church activities and other community events. For many years, he played an important role in maintaining the Cape Dorset Airport.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending condolences to the Ezekiel family in the community of Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Komoartok.

Member's Statement 107 – 3(2): Pangnirtung Students to Participate in United Nations Climate Change Conference

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to inform the House of an exciting initiative being undertaken by a group of students from Pangnirtung.

As the House is aware, the 15th United Nations Climate Change Conference starts on December 7 in Copenhagen, Denmark. A group of students from Pangnirtung will be departing for Europe this Saturday in order to participate in this important event.

The students will be participating as part of the Portrait of Resilience Project. This photography project illustrates the ethical dimensions of cultural climate change discussions through words and photographs of high school students from four arctic communities in Alaska, Greenland, Norway, and Nunavut. The goal is to give these young people a voice in Copenhagen in 2009 and put a

useful human face on climate change in the Arctic.

Through this project, the students have written essays, learned to take photographs, and worked hard to show their communities to the outside world. Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will be tabling further information on this project.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that students from Pangnirtung will be participating in this international event. During their time in Copenhagen, they will also be sharing elements of the Inuit culture with the rest of the world through their participation in cultural performances.

The issue of climate change is complex and it is important that Nunavut be represented at this conference. I am pleased that young people will be at this event alongside their leaders and officials.

Mr. Speaker, the participating students are Julie Alivaktak, Janet Evik, Johnny Ishulutak, Jenna Kilabuk, Johnny Kilabuk, and the chaperone is Emily Karpik, who happens to be a young hamlet councillor responsible for youth in our community.

At this time, we would like to express our appreciation and thanks to the Department of Environment and the government for their strong support.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in extending our best wishes to our youth as they prepare to embark on their important journey. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 108 – 3(2):
Junior Canadian Rangers in the House**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very proud to rise today to acknowledge a fine group of Junior Canadian Rangers who will be our pages in the House today and tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, the Junior Canadian Rangers who are with us today are from my constituency of Quttiktuq. Valerie Amaruk and Menda Iqaluk are from the community of Resolute Bay. Celina Ipeelee and Michael Muckpa are from the community of Grise Fiord. I would also like to mention that from Grise Fiord, we have with us Ooleesee Akeeagok.

Mr. Speaker, Ooleesee is a crack shot and placed third overall in the regional air rifle competition. She will be travelling to Yellowknife to shoot in the national level competition in May of 2010. I wish her luck.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of opportunities for the Junior Canadian Rangers to travel and receive training outside of their communities. Last summer saw 94 Nunavut youth take part in an enhanced training session in Whitehorse, Yukon, that included activities, such as whitewater rafting, horseback riding, trapping, and logging.

Thanks to the generous invitation by Brigadier General Millar, Commander of Joint Task Force North, I was able to participate firsthand in Whitehorse in

some of the wonderful training these youth receive.

Mr. Speaker, the Junior Canadian Ranger Program is a structured program for boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18, from communities where there are Canadian Rangers. At the moment, there are over 110 Junior Canadian Ranger patrols with about 3,400 youth participants across Canada.

The Junior Canadian Rangers are taught ranger skills, such as first aid, using small boats, snowmobiles, ATVs, and firearms safety. They are also taught traditional skills and life skills in keeping with the cultural traditions and language of their community. The program supports healthy lifestyles, respect for others, and the respect for the environment.

When we think of our Canadian Rangers, we think of their skills on the land and their critical role in arctic sovereignty exercises. We often do not realize that many of them also share their skills as instructors for the Junior Canadian Ranger program. Although they are sponsored by the Canadian Forces and other organizations, the Junior Canadian Ranger Patrol can only exist with strong community support.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to request unanimous consent to continue with my Member's Statement. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Elliott is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

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

As I was saying before, this program requires strong community support and I know in both Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay, they have that. The Junior Canadian Rangers are recognizable by their uniform, which is a green sweatshirt and a ball cap emblazoned with the Junior Canadian Ranger crest.

In keeping with the decorum in the House, our pages are not wearing their ball caps. I would like to ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing this fine group of Junior Canadian Rangers.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation) Welcome to the Gallery. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Member's Statement 109 – 3(2):
Ikajurasuaqtiit Recognizes Elise Qulaut**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to say "thank you" and to acknowledge some people.

As the government and people of Nunavut, we strive for peaceful and harmonious communities. Even though there was colonialism in the past, we are starting to regain our strength. Elders are working closely together with the government to regain their cultural aspects, social lifestyles, and counselling especially.

In Igloolik, a committee was established a long time ago. In the last two weeks, we recognized an individual, Elise Qulaut, who is my aunt but is actually my birth mother.

Elise Qulaut recently received an award for her selfless dedication to provide family counselling as a volunteer over many years in her desire to assist her fellow residents. She was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the Ikajurasuaqtit Group.

Further, I am aware of other communities' successes, such as Clyde River, Taloyoak. Based on what has been voiced to me, one exists also in Rankin Inlet. These selfless, dedicated people provide this service out of the goodness of their hearts, to act on their love for their fellow Inuit and a wish to provide assistance so that other families are able to cope. As a government, we spout off about the fact that here in Nunavut, Inuit must repatriate control over their own lives.

These noble people work extremely hard in the background and are not very visible. However, today, in this House, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in a public thanks to these unselfish volunteers. We need to acknowledge these people who provide a service that is too often unseen.

We, too, as a government, have to join in acknowledging these valuable community resource people. I would like take that occasion to thank these family counsellors on behalf of my colleagues and to distinguish the valuable contribution they make even though it may not be very visible. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. We are very grateful for their contributions. Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

**Member's Statement 110 – 3(2):
Inadequate Space for Hamlet Staff
in Kugaaruk**

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just prior to my trip to the capital for this session, both the Hamlet of Repulse Bay and the Hamlet of Kugaaruk provided copies of their capital estimates. Although I will not be using these as a basis for my questions, I would like to refer to them as they are public planning documents.

With respect to the Hamlet of Kugaaruk, they informed me that one of their items includes a larger office facility. Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that the existing hamlet offices are too small for our growing community, since this facility was constructed back in the day when our population base was much smaller.

The hamlet complex, as it is called locally was built in the 1970s, close to the actual year of 1970. Just to provide a sample of the inadequacy of the current office space, some of the hamlet workers are working outside of the hamlet, in reclaimed houses which were previously written off and turned into their offices.

Due to this extreme lack of office availability, the hamlet is even utilizing the elders and youth centre, as it is called in English. The hamlet is using space in the facility to serve as their office space, and the elders and youth are no longer able to use the facility to its fullest.

It used to be only for elders and youth, but due to the lack of office space, the youth and elders have been displaced. Yes, when I was informed by the Minister of Community and Government Services about these capital estimates, I was very appreciative of the noted renovation budgets for our hamlet offices. It does not state whether this will include an expansion of these offices to provide more space.

So I would like to notify the government that the Hamlet of Kugaaruk would prefer to get a more spacious facility or perhaps even the use of a government office. I would like the capital estimate planners to include this provision to the capital estimates so that this addition can be included prior to April. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. (interpretation) I would like to apologize as I overlooked a member. Prior to moving on to Item 4, Mr. Okalik.

**Member's Statement 111 – 3(2):
Amarok HTO Letter to
Department of Environment on
Proposed Bridge**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is unfortunate as I thought you had noticed me when I had my hand up.

I would like to speak to an issue in our community that I have brought up on several occasions and one that is known to all members. The issue relates to the bridge across the river. I had a meeting last week with the local hunters and

trappers association over this issue and what position they wished me to take with regard to this bridge. They repeated their position.

I was tasked to represent the concerns of local residents and what options we may have so that we do get a bridge that meets the needs of all residents. As a result, I will continue to pursue this issue. We are a government that represents all people of Nunavut and tries to help one another.

At the appropriate time, I will be tabling a petition to the Department of Environment for all members to examine. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Louis Tapardjuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

**Return to Oral Question 153 – 3(2):
Funding for Travel to Dubai and
Support to the Kinngait Studio**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to Question 153 – 3(2), Mr. Schell asked if we provided funds for a group travelling to Dubai and the answer is no. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Linda Pemik, sitting over there against the wall. Linda is from Arviat and she is very dedicated senior employee of the Nunavut Arctic College and also a very involved citizen of the community of Arviat and has contributed greatly. Welcome to the Gallery.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to introduce to the House from Yellowknife, from the First Canadian Ranger Patrol, Warrant Officer Ed Patten. He is here helping to supervise with the pages. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 158 – 3(2): Energy Efficient Homes

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

He made a statement yesterday which was very interesting. I missed part of

what the government is going to be doing. In particular on homeownership, we often seem to be outdone in other jurisdictions. There is an office in Yellowknife that seek to improve housing units, for example on units that are too drafty.

They looked at how to design a building, or how they can install better insulation in houses. We don't have an energy conservation program here in Nunavut and I think that we should have that type of service available. Are we going to be setting one up here? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to energy efficiency, we are making plans and looking at options that could be made available by the government and Qulliq Energy Corporation. We are at the planning stages at this point. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This office in Yellowknife investigates homes that belong to homeowners on how drafty units can be fixed. I wanted to ask if the government is at the planning stage to do this kind of research for homeowners and that is what I'm trying to ask. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): I'm not exactly sure if there is such a program, but at this point I would like to take his question as notice to make sure that I will have the proper information to present to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The question is taken as notice. Oral Questions. (interpretation ends) Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 159 – 3(2): Status of the Nuiyak School Floor Replacement

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

As the minister is aware, in August of this year, his department advertised a tender for the Nuiyak School floor replacement. The tender closed on August 28. As of today, what is the status of this project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I thank the member for the question. The status so far is the tender has been contracted out. The materials for the work is on site and it will be done, because it's hard to do this kind of work while the school is on and the building is being utilized. That work will begin as soon as the school is out over the Christmas break. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his answer. In Sanikiluaq, our sealift arrives in early July, which is approximately two months before school starts. By the time the supplies are offloaded and work is completed on a project of this nature it could delay the beginning of school years. Can the minister indicate why the tender was not advertised earlier in the year to minimize any interruption to students and staff? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Mr. Speaker, no, I can't. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his short answer. For future tenders of this nature will the minister commit to ensuring that all the department's take each community's sealift schedule into consideration when considering projects at schools? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will.

There are many factors that get played into working on a project such as this and our department tries its utmost to ensure that materials can arrive on sealift

so it can be worked on as quickly as possible.

Unfortunately, it didn't happen at this time, but I assure the member that the work will be done and school should not be disrupted while the work is being done.

Yes, we will do our utmost to ensure that materials are in the community at the earlier convenience so that construction can be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 160 – 3(2): Funding for Inuit Broadcasting Corporation and Support for the Kinngait Studio

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

I would like to follow up on the issue of providing assistance and support for a new printmaking studio in Cape Dorset.

I recently noted that the Deputy Minister of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation was quoted in the news as saying that, “funds for the new media centre in Iqaluit for the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation are coming from the department’s strategic investment program.” As I recall, he said the department would be looking at providing \$250,000 this year and hopefully \$250,000 next year.

Given that the Government of Nunavut sees merit in providing funds to the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, would the

Department of Economic Development and Transportation 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 Economic Development and Transportation, Hon. Peter Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. We will look into every possible infrastructure program that you mentioned. Of course, Cape Dorset is one of the most productive arts and crafts communities on Baffin. You're right when you said that we funded to a certain amount for IBC, or the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, for a new building.

At this time, we would like to see an application coming from the community so that it can be assessed as to its feasibility and the department will take it from there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation's strategy for growth in Nunavut's arts and crafts sector states that many have noted the importance of the arts sector as a foundation for growth in the economy as a whole. Here's a pamphlet that Economic Development had put out about strategic growth in Nunavut's arts and crafts sector and I'll just quote you three little articles.

Number one, it says that Nunavut artists are a major contributor to Canada's

international art export market. More than 10 percent of Canadian art sold internationally is Inuit. It also states that their number one goal is increasing the quality of Nunavut art is create affordable, safe workplaces for artists. It also goes on to say that Cape Dorset is the art economy in Nunavut as an example and it has also been described as the most artistic community in Canada.

So as you can see, the list of seven goals for Nunavut's arts and crafts sector, the first one includes the creation of affordable, safe workplaces for artists. As I noted in my Member's Statement last Friday, the building that houses the Kinngait Printmaking Studio is half a century old. Concerns have been brought to my attention with respect to the condition of the building.

I trust that the government will see merit in providing support to a printmaking centre which has contributed to Nunavut's economy and I would like to ask if the minister is willing to commit to have his officials meet with the studio to discuss this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, thank you for that question. We do have the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association that works in arms length of the department. We put them in charge to look at all of the possibilities of improving our arts and crafts economic sector for the whole of Nunavut.

Again, we will be speaking with them to take a look at your concern. As the building is half a century old, there are safety concerns about the building and we will certainly look at that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As it was stated in that pamphlet, more than 10 percent of the Canadian art sold internationally is Inuit art, that Cape Dorset, where the arts economy in Nunavut may be said to have had its beginning, is often used as an example when described as the most artistic municipality in Canada.

The Kinngait Printmaking Studio has been one of the key players in the development of Cape Dorset's art community and the Inuit art economy. I would like to ask the minister if he will take these facts into consideration when considering the matter with his officials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The arts and crafts sector is a growing economy in our territory of Nunavut and one great thing about it is there is no retirement age for artists, they can carry on and do what they love doing. There are old folks out there, elders that still carve and contribute to the economy as old as 90 years old. So that's one of the great things in arts and crafts in Nunavut.

As the department, we had indicated that's one of our priorities to make sure

that arts and crafts is an economy that will be helped out. We have Nunavut Development Corporation and other partners, the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association. As I indicated, we will take a look at any kind of application that comes in from any community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to thank the minister for his comments and look forward to meeting with him on this situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 161 – 3(2): Update on the Nanisivik Naval Facility

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are directed towards the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

In August of 2007, the federal government announced that a deep water arctic docking and refuelling facility will be established at Nanisivik. The project has been deemed the Nanisivik Naval Facility. This is in Nanisivik. Last week, the federal government announced that it has awarded a \$900,000 design contract for the new facility.

As the minister knows, I have been a strong advocate of cooperation between the federal, territorial, and municipal governments with respect to ensuring that the residents of the community benefit from major infrastructure

developments in the High Arctic. Can the minister update the House on his department's initiatives in this area? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The contract was based on the federal government's requirements and the Nunavut Government didn't really have any participation at any level in awarding any type of contract to a southern based company. I believe that company was out of British Columbia.

No, our department was not involved in any kind of participation in awarding a contract or any other parts of the contract where participants may come in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. Would the minister commit to contacting the Department of National Defence to say that we are interested in communicating and speaking with them to try and make sure that there is a commitment and sort of some benefit coming into the communities? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the member is well aware, there are a lot of initiatives happening throughout the department there and at times, there is a capacity issue within my department.

Of course, depending on what is stated in the contract between the contractor and the federal government, I believe that's DND, and we will make every effort to see if there is any opportunities where our community can benefit on some of these infrastructure projects, although it's related to a federal initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The federal announcement indicated that, and I quote, "the construction portion of this project will benefit communities within the region by creating jobs and enhancing the safety and security of the region."

Article 24 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* also applies to the procurement activities of the federal government. Can the minister indicate what role his department plays in monitoring federal compliance with Article 24? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The contract that was awarded that you're speaking of, it's just on the feasibility for design and to actually engineer the location for the actual contract to construct the infrastructure there.

At this time, I can't comment on how the federal government procurement practices relate but I'm sure that if the Hamlet of Arctic Bay did write a letter to the department and possibly even to the federal government we may have a better chance of getting more benefits to

the community than just the department going out there on its own. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize this is the first stage in terms of the initiation of the engineering and probably with the engineering there will be some benefit from the community in terms of local contractors being used to go back and forth to Nanisivik and probably our facilities and accommodations.

I'm sure the minister agrees with me in terms of our economic development in the High Arctic. We need to make sure that we ensure that any type of activity, whether it's a territorial project or whether it's a federal project that our community's resources are being used.

We've been working very hard through the Nunavut Housing Trust to make sure that some of our apprentices are going to be qualified carpenters and plumbers and whatnot. So I would like to ensure that the Government of Canada or the company that is contracted actually uses those local people.

I just wanted to clarify; you had said if the Hamlet of Arctic Bay writes a letter to your department that would sort of initiate the first phase in trying to work towards contacting the Department of National Defence. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is correct. I'm sure other organizations are going to be involved in the project and various departments throughout the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Question 162 – 3(2): Nomination of the Back River as a Canadian Heritage River

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

As I have stated before in the House, Back River holds special meaning for my constituents in Baker Lake. The minister may recall that during the June sitting of the Legislative Assembly I provided some information on this issue and suggested that his departmental representative, who sits on the Canadian Heritage River Systems board of directors, nominate the Back River as a Heritage River.

I was pleased that the minister was receptive to my suggestion to put forward the nomination to the board. Can the minister provide an update on the status of this nomination? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much for the question, Moses. As mentioned in June, we certainly are interested in

working with the communities of Gjoa Haven and Baker Lake towards the Back River being considered as a Canadian Heritage River.

There is a two-step process that must be followed that includes the department background and nomination process. Documents followed by the management plan and all of these documents would have to be prepared, supported, and submitted to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board for their review and approval.

As you can appreciate, this will take several years to complete. However, steps have been taken and it is our intention to commence this work during 2010 once the umbrella Inuit Impacts and Benefits Agreements for a Canadian Heritage Rivers are currently being negotiated with NTI and the regional Inuit Associations is concluded. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just have one more question for the Hon. Minister. Will the minister commit to keeping me and the community fully informed on the status of this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will definitely make that commitment and I think we should have an ongoing communication between the community of Baker Lake and my department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Oral Questions. Member for Nattilik, Mr. Pauloosie.

Question 163 – 3(2): Taloyoak Hamlet Office

Mr. Pauloosie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is going to be directed to the Minister of CGS.

The federal government announced that they were going to be building a new hamlet office in Taloyoak. I met with the hamlet council in Taloyoak and they had a concern about the deadline being 2011. They thought that it wasn't going to be up and ready by the deadline of 2011, I can't remember what month it was. Perhaps the minister could help me find out if that could be at a later date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From my understanding, for the extension of the deadline, I can't confirm if we could actually extend it at this time, but it should be on schedule. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 164 – 3(2): Future of Repulse Bay Runway

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Hon. Minister Taptuna, the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

In my statement, I stated that I have received a list for the capital plan for Repulse Bay and Kugaruk. One such request from Repulse Bay is for the future consideration of relocating the runway in Repulse Bay.

For one thing, the community is growing, it's expanding. At one end of the runway, there are some buildings and dwellings, and it is deemed dangerous by the people of Repulse Bay, especially on the approaches or takeoffs.

Has the hon. minister been made aware of the future consideration for the relocation of the runway? 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. Thank you for that question. No, I'm not aware of the situation in Repulse Bay. The fact of the matter is we try and prioritize our airport infrastructure in Nunavut. At this time, I have no information on Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The first supplementary, I am not surprised that the minister is not made aware; this is not a top priority but it is indeed a concern of the community.

Will the minister instruct his capable staff to communicate with the Hamlet of Repulse Bay and find out what is the real plan? Is it down the list of capital items

or is it quite important for the time being? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. member for that question. I believe, within the department, we do have assessments on the airstrips in Nunavut and if there's a recent one, I will make sure that the hon. member receives it. If there is an ongoing one, depending on the time of the year, I'll make sure that the hon. member is informed and updated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. I thank the hon. minister for the response. Will the minister, again I say, get his officials to communicate with the Hamlet of Repulse Bay and find out how important this is for the community for the time being? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will direct my officials to contact your community of Repulse Bay, the community that you represent, to actually see what the opinion of the community is. We know that every community says that, but through further assessment, we will have a full response to the question and an update. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Questions. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan.

Question 165 – 3(2): Funding Criteria for Renovations to Recreational Facilities under CLEY

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A short time back, the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth made a statement that their preference is not to construct new facilities when communities request a swimming pool within their capital estimates. I believe he stated that in the current program, if there is an existing unused facility in the community, that there were renovation funds available for communities to apply towards.

I would now like to ask the minister, Mr. Speaker, with regards to that program: are the funds only for renovation projects or can the community utilize these funds for the equipment needed to complete the swimming pool? Can the communities apply separately for these items? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the funds that can be applied for under this program, which is called the Recreational Facility Improvement Program in English.

This can be used for the equipment for the swimming pool, or anything related to capital projects. We have funds equalling \$500,000 for the whole of

Nunavut, which were approved by the House last year, which we would like to include again for next year's capital estimates in the spring.

With respect to the items the member alluded to, the funds are inadequate to construct a new facility for a swimming pool, but if there is an existing facility that the community wishes to convert to a pool, all of the construction cost, the equipment cost and costs to convert the building can be applied towards the CLEY funds, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Nunavummiut, we ought to be on par with our southern counterparts levels of recreational facilities that are available. Nunavut ought to have the same percentage of different facilities.

Perhaps in the future, your department can lobby the federal government for funds that can be utilized for facilities so that Nunavut residents can also have a better future and not just use second-hand facilities for conversion into swimming pools.

This is not very good aesthetically, to see second-hand facilities converted into swimming pools in Nunavut. Perhaps the request for a fund for brand new facilities for community swimming pools in Nunavut can be relayed to the federal government as part of your discussions with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we continue to relay this information regarding the lack of recreational facilities in our communities. Ever since Canada celebrated their 100 anniversary in 1967, the federal government started building recreational facilities as part of their centennial celebrations.

That is when recreational facilities were first built, both here in Nunavut and in other parts of Canada. We continue to lobby our federal government and keep voicing the fact that the recreational infrastructure in our communities are deteriorating rapidly and this issue is being studied, and continues to be part of their review.

However, I wish to inform the member that the federal government is fully aware of our situation and further, with respect to these types of facilities, the federal government is starting to move towards the resolution of these issues and they are keeping us abreast of any developments.

We will continue to monitor the situation, and to lobby the federal government continuously, that with respect to these facilities, they will have to earmark funds specifically for these types of recreational facilities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary. Mr. Ningeongan. Are you finished? Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Question 166 – 3(2): Energy Efficient Homes

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I did not complete my line of questioning in my earlier questions, I would like to direct this question to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

I believe this applies to only certain items, such as the research going on outside of Nunavut, where the researchers conduct experiments on energy efficiency and also assist in pilot projects. As an example, alternative energy options, such as solar power, or wind power to lessen the power demands of local communities.

I would like to ask if the government has looked into this alternative type of energy, or if they have considered working with their Cabinet colleagues to look at options that can assist local homeowners to be able to utilize these technologies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Minister of Energy, Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Yes, Nunavut's energy consumption is very expensive for homeowners and I believe that homeowners pay the highest price for heating fuel in Canada.

With respect to the availability and effectiveness of these technologies, we are indeed looking at solar or wind power generation as it would really assist homeowners. We are currently looking into this avenue to see how we can best use alternative energy

generation either by using solar or wind power.

We would like to see these technologies become available to lessen the cost of power that our homeowners are currently paying. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to this issue, when would your department be able to table a document in the House outlining your findings regarding these types of alternative solutions?

I know for a fact that the minister alone will not be able to resolve this, but in conjunction with his cabinet colleagues, they can best look at ways to lessen the financial impacts on homeowners. They would require lead time to prepare for this type of assistance if it becomes available since they are always looking for ways to lessen all of their costs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you. I would also like to thank the member for asking that question about those technologies.

With regard to energy conservation and its related issues, as I stated earlier, our department is required to work with the Department of Economic Development, including the Qulliq Energy Corporation or other organizations that are involved in development programs.

What I can tell the member is that we will be preparing a report in the next few months to outline the matters related to energy consumption. It would be very beneficial to introduce more programs to assist homeowners and to provide options with respect to energy alternatives. Homeowners should not have to conduct their own research as to how this technology can assist Nunavummiut with help. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 167 – 3(2): Snow Fences for Repulse Bay

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of CGS.

In Repulse Bay, they requested snow clearance equipment because during winter, Repulse Bay gets a lot of snow buildup, and in particular in that area where the new units are being constructed. That area, in particular, can become inundated with snow to the point where the power lines even hit these snowdrifts and that was relayed to me by a resident of Repulse Bay.

And further, the area near the northern store, perhaps in the lee of the outcrop, tends to become filled up with blown snow to the point where it blocks the road. In cases of emergency, these types of barriers can cause essential services, such as water delivery services, sewage pump out services or garbage pickup services to lag behind the needs of the residents.

Using this as the basis for accommodating the hamlet's challenges, snow fencing was requested by the hamlet to alleviate the snow buildup in those areas. I would like to ask the Minister of CGS, however I am not sure exactly to whom I should direct this, perhaps as per my question to the Hon. Peter Taptuna, he can task his officials to look into this issue and report on whether this request for a snow fence has been included.

In addition, I would like to find out if their request for the fencing material will be accommodated? This is a two part question. Thank you.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): I thank the Member for Repulse Bay for asking that question since it is well thought out question.

Just to make this point, when you arrive into a community during the summer season, especially if you are new to the north, you would see all of these fences standing on the hills and for non-residents, I imagine it is quite the sight to see all of this fencing.

I am sure that many visitors wonder what purpose these fences serve in the communities as their only purpose is to serve as snow retainers to lessen the buildup of snow in the community. These fences are worthwhile as they accumulate a lot of snow and assist the communities in dealing with snow buildup.

With respect to his question, we will look into this matter. As a matter of fact, during a summer tour, I spoke to the Mayor of Repulse Bay during the summer and he relayed these concerns to me and I thank the member for triggering my memory of these concerns.

I will ensure that my officials look into this and to consult with meet the Repulse Bay mayor and council, including the residents to canvass them as to the best site for the placement of the fencing.

The residents of Repulse Bay are intimately aware of their local environment and are best able to pick the best location and we commit to collaborating with the community to identify the best site and perhaps at the same time, we can also elaborate on the length of the fencing and the best location for it.

Once we have undertaken the study for the fencing, then we will have to look at the cost estimates of the option chosen for this project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 168 – 3(2): Effects of Bill C-25 on Nunavut

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

Earlier this fall, Bill C-25 was passed by the federal government. I was wondering if he could update us on the passing of the bill. Has it had a positive or a

negative effect on the Government of Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, Bill C-25 only came into effect on October 22, 2009, so it's really too early to tell if there has been a positive or negative effect on the prison population. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Elliott, if you can elaborate on what you refer to as Bill C-25 so that it will be identified on the record. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Bill C-25 was a bill that spoke to inmates. I guess I don't have to call them inmates but people who are in remand, whether they were giving one for one or three for one in terms of when they serve their time inside of cells once they have been either, I don't know if I want to say charged with an offence.

I guess I will save my other questions for the spring sitting when there has been time to sort of look back and see. I wouldn't want the minister to speculate on what's going to happen with that. Thank you, Minister.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Elliott, are you saying that you don't have supplementary questions? Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 169 – 3(2): Midwives in Nunavut

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

On Tuesday, December 1, in his Member's Statement, the Hon. Daniel Shewchuk, the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College, talked about the success of the Midwifery Program. I just wanted to know if the minister could give us an update as to how many qualified midwives are hired in the territory. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that after the last assembly passed a very important legislation with respect to midwifery legislation that enables Government of Nunavut to train as well as to license people who are interested in this profession. Today I think there have been a number of graduates.

Recently I announced there were two, my colleague announced there were two from Rankin Inlet and Kitikmeot was one of the regions that was the first to have gone through training and our plans are from the Kivalliq side, we will be focusing on Arviat for next year. That I believe is a step.

It's been only about one year since the legislation was passed but I believe that the strategy that was developed by the people in charge of Maternity Newborn Health Care Strategy group in Rankin Inlet are doing quite well in promoting

this program and I think we will continue to see the expansion of this throughout Nunavut.

I know that there are some groups here even in Iqaluit who are interested in utilizing the facilities here to enable the women who are interested in being trained to do so, but at this moment we don't have actual, whether or not the success rate is high or not, but we are pleased with the progress to date. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize to the minister because I tried as best as I could to understand his answer and I didn't quite understand. So there are two qualified midwives that are acting in health centres across the territory at this time. Is that what he said? I just wanted to confirm. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just confirming what my colleague announced the other day.

There were at least two that graduated recently, but I could tell the member though that the current status is that the information that we have with respect to Nunavut Arctic College has graduated ten maternity care workers, three of whom went on to train as midwives, with two recently successfully completing the national exam. So within one year of the passing of the legislation, I think this is pretty good. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I know it's nice to have, like you said, the ten trained, three who are qualified. If I'm listening closely, you're saying that none, zero, are actively working in a health centre helping with the birthing of babies. Is that correct? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That assumption would probably be true because babies are not born every hour and so on.

My information is that they are employed in communities and are available. If the member wants more information of clarity to what exactly is going on with respect to those that are licensed and for those people working in the Midwifery Program, I will be able to get that update for him. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that quasi-answer. Yes, if the minister could commit to providing information on the number that are working in health centres, which health centres they're actually working in, and as the program continues to unfold in terms...

My understanding of why the program, like I said, is very successful is just to the fact that you have people leaving their community to have a baby outside of the community and it would be nice to

have that ability to stay in the community so you can be with your spouse, your partner, or whoever. And I know in talking to a lot of people at the boarding home, that they would like to be home and the extended time away from home is not very enjoyable.

My thought behind why this was going to happen was so we could have it happening in the communities and also at the same time maybe save some dollars in terms of travel costs as well. So if the minister could commit to presenting that in the House in a written response. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will commit to that. I think that information is important not only to the member but to all the members of the House. I just want to be clear that people that are involved in that service, the midwives, are those who care for the wellbeing of the children are working in public health facilities. It may not actually be at a health centre.

In places like Rankin Inlet, there was another building that houses all the public health workers. So I think the two locations that are actively engaged are Rankin Inlet and Kitikmeot, at Cambridge Bay, and have successfully trained midwives, and so on, but I will be able to provide more information to the member about the others. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Oral Questions. If there are no more, Item 7. Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 8. Returns to Written Questions.

Item 9. Replies to Opening Address.
Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): What is it?

Speaker: One moment, please. We're on Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

**Committee Report on Bills 002 – 3(2):
Bill 3, Western Canada Lottery Act**

**Committee Report on Bills 003 – 3(2):
Bill 18, Language Statutes Amendment Act**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize. Mr. Speaker, I wish to report that Bill 3, *Western Canada Lottery Act*, has been reviewed by the standing committee and that the bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

I have another bill. Mr. Speaker, I wish to also report that Bill 18, *Language Statutes Amendment Act*, has been reviewed by the standing committee and that the bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Bill 3 and Bill 18 are ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole at the December 7 sitting.

Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 13.

Tabling of Documents. (interpretation) One moment, please. (interpretation ends) Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

**Tabled Document 077 – 3(2):
Correspondence with Minister of DIAND on Food Mail Program**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a copy of a letter that I wrote to the federal Minister of Indian and Northern Development regarding the Food Mail Program.

The high cost of living and especially the cost of healthy, nutritious food is a concern for Canada's more remote northern communities. Mr. Speaker, I hope that this letter will help to support the lobbying that our government will be doing on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 078 – 3(2): Amarok HTO Letter to Minister Shewchuk

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This letter is from the Amarok Hunters and Trappers Association to the Minister for the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

(interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Mr. Elliott.

**Tabled Document 079 – 3(2):
Correspondence Relating to the
Federal Food Mail Program**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After the Premier's comments today, the tabling of this package is very timely as well as with Mr. Rumbolt's.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a package of correspondence relating to the federal Food Mail Program. A number of my colleagues have raised the issue in this House and I'm hoping that one or some of our ministers will pursue this issue when they next communicate with their federal counterparts.

Mr. Speaker, this package includes letters to and from our hard-working Nunavut MP and federal Minister of Health, the Hon. Leona Aglukkaq as well as others. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Komoartok.

**Tabled Document 080 – 3(2): Portraits
of Resilience: A Photo Project of
Many Strong Voices**

Mr. Komoartok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table a package of information on the Portrait of Resilience Project that I discussed in my Member's Statement earlier today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabling of Documents. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Tabled Document 081 – 3(2):
Attachments to Standing
Committee Reports**

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I presented the Report of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on the Review of the Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut.

Today, I wish to table documents which are appended to the earlier report that I tabled. These attachments include various documents, some of which are news media stories related to the report, news clippings, and items of interest, and so on.

The reason why I am tabling these attachments today is because these items are already available in the public domain. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Tabled Document 082 – 3(2):
Summary of Regional Round
Tables**

**Tabled Document 083 – 3(2): FPT
Ministerial Report for the Council
of Ministers; Canada Meeting and
Summit on Aboriginal Education**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two statements to table. First is in regard to the regional round tables or the summer of regional round tables in 2009 a series

or regional round tables were held in the fall of 2009 and through these important forums, Mr. Speaker, received information about the new territorial legislation and reflected in its implementation in various sectors.

Again, the FPT Ministerial Report for the Council of Ministers; Canada Meeting and Summit on Aboriginal Education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Minister Taptuna.

Tabled Document 084 – 3(2): 2008-2009 Annual Report for the Nunavut Development Corporation

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2008-09 Annual Report of the Nunavut Development Corporation.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Tabling of Documents. Minister Shewchuk.

Tabled Document 085 – 3(2): Towards a Representative Public Service Statistics as of September 30, 2009

Tabled Document 086 – 3(2): Towards a Representative Public Service Statistics as of June 30, 2009

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table two documents. The first one is a report towards a representative public service statistics as of June 30, 2009, and the second one is a report towards a representative public service statistics as of September 30, 2009. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

(interpretation) Tabling of Documents. Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Aariak.

Tabled Document 087 – 3(2): GN's Response to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs' Food Mail Review

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Government of Nunavut's response to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs' food mail review September 2009. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Tabling of Documents. Minister Curley.

Tabled Document 088 – 3(2): 2008 Annual Report for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2008 Annual Report of the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission. Thank you.

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

(interpretation ends) I, too, have a couple of documents to table.

Tabled Document 089 – 3(2): 2008-2009 Annual Report on the Payment of Indemnities, Allowances and Expenses to Members of the Second Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Tabled Document 090 – 3(2): 2008-2009 Annual Report on the Payment of Indemnities, Allowances and Expenses to Members of the Third Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Thank you, Members. As required by section 36 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, I wish to table the 2008-09 Annual Report on the Payments of indemnities, allowances and expenses to Members of the Second Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

The second document, as required by section 36 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, I wish to table the 2008-09 Annual Report of Payments of indemnities, allowances and expenses to the Members of the Third Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 6, Bill 7, Bill 8, Bill 9, Bill 10, and Bill 11 with Mr. Ningeongan in the Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:16 and Committee resumed at 15:58*

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

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan): I would like to call the committee meeting to order. Yesterday we had opening comments from Minister Taptuna and the Chair of the Standing Committee on Community and Environment. I would like to ask Minister Taptuna; do you have witnesses you would like to bring to the table?

Just for clarification, we are continuing on with Bills 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue with the review of Bill 8 and the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, followed by the Department of Environment, Nunavut Arctic College, and if time permits, Mr. Chairman, the Department of Health and Social Services and the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Are we in agreement to continue with the capital estimates for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2010-2011 – Economic
Development and Transportation
– Consideration in Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister Taptuna, again, do you have witnesses to bring to the table?

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

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials in.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my immediate right is Deputy Minister Bob Long and on my left is Assistant Deputy Minister Methuselah Kunuk for Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I would like to remind the members to have your questions precise and to the point as much as you can to give others a chance to have their input.

We will immediately go to the page-by-page review on Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Economic Development. Total Capital Expenditures. \$700,000. Page I-3 and the details are on page I-4. Are there any questions on I-3 and I-4? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I'm lost because I brought my substantiation sheet from another

department, but my actual budget binder is not here. So can you guide me? I want to ask some questions on small craft harbours. Am I on the right page, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. I believe you are, so you can proceed with your questions.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a copy now. Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

In June of this year, you were asked a question in the Legislative Assembly concerning the status of federal support for the construction of new small craft harbours in Nunavut. At that time, you indicated, "We're expecting an answer from the DFO minister shortly, hopefully within the month, to get a clearer picture on which communities are going to be funded."

As of today, what is the status of this issue and are you working with Nunavut's MP and the new Senator to obtain federal support? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Arvaluk, I have just been advised that we're not there yet, my error again. The issue you are alluding to is on page I-6. I'll advise. Are there any questions on I-3? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome Hon. Minister Taptuna and your officials.

In the Keewatin, and using Baker Lake as an example, we have been requesting some funds through your department and I've heard that it's very hard. For example, for arts and crafts projects, but

we have been able to access some funds through the Kivalliq partners who had a contract to make it easier to obtain some funds.

My question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation is if it's possible to take that contract back because it's very hard to fill out applications to try and access funds for arts and crafts projects. Is the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to return that contract back to the partner corporation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have to look into that and get back to him because that is an O&M issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I have no other names on my list. I-3. (interpretation ends) Economic Development. Total Capital Expenditures. \$700,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turning to page I-5. (interpretation ends) Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Capital Expenditures. \$4,850,000. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am finally where I'm supposed to be at. As I first asked on June 8, there was a question in the House about the federal government's assistance for Nunavut small craft harbours.

At that time, you indicated that you were expecting an answer from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' Minister shortly and stated that you will hopefully, within the month, to get a clearer picture. That was on June 8 of this year. You stated that you would get a clearer picture of which communities were going to be funded for small craft harbours.

As of today and since it's the beginning of December, what is the status of this issue and are you working with Nunavut's Member of Parliament and the new senator to obtain federal support? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try and answer that question. I know it has been pretty frustrating since the program was initiated in 2005. I will try and answer that question.

As a department, since then, we have undertaken some initiatives to move the program forward with federal officials. Why we have done that is that we want to advance some of these designs.

We have already undertaken some fish habitat studies in some of these communities. We have offered our present funding to advance the detailed designs of some of these sites in Qikiqtaaluk. This includes Pond Inlet, Clyde River, Qikiqtarjuaq, and of course, Pangnirtung is already ongoing.

We've done some preliminary design work in Arviat and Cape Dorset. While we're doing this we're waiting on capital

funding from DFO Real Property to actually carry out the construction of these sites.

The reason why we're doing this is we're trying to move the projects forward a little faster than in the past, and that's one of the initiatives we've taken on. We going to take further studies in design although the initial parts of the studies are already undertaken, but we're advancing Arviat and Cape Dorset to move them along. We've also put in floating docks in some of these smaller communities like Resolute Bay, Hall Beach, Sanikiluaq, Grise Fiord, Taloyoak, and Whale Cove.

I hope that kind of clears up and answers the member's questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has the minister then identified since Pangnirtung is under construction already, has he identified which community... he mentioned three at first and then added Sanikiluaq, and some other communities.

Has he identified already which community should be next if the funding is received from the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. We're trying to advance some of the Qikiqtaaluk sites like Pond Inlet, Clyde River, and Qikiqtarjuaq. And

while we're in that process, we're still lobbying the federal government, of course, through our Nunavut MP and our Senator. And we will continue to lobby.

The \$500,000 that is in there as a line item, we will be using that to continue our lobbying efforts to get actual construction money. But first of all, the member indicated that I had mentioned Sanikiluaq, Grise Fiord, and Taloyoak. That's an O&M program that has been happening over the summer and that's for floating docks.

Of course, we're going to be continuing to lobby the federal government as I said in my ministerial statement. It seems like Ottawa has forgotten about Nunavut on basic infrastructure like docks. Again, I've got to mention that on our own initiative, we are trying to move these projects forward for the three communities that I identified; Pond Inlet, Clyde River, and Qikiqtarjuaq, on the design work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: For you department, for 2009-2010, capital estimates include \$500,000 in funding for Nunavut's contribution to the construction of small craft harbours. Has any of this funding, the \$500,000, actually been spent? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have spent some of that \$500,000 trying to advance some of the small craft harbours. What we are planning to do is use this \$500,000 we have in the capital plan is to spend some of that in Pond Inlet's harbour, designing it and trying to get more detailed designs so we can get more actual costing. That's what we are planning to do in the next summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has the minister, I know that they have been speaking and trying to discuss with federal counterparts. Has he also been talking to companies nearby, for example Baffinland, to contribute to the design and funding of the initial work, or part of it, or 50 percent of it with that company? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. These discussions are very early with industry. A good example is Baffinland and the Peregrine project here that we have close by Iqaluit. The discussions are very early, at the very earliest stage and yes, we plan to have more dialogue and open discussions on how they could contribute to any kind of infrastructure like that.

As the member is aware, once a company starts production this

government has what we call a development partnership agreement and there is opportunities there to discuss these issues such as P3, partnering P3 to build up infrastructure for some of these communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I encourage him to do that but that would have been good if the negotiations with the Baffinland, federal government and NTI or QIA included in their impact benefit agreement some of those infrastructures that would, we admire northern Quebec's participation in the benefit agreements of this reward or rebate for the mining companies operating in this area. We would have loved to see them in the IIBA for North Baffin.

There are several communities I know, Clyde River, Artic Bay, Pond Inlet, Igloolik, and Hall Beach are very close by and they are all going to be effected one way or the other, but the Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement does not include other than employment opportunities and training, there are no tangible benefits outlined in there, so I would have liked to see that.

My next question, Mr. Chairman, is the amount that your department is requesting for 2010-11, for another \$500,000, and subsequent fiscal years. What will this funding be spent on if the federal government does not provide support for the construction of new small craft harbours? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I probably should comment on the IIBA, that the Nunavut government is not a party to that, it's done under the land claims agreement.

At times, the smaller communities are not very well informed on the contents of the IIBA and this government is not part of that. We're looking into how the industry can actually help us out here in partnership with the federal government and the territorial government. There are other organizations that may be interested, such as the birthright corporations.

We're optimistic when we're talking specifically about that line item, that we're going to be using that to do some actual work so that we can move our projects forward where they become more acceptable to the federal government. We're thinking that if we do have actual estimates, numbers, and designs that the federal government would be more open to actually putting in money for the construction of this infrastructure.

As the member is well aware, the construction cost is a huge amount. A small example is one maybe in Cape Dorset where a breakwater is over \$8 million and that came from a 1988 study. So it's hardly realistic when we talk about \$8 million from 1988. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you. This is my last question, Mr. Chairman. It has to do with educating the federal government and maybe some other players the importance of respecting the rest of the Canadian citizens, mainly the Nunavummiut because the Constitution does not allow any government body to have an omission in their services.

I think that building anything south of 60 is fine, but if you start omitting to include anything north of 60, that might be considered as something that's not regular in the Canadian Constitution.

My question should be: will your government lobby the federal government in a more intense way in convincing them that we live up here, we have a population here, and we even have a territory and a functioning government that deserve equal treatment when it comes to infrastructure projects that the federal government builds for anything south of 60? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I agree with the member. We have been lobbying hard using our MP and we have done a great job in educating some of the parliamentarians down in Ottawa.

When we talk about the North, we talk about arctic sovereignty and we bring that to the forefront, indicating that there are people up here who live in the North and arctic sovereignty is an issue everyday, it's in the news everyday and we bring to the forefront. Yes, our government has the fiduciary duty to its

citizens and you're absolutely right in that.

We'll continue to lobby anyway we can, whether we change strategy or not that's determined to be seen but I believe that we do have a good hard working MP in Ottawa that's doing a lot of work for Nunavut actually educating the parliamentarians down in Ottawa and southern people. Having said that, we will continue with our own initiatives to move these infrastructure projects a little bit faster. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to ask some questions about I-6 if that's alright, the Arctic Bay Airport Redevelopment. In your opening comments, you said in 2010-11 the completion of the construction of the new Arctic Bay airport would be completed.

In 2009-2010 capital plan, there was \$83,000 for the maintenance for the road going to Nanisivik and on the substantiation forms it was I think estimated maybe \$100,000 a year to maintain the road. I'm just wondering if the airports not going to be open until 2010-11, why is there not any money to maintain the road this year? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want my assistant deputy minister to answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That \$100,000 or \$83,000 you mentioned were in the capital plan was for the major repairs during the summer on the road. When doing the actual maintenance and snow removal onto other O&M. We are still going to continue that. We don't need to do major repairs on the road after the new airport is completed, that's why it's not in the capital plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer, I guess it explains where the money is coming from for maintaining the road. I guess the questions I have relate to some of the oral questions I was asking earlier in terms of the Nanisivik naval facility will be constructed in Nanisivik and they will be using the Arctic Bay airport to bring supplies back and forth.

As far as we know and from what you have said in other comments, the Nanisivik airport will be closed down and not in use so I'm just wondering how in terms of my questions earlier about making sure that the local community receives benefits from it, how will they get back and forth from Nanisivik to Arctic Bay? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, for sure there's going to be construction happening there for the docking facilities which the military's

going to be using as a refuelling station. The department has indicated that the airport is going to be closed and to maintain that route from that location to Nanisivik is at a very high cost, that's why this department had determined that it was going to be shut down.

If the military wants that road open, they can do that with the community's permission I believe. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So what the minister is saying is that they're going with their initial. I had received a letter from your office saying that once the Nanisivik Airport was closed and the Arctic Bay Airport was opened, that road would become an access road, so then that road would have to be maintained by the Hamlet of Arctic Bay, is that correct? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So then I guess with that being said you're actually saying that the hamlet or would it be the responsibility of the Government of Nunavut to go talk to the Department of National Defence and let them know that that road is going, someone will need to go from Nanisivik back and forth if we're going to have

Arctic Bay residents employed to work over in Nanisivik or during the construction phase of the Nanisivik Naval Facility transporting people back and forth from Arctic Bay to Nanisivik, there has to be some mode of transportation.

As well, when they're there for the summer months, when the ice is open between I believe they said it would be April until October they would need to get back and forth from Nanisivik to Arctic Bay for food and different supplies, and those benefits would be going to the community of Arctic Bay. You're saying it's up to DND and the hamlet to maintain that road from the day that the Nanisivik Airport is close until the Arctic Bay Airport is opened? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try and answer that question. At this time there is really no indication from the military on their plans with that road, but we made it clear as a department that we're not going to fund that road on operations and maintenance of it. It is just a huge cost and as you can see in our budget that there really is not enough resources to keep every single road open in Nunavut.

Now I indicated in a previous letter that yes, that road was going to be closed once the new Arctic Bay Airport is opened, and at this time we have got no indication from the military on what they actually plan on doing with the site whether they need the road, maybe, we

don't know that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So then just for clarification, I guess again as a new MLA I don't want to step on anybody's toes.

Is it the hamlet, my responsibility, or is it the Government of Nunavut's responsibility to go talk to the federal government, DND, to explain the situation. I don't want to be seen as taking on someone else's responsibility or getting in trouble for not consulting someone. So if you could let me know if you want me to tell the Hamlet of Arctic Bay to go talk to DND. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I will try and answer that question. I believe he has read the letter that I had put forth previously and we had indicated that we're not going to maintain the road; it's going to become an access road.

If the military wants to make use of that road, of course, they will have to either talk to the department, but it would be better possibly talking to the Hamlet of Arctic Bay, it's within Nunavut land there and I'm pretty sure the community would have more say of a piece of land that's right outside their community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for those answers. In terms of the \$600,000 that is being spent this year, you had said in your opening comments that it was for the installation of navigational aids and relocating the CARS station from Nanisivik.

Usually, when there are different capital projects, the year after a project is finished, in the following year, there is money allocated for warranty and whatnot. Is the warranty already taken care of? I noticed that in 2011-15, there's no more money allocated. Is the warranty actually covered under that? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have to get back to the member on that because part of the project is with NAV Canada and I can't comment on that issue right now because we really don't have accurate information at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So the minister is saying that in the 2011-12 capital budget, we could possibly more money going to the Arctic Bay Airport Redevelopment? Is that correct? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Not at this time, no. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of opening the airport itself, we're talking about maintenance of the road. Right now, there are workers that work up in Nanisivik. I guess this is more O&M, sorry.

But if the airport is actually going to be finished on time, we need to clear the roads. Have there been negotiations going on with the Hamlet of Arctic Bay in terms of what's going to be happening, in terms of opening it on time? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation ends) Mr. Elliott, I would like to remind you that the airport redevelopment is the topic for now. Minister Taptuna, do you want to respond to Mr. Elliott.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What the member is asking is about the O&M contracts which may be negotiated with hamlets or other various companies. I would rather discuss the capital plan than the O&M. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's fine. I'll save my questions for March.

Right now, in Nanisivik, there is a structure where they park the graders and some of the equipment. Yet, when you go to where the new airport is in Arctic Bay, they don't have any structures there for parking any of the

vehicles. Where will they be parking the vehicles? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) You're absolutely right; we don't have a garage in Arctic Bay right now. That's something that we're going to have to look at too because we're going to have to house the equipment that's going to be used to maintain the airport in Arctic Bay.

As you may know, we have shelter problems not only in Arctic Bay right now. There are 12 others that we have to look at, but we will look into that, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'm a little leery because if you're saying you're going to look into it and there are other communities that don't have as well that probably means we'll be waiting until 2015.

So you're saying that none of this \$24,887,000 plus the \$600,000 that's being put in this year, there was no thought put into a building to house equipment? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As my ADM indicated, there are a lot of priorities and some of these issues are going to be ongoing as the member is well aware. There is a lot of infrastructure needed in Nunavut, not just in Arctic Bay. It's practically all over in Nunavut.

We try and prioritize on what the communities want and need. As the member is well aware it's going to be a really tough situation. We do have a lot of communities that need garages, airports, and docks. And as every member is aware, we've been trying to work on that but with the amount of resources we're allocated from the federal government it's going to be a tough situation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question I wanted to ask was; when they did the planning and design, the initiation and all of the different steps that they're following through to build an airport, you're saying that when they do that, a place to house equipment is not prioritized, so it's not in the planning?

I'm just wondering; why was it not included in the planning? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We take it into consideration but because of our limited capital we haven't been able to do anything that we wanted to do. For example, parking garages that cost to build a parking garage that number we are getting from the Community and Government Services is about \$3. We only get \$3 to \$4 million for parking garage.

We are trying to find a cheaper way to house the equipment right now. We are trying to work through the BCF to try to get a few of those built for under that amount. Hopefully we can also look at including Arctic Bay in those. We are planning, I think, three shelters under that program if it's approved and we're going to be looking at other ones too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kunuk. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to be seen as asking for more than our fair share. I just find it frustrating that we are lucky enough to get a brand new airport in Arctic Bay. We're going to be lucky enough to have infrastructure for the Nanisivik naval facility but we're not going to be able to benefit from it because there is no road going over there any more.

I guess it is the longest and only highway in Nunavut and now it's being closed down. At the same time it's

infrastructure that is there and we're talking about Canadian arctic sovereignty, the Canadian Northwest Passage, we're talking about global warming and the opening of the passage and now we're getting infrastructure taken away and taken away.

My point is I think maybe there might have been poor planning in terms of when you're building an airport, I would have thought I wouldn't have to go back after the airport was built and wonder where the facility was to house equipment, I thought that would've been included in the initial ones.

I'm sorry if it looks like I'm asking for more, I'm just asking why it wasn't in the initial plan. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try and answer that question as the member realizes that there are other communities out there too and other people. What we had planned may not seem right when you don't have the resources and plans; it seems like it's wrong.

With very little resources we're limited to what we can do and for some of this infrastructure, that's already there such as the road; this department does not have the resources to keep it open. As I indicated before if the military wants to keep it open, they can either contact our department or the community itself.

Then again, with having very limited resources, sure it'll be great if we could house every piece of equipment that's up in Nunavut but again, I have to say again

with limited resources it's... we just try and do what the priority of the communities are, especially when they're related to safety. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott, you have 26 seconds.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was going to let other members ask questions at this time.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Okalik. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I compose a question to the minister in the witness table, I wanted to ask. The question is under the various activities and it's pertaining to breakwater. Would I need to be corrected, is it the right activity to ask about the breakwater? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Ningark, small crafts harbours are in the estimates. Mr. Ningark, please proceed.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before the hon. minister was part of the government of today, about eight years ago, we had a panel of people coming into our community having a public meeting and asking people about breakwater locations and so on. People realized that Kugaaruk is situated is an ideal practical place to have a breakwater. The natural formation was there, it was considering a prevailing wind, and the location that was picked by the community was an ideal aside stated.

The plan was so convincing that one hunter in the community was concerned about stones and rocks running out you know because it's going to take so many materials that rocks and stones... he was kind of worried that we're going to run out of rocks within the community. He was that convincing and since then, we have not heard anything of the meeting and promises and so on. Is the minister aware that there was such a plan to build a breakwater for Kugaaruk? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. I'm not aware of any breakwater plans for Kugaaruk but I will get my ADM to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Kunuk.

Mr. Kunuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is right. When we were studying the seven harbours for potential fisheries, Kugaaruk was included in the seven harbours that we listed and it's included in the report. We're still trying to get the DFO to start implementing that report.

As you guys know there is only one so far being started and that's in Pangnirtung. There are still the other six that haven't started yet. That's included in the report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the deputy minister for setting things right. There was in fact a visit by the federal government or consultants; they all look the same anyway.

So, Mr. Chairman, I am asking the minister if this fact finding mission and to get the plan back on track will the minister tell this Committee of the Whole that he will in fact bring this back on track for the community of Kugaaruk? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize to the member. For his first question I thought he was specifically speaking about breakwater. We're trying to get it on track for these small craft harbours within Nunavut communities and yes, we were continuing and we're continuing hard to lobby the federal government where it's their fiduciary duty and responsibility to put these infrastructures in every community in Canada including Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. (interpretation ends) Again, as I stated to Mr. Elliott earlier, if we can stick to the topics of I-6 it would be appreciated, Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: I just want to thank the minister. Either it's a breakwater, a small harbour or what-have-you, if it's infrastructure I'm more than happy to receive something for my community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) I think that was just a comment. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also, again I would like to thank the Hon. Minister Taptuna and his officials for presenting themselves before us. In 2010, the Agnico-Eagle Mine will open for production. Baker Lake will contribute to the gross domestic product upon where Canada Nunavut Delivery Incorporated the Kivalliq Inuit Association will receive royalties.

Baker Lake needs to be a more active partner to becoming self-reliant and under the *Tamapta* plan, this supports this but in order to do that Baker Lake needs a foundation where major infrastructure projects must be implemented in order that my community can better contribute in strengthening our territory.

Baker Lake does not want to be on the outside looking in. We need development and we need this government to make a commitment in establishing a foundation by improving our docks but more importantly opening a new airport and runway to be able to allow jets and Hercules' with cargo, and more importantly allowing the most important resources, people, contractors...

Chairman: Mr. Aupaluktuq, again I would like to remind you that for the time being, I think it would be best to focus on the airport improvement that is highlighted for Baker Lake. Any new items aren't really part of the topic we're

on at this time. I just wanted to caution you. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is where I was headed. Basically this as well, the books here, our capital budget is showing \$250,000 for airport improvements.

I can assure you that our terminal is reaching its 25 year lifespan. It is too small. There is literally standing room only when we have that number of people coming in and out. At the hon. minister will know, last week I raised some questions in the House and I just wanted to advise the minister to seriously consider the fact that we don't just need airport improvements; we need a new airport in the whole area.

So I just wanted to ask the minister how this \$250,000 in the capital is meant to be used. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$250,000 allocated for that is to initiate planning and design for the existing airport improvements. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also appreciate the minister's response. I wanted to ask that as a formality. I know for a fact that later in the House, and as well in O&M I will continue to ask a lot more questions. I just want to make my statements just for the record. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. I didn't hear a question. I also don't have any more names on my list.

Transportation. Page I-5. Capital Expenditures. \$4,850,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go back page I-2. Department Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Details of Expenditure. Total Capital Expenditures. \$5,550,000. Agreed? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one quick question. Will the minister be informing through written correspondence to the communities and to the MLAs about the progress that is being made or a lack of it with the federal government and the small craft harbour initiatives? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will bring that to my department and respond at a later date because it is an ongoing initiative. We don't know how many partners we're going to attract to help us build this infrastructure, especially these harbours. If there is anything that is tangible and the process is going to be started and of course I will update the House and the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Page I-2. For the last time. (interpretation ends) Economic Development and Transportation.

Details of Expenditure. Total Capital Expenditures. \$5,550,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Does the minister have any closing comments?

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the members for all of their comments, their thoughts. Of course, as a department, we will be doing our best to initiate some of these ideas and comments. As members are all aware, we have very limited funding within our whole government system, but we will do our best. I thank the members for their thoughts and comments again.

I would also like to thank my staff for all of their hard work, the deputy minister and the assistant deputy minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna, including your officials. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

In order to allow the next department representatives to make preparations for their presentations, we will take a five-minute break and then proceed to our next departmental review. Thank you.

>> *Committee recessed at 17:01 and resumed at 17:12*

Chairman (Mr. Shell): I would like to call the meeting to order. I would now like to ask Minister Shewchuk of the Department of Environment to make his opening remarks.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today before the Committee of the Whole to present my department's capital plan for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Environment's proposed capital budget for 2010-11 is \$2.16 million. The capital projects for 2010-11 focus on three key areas: Wildlife Management, Environmental Protection, and Parks and Special Places.

Mr. Chairman, my department's 2010-11 capital plans for the Wildlife Management Division focus on maintaining and renovating present wildlife offices, planning for construction of a much needed replacement wildlife office in Coral Harbour, replacing some of our aging wildlife mobile equipment, and some other minor capital projects in various communities.

The Department of Environment also plans to purchase recycling equipment for our three pilot recycling projects in Rankin Inlet, Kugluktuk, and Iqaluit. These recycling pilot projects require recycling depots as well as purchase and setup.

Mr. Chairman, my department's 2010-11 capital estimates also include a variety of

parks projects throughout the territory. Territorial parks play a crucial role in the protection and promotion of Nunavut's outstanding natural and cultural heritage. They also support positive recreation and tourism experiences that help Nunavut communities. Through our capital plan, we are continuing to ensure our parks meet the needs of Nunavutmiut and visitors to Nunavut.

My department's 2010-11 capital projects include the completion of tent platforms and outhouses in Owayok Territorial Park in Cambridge Bay, the final installation of newly constructed interpretive panels for the Fossil Creek Trail in Coral Harbour, and the installation of new interpretive signs and facilities at several parks throughout the territory.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Environment's capital plan is focused in areas that clearly support the needs and priorities of the government as set out in *Tamapta* and also meets the needs of communities throughout Nunavut.

I would be happy to answer any questions that you have. *Ma'na*, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

For the record, Minister Shewchuk, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to introduce to my right the Deputy Minister of Environment, Simon Awa and to my left the Director of Corporate Services for the Department of Environment, Camilius Egeni. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Community, on the Environment... sorry, have any comments? Please proceed, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister and his officials to the witness table. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Environment's proposed 2010-11 capital estimates.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2010-11 is \$2,160,000. Its capital budget was \$1,685,000 in 2009-2010 and \$1.7 million in 2008-09.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2008-09 capital estimates included \$600,000 in funding for the Kugaaruk Park Development project. A further \$100,000 was allocated for this project in 2009-2010. There is no funding

allocated for this project in the proposed 2010-11 capital estimates.

While members are supportive of this project, they recognize that a number of issues need to be resolved before park development can continue. Members have been advised by the minister that further consultations and work will occur with respect to such issues as land tenure and mineral prospecting in the area. Members look forward to receiving ongoing updates on this project.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2010-11 capital estimates includes funding for the replacement of a wildlife office in Coral Harbour. The department's five-year capital plan indicates that wildlife offices in Pangnirtung, Repulse Bay and Resolute Bay will be replaced in coming years.

Members would like to acknowledge the recent correspondence received from the minister to the standing committee regarding members' concerns with respect to the replacement of wildlife offices across Nunavut. The standing committee appreciates the minister having provided a "Wildlife Office Replacement List by Priority" to the committee following his appearance. The Committee looks forward to ongoing updates on this issue.

The department's 2010-11 capital estimates proposes \$150,000 in funding for renovations and repairs to wildlife offices and research facilities across the territory.

The department's proposed 2010-11 capital estimates includes \$1.2 million in funding for small capital projects. These projects focus on the replacement of

mobile equipment and the development of infrastructure in territorial parks.

Members generally support improvements to Nunavut's territorial parks and look forward to progress also being made with respect to the development and implementation of management plans for our heritage rivers, such as the Thelon and Kazan. Members also support the work being initiated on Napartulik, the Axel Heiberg Fossil Forest Territorial Park, and look forward to progress on this project.

On February 8, 2008, a federal-territorial news release announced that the Government of Canada would invest approximately \$1.6 million in the Sylvia Grinnell Bridge project. It also announced that "Indian and Northern Affairs Canada would contribute \$838,669 as part of the Strategic Investments in Northern Economic Development initiative, and the Department of National Defence would contribute over \$800,000 to design and construct the bridge and manage the project through the Bridges for Canada program." During the minister's appearance before the standing committee, it was confirmed that the department's 2010-11 capital estimates have allocated \$200,000 towards this proposed project.

Mr. Chairman, on March 6, 2008, the Minister of Environment made a statement in the Legislative Assembly concerning the GN's plans to establish a recycling program. The department's five-year capital plan includes a project to purchase recycling equipment and establish recycling depots. A total of \$900,000 is projected to be spent in 2010-11 and 2011-12.

The Minister's Statement of March 6, 2008, also indicated that the government will work towards introducing "new legislation to give the GN the authorities it needs for the reduction, reuse, recovery, and recycling of solid waste." During the minister's appearance before the standing committee, he stated that "the department plans to purchase recycling equipment for three pilot projects in Rankin Inlet, Kugluktuk and Iqaluit."

Members note that the department's information concerning this project originally indicated that the Kitikmeot community to be involved would be Cambridge Bay. Members look forward to receiving an explanation as to why the participating community has been changed.

Members appreciate the minister's recent correspondence to the committee concerning the status of this initiative and look forward to ongoing updates on it. The standing committee also encourages the department to work with businesses and shipping companies to explore the potential for removing recyclables from the territory.

The standing committee encourages the departments of Community and Government Services and Environment to work closely together with respect to the development and management of such infrastructure as sewage lagoons and municipal landfills. This is a comment that I also made during the review of the 2010-11 Capital Estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2009-2010 business plan states that "a lack of

modern community waste management infrastructure impacts compliance with the Environmental Protection Act.” It is clear to the committee that issues related to the enforcement of environmental protection legislation require further scrutiny. The committee looks forward to its review of the department’s 2010-11 main estimates and business plan at the upcoming winter session of the Legislative Assembly.

At its recent annual general meeting in Cambridge Bay, the Nunavut Association of Municipalities passed a resolution concerning the removal of scrap metal waste from Nunavut’s communities. The standing committee appreciates receiving a copy of the department’s response to the resolution and encourages the minister to table this document in the Legislative Assembly for the benefit of the public.

The standing committee also encourages the department to work with all stakeholders to ensure that the “End of Life Vehicles” project in Iqaluit proceeds during the next shipping season.

Mr. Chairman, during the minister’s appearance before the standing committee, members suggested that the department consider the use of reverse vending machines as a potential approach to recycling in smaller communities. The standing committee is pleased that the minister’s recent correspondence to the committee indicated that the department is reviewing this option. Members look forward to ongoing updates on this issue.

The standing committee is also pleased with the department’s recent purchase of

environmentally-friendly unpainted pencils that will be provided to children in schools across the territory. This is a small, but welcome, step in the right direction and members encourage the department to continue such initiatives to promote the use of environmentally-friendly products in Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2010-11 Capital Estimates of the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don’t have any general comments, but I do have a question. On the third paragraph of page 1, the Hon. Minister of Environment talks about parks and special places. My question then is: what are the special places, bird sanctuaries? What are these things, caribou calving grounds, and so on? Will the minister elaborate a bit on the terms “special places”? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question to the member. Special places or parks do include park areas and areas where there are old traditional camps. They may include special hunting areas, calving grounds, and culturally sensitive

areas that communities are interested in.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. My subsequent question from the answer of the hon. minister is then: is his department overlapped with CLEY, or Culture, Language, Elders and Youth? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we do work very closely with CLEY on these areas and protecting some of the areas. The answer is yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Are there any other general comments? I have nobody else on the list. I have no more members on my list for general comments. We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting with page G-3. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. We are starting our review of these items and I would like to refer to the amount listed on page G-4, can you provide some details on what is included in this \$1.2 million allocation. I would like to be provided some information on what is included in this amount? If the minister could highlight some of these items, I would appreciate the information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$1.2 million is targeted for areas of small equipment replacement in all 25 communities, which includes snowmobiles, boats, ATVs, vehicles, it also includes wildlife office renovations in all of our 25 offices across the territory, it includes small park equipment that we may need in our parks, small equipment that we need for research people in all of the regions, and it is going to include small recycling equipment too.

So it's all of the smaller equipment that we need to function in all of our wildlife stations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) According to my colleague here and the committee report, there's also \$200,000 in there for a bridge at the Sylvia Grinnell River. Is that the case? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is the case. There is \$200,000 allocated in there for site development of the Sylvia Grinnell Bridge. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If it's \$200,000 for the bridge, how come, on the other capital projects for parks

like the \$150,000 for Resolute Bay park, \$150,000 for Sanikiluaq park development, they are a lot less but they're not buried in that box?

Could the minister explain why that's the case, why the \$200,000 which is a lot more than \$150,000 is not clearly stated in there. I just want a clarification on that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, thanks for the question. The reasoning is why this is a much bigger development, this bridge project and the site development is going to be more extensive than these other smaller projects that include trail signs and whatnot, this is going to be a much bigger project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That's puzzling because it's listed as small capital and it's buried inside. So if it's a bigger project I would think that it would be more prominent than being buried in a line item with all the other minor projects. So I just find that puzzling.

Could the minister confirm that it's still the position that it will be a footbridge as opposed to a multi-purpose bridge? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member. Yes, I can confirm it is planned to be a pedestrian footbridge. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Can the minister confirm that he received a letter from the hunters and trappers organization asking that they be able to use it like everybody else, that they want the bridge to be able to be for *Tamapta*, for everyone not just pedestrians, that hunters want to be able to use the bridge so that they can feed their families as well and for safety reasons they wrote the minister.

Could the minister confirm that he received this letter? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I can confirm that I have received that letter at noon today from the HTO. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Can the minister reconsider the purpose of this bridge as the good people of Iqaluit who have been deprived of many wonderful

opportunities want to be able to use and expand their hunting activities throughout the community and elsewhere? Can he reconsider the purpose of this bridge that be multi-purpose as opposed to a foot bridge? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to advise the member no, we would not reconsider that at this time. However, we would consider other options to deal with the request made by the hunters and trappers organization of Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Committee Motion 002 – 3(2):
Deletion of \$200,000 from the
2010-2011 Capital Estimates of the
Department of Environment**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In that case, I find it difficult to support this project as I had been asked by the hunters association to deny this project in the interests of the overall community. So therefore, I would like to move the following motion, Mr. Chairman:

I move that the \$200,000 in proposed funding for the “Sylvia Grinnell Park Development Project” (Project 500084) be deleted from the small capital budget of the 2010-11 Capital Estimates of the Department of Environment.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. The motion is in order. Before we proceed with the debate on the motion, I have a few comments to make as to the procedures. Each member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total time of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply which closes the debate.

To the motion. Could you bring that motion forward to the table. Alright, we will take a moment here to pass the motion to everybody. The motion is in order.

I guess we will start it all over again. Before we proceed with the debate on the motion, I have few comments to make as to procedures. Each member has the right to speak once to a motion for a total time of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply which closes the debate.

To the motion. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I bring this forward with much regret because we all need infrastructure throughout our territory. But at the same time, we need infrastructure that everyone can use.

When the federal government first approached the government I was a part of in the last term, you were asking me to approve a project to build a bridge across our river; a bridge that has been the hope of many Inuit in this community. And when I heard there going to be a pedestrian only bridge I said I could not take part in such a press

release or an event. And they asked why. I want a bridge to be able to be used by everyone, not just by people that can walk and that don't really need to feed their families.

So I convinced the government of the day that, okay, we will accommodate that request. And we did a joint press release in February of 2008 to that affect. I did that because the hunters in this community have been deprived of many opportunities. They're no different than Inuit and other hunters throughout Nunavut.

I have built many bridges while I was part of government because I wanted to open up more opportunities for families to feed to themselves. The hunters here want a bridge so that they can cross that river during the most dangerous periods of the year; early in the fall and late in the spring. And they also want to be able to use it in other times in the summer months.

As you know our terrain here in our community, on this side of the community is somewhat hilly and dangerous for ATVs to use. If you look across the river it's nice and flat just like the minister's home community of Arviat. It's a lot safer for ATVs to be able to be used on that side of the river so that the families can hunt for caribou, which is always in short supply in this community. I've heard those concerns. That's why I'm bringing this motion forward.

In the spirit of *Tamapta*, I hope that my colleagues will understand that I want a bridge for everyone, not a bridge for just some people. I want everyone to be able to benefit from our basic infrastructure

that we all badly need. I hope that the rest of my colleagues will understand that and carry the day. At the end of this, I would request a recorded vote.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Are there any more comments to the motion? Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's pretty obvious that this is just going to be a foot bridge. What is because the terrain is too rough over there at the other side of the river or is there a problem? For those of us who have lived here we would like to be able to cross the bridge across the river, either on a four wheeler or to have the people be able to cross the river by boat.

When I was living here, I have seen... When I first came down here I saw all these sharp protruding pieces of wood on the sides of the roads and then I find out that they were sidewalks or protecting pedestrians from the traffic.

Then we see the people who don't live near the shore who have to navigate themselves through the middle of town trying to reach the sea ice, you have to go hunting with a hitch, *Qamutik*, and it's very dangerous and very hard, especially if you live on the top of the hill in the city of Iqaluit.

The hunters or the people who are travelling by skidoo have to work very hard to reach the places where there are no houses and obviously it's harder for the hunters. When the town was planning the city, there were no plans, there were no designs, they had no consideration for the hunters of Iqaluit

and now we find that this is going to be a foot bridge.

If I visualize this foot bridge being built in Pond Inlet, if the people of Pond Inlet if they were told that there was just going to have a place to anchor their boats, it would be turned down right away and they would give the government their finger because they would be so devastated by that idea.

A foot bridge in Iqaluit would have the same devastating... if I was from Iqaluit a foot bridge is something that the people the residents would not want because it would be kind of useless and only utilized by certain people, that much is obvious already. With that, I will be for the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You seem to be in the hot seat whenever these issues come. Maybe we should change the chairman. That's the problem.

Mr. Chairman, as Minister of Finance, I simply can't support this motion, I have read the information and the chronology of events of this particular initiative going back to the early 90s and pretty much everything I have read... there have been extensive consultations, there have been master plans, there have been support from the city and conditions placed in developers permit by the city called for a foot bridge, a pedestrian foot bridge.

The Department of National Defence and the Trans Canada Trail and their

order club, they have all offered their support to the project by providing over \$1 million and specifically for a pedestrian bridge.

I know the Minister of Environment and his staff worked very hard to talk to everybody in the City of Iqaluit, and they had to get all sides of the argument. I know there was a petition earlier this year signed by a lot of people in Iqaluit calling for a pedestrian bridge and I just feel Mr. Cherry in his time limited financial resources, and if we were to support this motion today would put that \$1 million funding and support in jeopardy.

As I said it was initiated as a pedestrian bridge and I'm not sure how it became an ATV bridge. I appreciate the comments from the Member for Iqaluit for his constituents. I'm familiar with bridges in my home riding of Cambridge Bay. We have two bridges. Both crossed two rivers but they're not pedestrian, they're just (inaudible).

However, I know when you mix pedestrians and ATVs and vehicles on a bridge it gets quite dangerous and I've seen that in particular one bridge in Cambridge Bay it's just not safe. I have been concerned about that. I did hear the Minister of Environment say in his response to Mr. Okalik that they would consider another option, look at other options down that in the planning process to culminate Mr. Okalik's constituents that he's concerned about.

I don't think we should put this project on hold. I think we should proceed with it. I believe that a pedestrian bridge in the City of Iqaluit would appeal to a large number of people. I know families

who go for walks and children; we have to be concerned about their safety. I know the elders, I know elders in Cambridge Bay told me many times when I talked would talk to them that their main concern was they wanted me as mayor, for example, to slow down the ATVs and snowmobiles so that they feel safe when they're walking.

So that would be the concern I would have. Of course Iqaluit is a very beautiful city. We entertain a host of quite a few people that visit the city every year. With tourists I think that would allow those folks to see a larger area of the city and I think the schools could participate in this and take their school children out on school trips. So I would hate to see this project cancelled. I think it's a badly needed infrastructure in the City of Iqaluit and it would benefit Nunavut immensely and it's great to see other parties contribute to our infrastructure.

So, Mr. Chairman, with that I reiterate what I said, I will not support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Comments to the motion. Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank everyone here. As an individual from outside of Iqaluit we see it from a different perspective. As people from smaller communities we have our own lifestyle and those of us who were born in outpost camps and anyone usually in the smaller communities try to make it more accessible to go out there in the environment where we could go hunting

outside of the city proper, or the municipal proper.

So we tend to think of it like that because this is the culture of the Inuit and I can say that last year we utilized three bridges. One that's new and the other two, one that was destroyed and then the second one, but these three bridges that we had utilized in Pangnirtung, the people of Pangnirtung were given the options of what types of bridge they would like. There has been no debate over this matter.

In my opinion, a bridge has to be useful for all users and not just a singular purpose. From our perspective, watching this from Pangnirtung, none of our residents have opposed this as we understand the reasoning behind the request of the locals.

And further, in our case, although it was an emergency bridge replacement, it has a small walkway on the side and this allows people to walk across without hindering vehicle access. This side walkway works in our case and the community here ought to be able to deliberate on their options for this bridge, both with respect to the bridge as well as allowing multiple users to have their needs met.

From our view, a multipurpose bridge would serve a larger audience and that would be much more inline with the locals' needs. There are certain parts I still have not wrapped my head around, such as the process that was used for choosing this type of bridge.

In our community, the general process runs like this: when we request funding for a facility and are allocated funds to

initiate the project, the council then start debating over what type of facility will be built with these funds. The hamlet council generally does this part of the process, and in looking at how this bridge decision was arrived at, it looks as if they totally bypassed the local council and why that is, I do not understand.

And further, the other important local organization, the HTO also seems to have been sloughed off, even though they are usually one of the bodies that approve of these projects. Their needs have to be accommodated, however, in reviewing this matter, the usual consultation followed in outlying communities seem to be missing in this case.

The whole consultation process to decide on the type of infrastructure was not followed for reasons that are unknown to me. If all parties had been properly consulted and brought onboard, we would not be in the circumstances we find ourselves in today. These two important local bodies were not included.

My particular practice, which I have followed for most of my lifetime as an Inuk, is to approve of projects that in anyway assist our local hunters in lessening their workload, and as a community we try to help out our hunters at every opportunity.

In looking at this debacle, if the wishes of the local hunters are ignored, then the capital costs of building this singular purpose bridge would be money flushed down the drain. So, based on those reasons, I will be supporting this motion as drafted. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Komoartok. Comments to the motion. Member from Nanulik.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also have questions in mind on the process. Whenever a community has identified a project that they wish to pursue, then community members debate the issue, negotiate amongst themselves and come to a consensus and that is a practice generally followed in these cases.

Further, when discussing a project for Iqaluit only and not for all Nunavummiut, if Coral Harbour residents were asked for their perspective on an Iqaluit only project; I imagine the majority of residents would not wish to interfere in a local matter, although I am representing them as their MLA.

Just as the case would be, if Iqaluit residents were asked for their perspective on a project for Coral Harbour, they would not want to meddle in the local municipal affairs. They have a city council here in Iqaluit, who seemingly was involved in this process to build a bridge.

Although I did not partake in any of the local consultations when they were choosing the type of bridge, I imagine that they were involved in the process. However, I have noted that this project would be entirely funded by federal dollars.

Additionally, based on the comments made by Minister Shewchuk where he stated that this type of bridge could be looked at down the road, my immediate response to that statement, Mr.

Chairman, was that the House and its members are being asked to look at an issue that ought to have been chosen by Iqaluit residents.

I would have preferred that this project go through the local channels, and once a consensus was reached on the design, then it should have gone to the territorial level. It seems like the process was not followed through, Mr. Chairman, therefore I can't approve the motion. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Comments to the motion. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As all the regular Members of the Legislative Assembly have stated, it's very difficult for us Members of the Legislative Assembly that don't live in Iqaluit, it seems like it's an issue that pertains to the City of Iqaluit and it kind of puts us in a difficult situation being from outside the city.

Some of us talk about having bridges in our communities that are multi-purpose but I'm not sure how many of them involved being within park boundaries. So there might be slightly different issues. So for me, it's made this kind of difficult. We got a letter from the hunters and trappers organization expressing their concerns but I have no idea how the City of Iqaluit feels. I haven't seen any information on them.

Because it's in a park I can see the point where maybe they want vehicles in the park. And that's being the case, what plans does the government have to accommodate hunters that want their own bridge. It would be interesting to find out from the minister. It kind of puts

me in a situation where I don't really want to vote for it or against it because it's an issue that the City of Iqaluit has to deal through the members that are from Iqaluit.

With that, I would just say that I am undecided as of right now which way I will vote. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Shewchuk, comments to the motion.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's interesting to hear all the views on this and I will explain it from my point of view.

I will try and clarify the information the information we have about this bridge to everybody in the House today. The whole process of developing the Sylvia Grinnell Park started in November of 1990. The Municipality of Iqaluit provided a letter of support at that time.

In January of 1991, a master plan for the Sylvia Grinnell Park completed based on consultations with at that time the Tunngavik Federation of Nunavut, community lands identification negotiation team, the hunters and trappers association, the Baffin Regional Inuit Association, the Iqaluit Chamber of Commerce, the hamlet, and the Council, and the Baffin Tourism Association.

The Sylvia Grinnell Park master plan was then completed in 1995 with all of those organizations involved. At that time it was recommended expanding the Sylvia Grinnell Park across the Sylvia Grinnell River, the Qaummaarviit Territorial Park with a pedestrian footbridge. The footbridge will provide passive recreational use to the western

portion of the park and act as detraction for residents and tourists.

On May 29, 2002, the city approved a development permit with conditions that it be a footbridge. In 2002, a partnership comprised of the GN, Department of National Defence, Iqaluit Rotary Club, and the Trans Canada Trail Foundation was established to realize the goal of a pedestrian bridge over the Sylvia Grinnell River in the park.

In 2004, the Department of National Defence engineers completed a design for a pedestrian bridge as their contribution to the partnership agreed to in significant in kind contributions towards construction and project management of the pedestrian bridge. The Iqaluit Rotary Club donated \$25,000 toward construction costs and is committed to additional fundraising. In addition, the Trans Canada Trail Found has confirmed its contribution of approximately \$162,000 for a pedestrian bridge.

November 14, 2006, the City of Iqaluit reaffirms the development permit for a footbridge pedestrian bridge in the Sylvia Grinnell. On February 8, 2008, INAC approved \$839,000 towards material towards the pedestrian bridge. The budget has since lapsed. A new proposal will be submitted during the 2009 once a program has been identified.

On the March 18, 2008, a petition was circulated by Rhoda Ungalak and John Morris requesting that consistent with the original master plan of the park, that the GN restrict the new bridge to a foot bridge. On March 5, 2009, Cabinet

directed me to proceed with a pedestrian bridge over Sylvia Grinnell River.

On March 12, 2009, in a meeting with my Deputy Minister, Simon Awa, the Regional Director of INAC, they reaffirmed commitment to fund materials for the pedestrian bridge. On March 23, 2009, Deputy Minister Simon Awa sent the letter to Brigadier General Millar requesting DND's continued support and a meeting to discuss schedules, budgets and work plans for a pedestrian bridge.

March 25, 2009 the Trans Canada Trail reaffirmed its support for the pedestrian bridge and agreed to fund up to 20 percent of the construction costs. April 5, 2009 the Trans Canada Trail reaffirmed its commitment as a priority to developing a green way trail that promotes non-motorized users in the summer.

May 12, 2009 the Rotary Club confirms its support if it was only a pedestrian bridge. On June 1st of this year, myself and my department officials met with Brigadier General Miller of DND and INAC's regional director general Michael Nadler. Both DND and INAC reaffirmed their commitment of a pedestrian bridge at that time.

Mr. Chairman, while it is easy for the hon. member from Iqaluit West to seek approval to remove the capital budget for the Sylvia Grinnell park, he should be reminded that when the master plan for the park was being developed, the government made a commitment to the City of Iqaluit and its residents that it would implement its recommendations.

That commitment included the development of new facilities, parking, camping areas, roads, trails, signage and the expansion of the park. Mr. Chairman, to now dismiss that this commitment is both inappropriate and disrespectful to the community and puts the credibility of the government in question, I don't believe we want to see that happen.

According to the 2008 exit survey, Sylvia Grinnell Park is the most visited park in Nunavut and is one of the best features that Iqaluit has to offer. To its numbers 2,221 are doubled of that combined total of all Canada's national parks in Nunavut. Visitation by residents to the park is increased from 6750 in 1999 to 14,625 in 2005.

There has been a 50 percent increase in pavilion rentals since 1999. Mr. Chairman, as one can appreciate what this increase in visitation, there have been challenged that my department has had to address and will continue to address. Significant among these has been our ability to provide the facilities and to focus activities in the park in such a way as to allow visitors, residents, elders and school children to enjoy their park experience, be it camping, berry picking, IQ days, fishing or just relaxing but to do so, not at the expense of the environment that we are trying to protect.

The \$200,000 that the hon. member is seeking to remove from my budget will severely prevent my department from its ability to control impacts and to implement that commitment we made to the city and its residents to have a park that we can showcase nationally and internationally a park that will provide

economic benefits through tourism and the park will provide residents with opportunities for recreation and healthy living.

Mr. Chairman, the Sylvia Grinnell park is Nunavut's oldest park. It is the most visited park and it is located in the capital of Nunavut. The population of Iqaluit has almost doubled since 1999 and the need for recreational facilities has increased concurrently. Mr. Chairman, with this in mind and consistent with the agreement we made with the city and its residents, I believe the park deserves to be looked after and supported and should be a park we can all be proud of.

The estimated cost of the pedestrian bridge was \$2.7 to \$3 million; an estimated cost of an ATV bridge would be \$8 to \$10 million. If we do not move forward with this pedestrian bridge, we will have all of our funding partners and probably have no bridge. They will leave us. This would be a real bad thing to happen for our people who use our parks for recreation and experience to all of Nunavut's residents and the visiting people to this wonderful territory.

Therefore, I strongly urge all of my colleagues to fully support the continued funding for improvements to the Sylvia Grinnell Park and I will not support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move, pursuant to Rule 6(2), that we extend our sitting hours so that we may conclude our

review of the matter at hand and report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: We have a motion on the floor to sit beyond the daily adjournment to conclude the matter under discussion. The motion is not debatable or amendable. All those in favour of the motion, raise your hand. All those opposed to the motion, raise your hand. The motion is carried. We shall now resume concluding the matter under discussion.

Are there any more comments to the motion? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As per my colleague's comments from the Nanulik riding, I too, find it uncomfortable dealing with Iqaluit local matters, especially since we do not reside here. I agree with his comments about non residents meddling in local affairs.

Furthermore, Mr. Okalik has shown that a bridge built across the river could benefit many residents, and he believes that a multi-purpose bridge would better meet the needs of local residents. I totally believe in the reasons behind that.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, I agree with my hon. colleague from Nanulik when he spoke about this issue in front of Iqaluit. Therefore, it does need some work here in this community, especially from the city council.

I also believe strongly in the comment made by my colleague, Mr. Okalik. This issue is something that, as a hunter, I can relate to. We have two bridges in my community and both are able to accommodate trucks, ATVs some time

in the fall or spring thaw-out, and snow machines.

While I'm here in Iqaluit, just about every time I go out to restaurants or public places, I see people who are trying to sell artwork. Every time, Mr. Chairman, I wish I could do something for them. Mr. Chairman, I wish I could buy their carvings. The reality is that I have a family to feed. I am sure my colleagues around the table have a similar experience with people trying to sell their carvings. Sometimes I buy a piece or two, but not every time.

When the pedestrian bridge is hopefully in place, tourism will increase in the community. Those people who I talked about, who are soliciting to sell their carvings, trying to support their family, hopefully their sales will increase.

I know there are people out here, I have not spoke to any of them nor do they approach me, except my hon. colleague, Mr. Okalik, and the letter that he presented from the HTO, but in light of what I've said I wished at the time that I could do something for carvers, young people, men, women, and sometimes really young people.

So I am hoping that when the bridge is opened for pedestrians the tourism will increase in the community and those young people that are looking for a place to sell their carvings will benefit from the increase in tourism. So therefore I will not support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are there any more comments to the motion? I wish to inform the committee that I have no

more names on my list. Does the mover want to make a last comment?

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have been dealing with this issue for quite some time and my constituents have been working very hard for a very long time even before I moved here the elders wanted to get the bridge. So I am sorry to my constituents because we have been working very hard to push for it and I apologize if the motion does not go through.

If I look at the petition and they don't even... (interpretation ends) Salt Spring Island, British Columbia; Comox, British Columbia; Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. (interpretation) These are the individuals who signed the petition. That's where they came from and they're telling us how we should be living and the Inuit of Iqaluit. It seems like they don't want the Iqaluit residents to get their own bridge so that those outsiders could use them.

I'm not even considering the southerner, I'm working on behalf of my constituents and I they've asked me to do this and I need to support them. Yes, I can tell different stories about this because we have been dealing with this for quite some time and it started changing from that time and there is a report from QIA and they still haven't even asked what their feelings are about this.

Last spring and summer my community residents were going through hardships because they couldn't find any caribou anywhere near the community and they're across the river, and you could see them across the river. If you had a

four-wheeler you could go over there but it's impossible to cross the river today and there have been some statements made that it's a territorial park and they're allowed to go out hunting, Inuit beneficiaries can go out hunting anywhere whether it be in park or not. They are concerned because there will be too many people going over there.

If any one of you hunt once a day you could go there once then you're not going to hunt animals over there. You can't find animals there you have to cross the river and go to the bay. See this territorial park, they're concerned about the territorial park and I don't believe that is a concern, they only passed through there because that's the only access road because there's no other place when they go out hunting to feed their families.

For that reason, when we're told about their concerns, I truly don't believe in their concerns. So I am very sorry and regret about the fact that we need to deal with it and we want it to be reviewed so that the concerns of the Inuit can be heard and put into consideration.

If outsiders are going to be running our lives, it's going to be useless. So therefore, I am very sorry and I had to be here when we were dealing with this motion. Maybe take that off and then re-review it.

If we just agree to this, the public of Iqaluit will have no room for their voice. For that reason, I urge the members to support our people and vote for this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I have no other names. Obviously, it was

the last name on there. A recorded vote has been requested.

All those in favour, please stand and then sit down when I call your name.

Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Arvaluk.

>>Laughter

I took my glasses off, I guess. We will start all over. I'll get it right, yes.

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

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Taptuna.

Premier Aariak.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Kuujaak... Mr. Kusugak, sorry, I got his name right, but I got yours wrong today.

Mr. Peterson.

All the ones who are abstaining, please stand.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Member for Nanulik.

Mr. Pauloosie.

The motion is defeated and I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker: Thank you. 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: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 8 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the Day for December 4:

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
 - Motion 13 – 3(2)
17. First Reading of Bills
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
 - Bill 11
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 Friday, December 4, at ten o'clock in the morning.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:21*

