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**3rd Assembly**

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**DAY 24**

**Monday, March 8, 2010**

**Pages 1166 – 1232**

**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Government Services; Minister of  
Energy*

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(Cambridge Bay)

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**Fred Schell**

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**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk**

(Amittuq)

*Government House Leader; Minister of  
Education; Minister of Culture,  
Language, Elders and Youth; Minister  
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**Hon. Peter Taptuna**

(Kugluktuk)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic  
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**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Monday, March 8, 2010**

**Members Present:**

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

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. James Arreak): Thank you. Before we proceed, I would like to ask Mr. Elliott to say the opening prayer. Mr. Elliott.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. A very good afternoon, Premier. Since today's is women's day, please have a wonderful day, Members of the Cabinet and my colleagues. The rest of Nunavut and the people of Clyde River, I am very glad that you will be able to watch the proceedings. Have a great day.

I would also like to welcome Mr. Arvaluk. Welcome back. Mr. Arvaluk had a doctor's appointment in Ottawa, so we're glad to have him back. Welcome back.

(interpretation ends) Members, please note that for this week, our pages are from the 795 Iqaluit Royal Canadian Air Cadets Squadron. I have also allowed for some pictures taken for the first few minutes of today's session.

>>*Applause*

Members, before we proceed with the Orders of the Day, I would like to read the following communication that I received from the Commissioner of Nunavut:

**Money Message**

Hon. James Arreak, Speaker of the House  
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut  
Iqaluit, Nunavut  
X0A 0H0

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut the passage of the following bills during the Second Session of the Third Legislative Assembly:

- Bill 22, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2010-2011*
- Bills 23, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2009-2010*

Sincerely, Anne Meekitjuk-Hanson,  
C.M.  
Commissioner of Nunavut

Item 2. Budget Address. Minister of Finance, Hon. Keith Peterson.

**Item 2: Budget Address**

**Minister's Statement 097 – 3(2): 2010-11 Government of Nunavut Budget**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present the

government's budget for the fiscal year 2010-11. Today, I will show how this government will achieve its commitments within the framework of fiscal prudence. This government's vision is spelled out in *Tamapta: Building our Future Together*. We committed to improve the quality of life for all Nunavummiut.

Twenty years from now, we see individuals and families that are active, healthy, and happy, communities that are self-reliant, based on Inuit societal values, and a Nunavut recognized for our unique culture, our solidarity, and our contributions to Canada and the world. Let us pursue this vision with a clear-eyed view of what we can reasonably afford and the risks that we shall run along the way.

My budget provides for spending next year of \$1.3 billion. It is a balanced budget.

>> *Applause*

Why are we doing that? Prudence, Mr. Speaker. Prudence. The global recession may be ending, but the global economy is not yet growing with confidence. Everywhere governments face bulging deficits and rising debt.

Our own deficit will probably reach \$44 million in the current fiscal year, up \$15 million from our projections, due partly to the \$8 million we spent on the H1N1 pandemic. To balance our books next year, we have set aside \$55 million for contingencies and unexpected health care costs. We plan to buy as much as two-thirds of our fuel supply before prices rise. We have also limited growth in government spending to a modest 2

percent increase over the revised estimates for the current year, as members will see when I table the main estimates.

Keep in mind that we do not generate very much of what we spend. Fully 93 percent of our budget comes from the federal government, which faces years of deficits. We need to reduce our reliance on these transfers, Mr. Speaker. It would take years, but we must improve our ability to pay our own way. That means we must not only create jobs and wealth but also equip Nunavummiut to perform those jobs.

### **Improve education and training**

Improving Nunavut's education and training system is a *Tamapta* priority. In the coming year, this government will spend almost \$220 million on education—our second biggest investment in Nunavummiut, exceeded only by our investment in health and social services.

Our plan to improve education and training begins with early childhood, where lessons shape entire lives. This budget raises daycare grants and contributions, improves staff training, and buys learning resources to improve the quality of care.

As these young Nunavummiut move into kindergarten and through to grade 12, they will need a curriculum that reinforces their language and culture. To make bilingual education a reality, we are investing new funds in curriculum assessment and competency development.

We will invest \$1 million more to train and develop Inuit educators...

>>Applause

... preparing them for leadership positions in the school system. We will invest nearly \$3 million more to develop the curriculum and improve school services, and provide a further \$2.5 million to district education authorities.

>>Applause

Also, we will ensure that every school has a school community counsellor.

All of these investments share a common goal. We want to see students attend school more often, learn better, and complete grade 12. Graduation should not be a challenge. Rather, it should be our expectation.

We are also investing more in post-secondary education, adult learning, and apprenticeships. The Department of Education will review apprenticeship programs to ensure a better match between employers and employees. We will open the Nunavut Trade School and provide nearly \$1 million to the trades program so we can provide mining and construction sectors with skilled workers from Nunavut.

>>Applause

### **Reduce poverty**

In addition to these investments, we are acutely aware that poverty remains a real concern in Nunavut. Too many Nunavummiut remain at risk. This government will develop a poverty reduction strategy in partnership with

other governments, Inuit organizations, businesses, and anyone else with an interest in eliminating poverty.

>>Applause

Together with our partners, we will look at the path between welfare and work. Our social assistance rules often get in the way of a job. Too often, these rules claw back the full value of a paycheque. People who move from welfare to work should end up better off. We will change the rules to make that happen.

### **Increase housing options**

Mr. Speaker, housing remains a serious concern. Overcrowding is still a critical issue. Certainly, the federal government has shown that it's willing to help. Last year, we gained \$100 million from them for housing. We will start work this year on 285 additional homes. It is progress, but we need much, much more.

We are looking forward to the final report from the Nunavut Housing Needs Survey. The Nunavut Housing Corporation, working with Statistics Canada and the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics, is looking at public housing, homeownership, and homelessness. Their work will help us to develop a long-term, comprehensive housing strategy. It should also help us to make a clear case for long-term federal funding for public housing.

**An Hon. Member:** Hear, hear!

>>Applause

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** We must also deal with the growing problem of homelessness. The Nunavut Housing



Corporation will double the annual budget for homelessness to \$400,000.

>> *Applause*

### **Help those at risk**

Mr. Speaker, we must keep an eye out for those who have not yet secured their place in our society. Here are three steps forward. We have established the Social Advocacy Office in the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. It will coordinate a review of social safety net programs.

As well, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health and Social Services will review child protection programs, services, and legislation to improve our children's future. We have allocated \$1.5 million over two years for this comprehensive review that will include public consultation and community engagement.

Thirdly, Mr. Speaker, we will establish the office of a child and youth representative within this government's mandate.

>> *Applause*

### **Improve health through prevention**

Mr. Speaker, this government is also working to provide Nunavummiut with health services that are efficient, effective, and accessible. We have comprehensively examined the services and staffing at community health centres, regional health facilities, our territory hospital, and out-of-territory facilities. We will use the results of this review to develop a health services strategic plan for the territory.

As we do so, we will concentrate on improving health care through prevention. This is a better alternative to treating the consequences of unhealthy behaviours. We must change course and focus on healthy eating, physical activity, and addiction reduction. A focus on illness prevention now will reduce acute care costs over the long term.

Tobacco consumption provides an excellent example. Smoking harms human health. Nunavut has the highest smoking rate of any Canadian jurisdiction. Fifty-three percent of our population lights up every day. Lung cancer accounts for more than half of cancer deaths in the territory. Nunavut's rate of lung cancer incidence leads the world. We must reduce tobacco use and the harm it causes to Nunavummiut. In the coming year, this government will develop and implement a Tobacco Reduction Strategy.

>> *Applause*

### **Address social concerns at their roots**

We are also concerned about the alcohol and drug abuse that is breaking down families and driving up crime and suicides. Government can help, but we cannot reach into the homes of Nunavummiut. Here is a place where we must turn to our communities, to our volunteers. Many people are already working with their relatives, neighbours, and friends to help them to break their addictions.

Great work goes on every day in each community to support mental health. Our government is also here to help. We will establish more mental health and

addictions services and increase support for people who need to travel from their communities to receive services.

>>Applause

We will also consider ways to encourage a responsible approach to alcohol. The government has already launched a ministerial taskforce to review the *Liquor Act*.

My justice department is also highly focused on the issue of Nunavut's high crime rate. We want to attack crime at its source and are looking at how we can address the social concerns that lead to criminal behaviour in the first place. My department will continue to work in partnership with the RCMP to develop a crime prevention strategy that incorporates Inuit societal values.

Community justice committees play an important part in addressing the root causes of crime through Inuit counselling and community-based approaches. We will help these committees grow and become more active by providing increased training and support. This will enable more youth and adults who break the law to have the matters dealt with at the community level outside of the formal court process.

It is also important for the police to communicate better with the communities that they serve. The RCMP understand this well. They have recruited four special constables who are Inuit and are looking for more. They will increase the number of Inuktitut-speaking operators at their call centre in Iqaluit. And they will require officers posted to Nunavut to stay here four years rather than two. In the end, Mr. Speaker,

the RCMP will understand Nunavummiut better and therefore, serve them better.

### **Support community based sustainable economies**

Mr. Speaker, one of the best crime prevention problems I know of is called a job. The more we create jobs, the better we can address our social problems. The more we grow our economy, the more choice we give ourselves in how we want to see Nunavut grow.

The outlook for the coming year is a good one. By all accounts, Nunavut is rebounding from last year's downturn, led by mining projects like Meadowbank. Many junior exploration companies like Baffinland and Sabina have announced their exploration intentions. While a recovery in mining looks very promising, Mr. Speaker, we need growth that spans more than one sector. This government will continue to invest in economic development and diversification.

We will provide \$100,000 more next year to the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association, \$100,000 more to the Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation, \$100,000 more to the Nunavut Economic Developers Association, and finally, \$250,000 more for our regional business development centres to fund small and medium sized businesses.

>>Applause

Together, these organizations are helping the Nunavut economy not only to develop but also to diversify. We will

gain not only more jobs but also new skills, and we will do this right across the territory. In the coming year, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation will work with each community to look at its economic potential and what it needs to develop sustainably.

Mr. Speaker, while I am talking about our great interest in economic development, I should also tell you that our commitment to environmental protection remains unshaken. We support land use planning, environmental assessment, and water licensing processes that are efficient and effective. We are also meeting our commitments to manage wildlife responsibly.

The department will also lobby the federal government for greater access to fisheries resources and greater investment in fisheries infrastructure. The department will focus on the offshore and inshore fisheries research priorities outlined in the Nunavut Fisheries Science and Research Agenda.

>>Applause

This government will also approach the federal government for support in weaning Nunavut from fossil fuels. We need clean energy because climate change represents a genuine threat to our way of life.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, much of our success in protecting the environment will depend on the support that we receive from the public. We can get good results when the public understands the issues and gets

involved. We will run a comprehensive anti-littering campaign this coming year, backed by advertising and other public education measures so that all Nunavummiut understand the importance of keeping our territory clean and proper now and forever.

>>Applause

### **Increase support for culture and the arts**

Mr. Speaker, I have talked at length about some of our economic and social challenges and how this government is responding with measures that are appropriate and prudent. There is another challenge before us. I think of it as a challenge of identity. We are taking steps to support the Inuit language.

This government made commitments under the *Official Languages Act* and the *Inuit Language Protection Act*. We are working now to deliver on our promises. The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth will coordinate and monitor the implementation of a comprehensive plan to put these laws into effect. It will also work with the Department of Human Resources to develop language training materials for our government employees.

Mr. Speaker, a year ago, I had the pleasure of describing our plans for the *Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit*. Today, this Inuit Language Authority exists as a branch within CLEY. It will become an independent, arm's length body in 18 months.

>>Applause

I am particularly looking forward to the Inuit Language Standardization Symposium that the *Taiguusiliuqtiit* will hold next fall. This important meeting affords us an opportunity to talk about the development, use, and standardization of the Inuit language in Nunavut and the circumpolar world.

This coming year, we will see significant growth for *Piqqusilirivvik*. The construction of the cultural school in Clyde River is well underway and scheduled for completion next year.

Connecting our community also means building better connections with our elders and our youth. Over the past year, we advanced the new Elders Strategy into our communities, gathering oral history from elders in Arviat and Chesterfield Inlet. We have also held youth workshops on survival skills.

In the coming year, we will develop a strategy for collecting Inuit traditional knowledge and oral history across the territory. We will also focus on developing reference materials for programs on the land to help teach our youth about where they live. We will also work in the coming year with partners and stakeholders, such as the Nunavut Literacy Council, to put Inuit language resource materials in all community libraries.

We are also committing an additional \$175,000 to the Nunavut Film, Television and New Media Program.

>>*Applause*

Nunavut holds real potential as a destination for film production. This program will help us to create

opportunities for Nunavummiut to take part.

### **Strengthen the public service**

Mr. Speaker, another centre of attention in this budget is the actions that we will take to strengthen our territory's governance. Our priorities are people management and financial management.

Part of our capacity problem lies in our ability to recruit and retain the people we need in government. The Government of Nunavut has nearly 900 jobs open—jobs we cannot fill. We have vacancies in every category of employment. While we are interested in filling all of these vacancies, we need to pay special attention to positions that require technical skills.

A government runs on its knowledge. We need to retain the knowledge workers we have now and we need to recruit more. We need more accountants, engineers, and computer specialists. We seriously need certified trade workers to inspect and maintain our assets. We have already stepped up our advertising in specialized journals and websites, and will continue our professional and technical recruitment efforts in the year ahead.

We are also working to ensure that the government's finances are properly managed. In response to the Auditor General's report last year on financial management practices, my finance department has developed an action plan. It addresses all of the concerns that the Auditor General raised. Members discussed that plan last fall at the standing committee. Now my department will put that plan in place.

Our interest in sound financial management extends to our territorial corporations. We will create formal agreements with each of these corporations to ensure a clear definition of governance, roles, and responsibilities.

Also this coming year, the Department of Community and Government Services will examine the condition of all government buildings. As members know, we have deferred maintenance on a number of structures, but there are real limits on how long we can delay repairs and improvements.

Already, we have set up a working group of facilities managers and project officers to examine the maintenance needs of every building that we own. We will track building conditions and capital requirements closely so that we can keep our facilities in good condition and plan to replace them when we need to.

### **Connect our community**

Another focal point for action, Mr. Speaker, is our *Tamapta* commitment to improve our connection to Nunavummiut. As we saw in *Qanukkanniq*, the people of Nunavut feel that their government does not hear them. Even a simple phone call often does not get through.

Mr. Speaker, our government is all about providing services to Nunavummiut.

>> *Applause*

Anyone who wants information about our services must be able to get it. We will make information easier to find. We are building a better website and we will

set up a phone centre that anyone can call for information. Our improved website should be ready in the coming year and the phone centre in 2012.

In the coming year, we will provide government liaison officers in 14 communities.

>> *Applause*

These bilingual individuals will provide residents and businesses with reliable information and help government agencies to work better together to meet the communities' needs. They will also provide the government with useful feedback from Nunavummiut.

The government needs this feedback, Mr. Speaker, and we will make use of what we hear. All departments are receiving new consultation guidelines so they will include the public in our deliberations and decisions. Our work can only improve when we listen to the people we are trying to serve.

### **Enhance our recognition in Canada and the world**

As we improve our communications capability, Mr. Speaker, we will also use it beyond our borders. We face issues outside the territory often because our agenda, our way of life, and our plans are not well understood.

I say that even though we have recently gained a high profile on the global stage. The G7 finance ministers met here last month and their media coverage treated Nunavut favourably. At the Olympic Games in British Columbia, we saw *Inuksuit* everywhere. If there are medals

for raising awareness, Team Nunavut would have brought home the gold.

>> *Applause*

But awareness does not always lead to understanding. Looking to Europe, for instance, we continue to face challenges to our sealing traditions and industry.

**An Hon. Member:** Shame, shame!

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Many environmental groups are concerned about how we manage wildlife, especially polar bears. We need to be heard outside the territory, Mr. Speaker.

**An Hon. Member:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** There are two audiences that deserve our special attention in the coming year.

The first is the Europeans. Our environment department has been giving special thought to the story that we tell the world about managing this territory's wildlife. In the coming year, it will set up a communications group to develop a comprehensive approach on issues like seal hunting. It is about time that we tell our own story so that we can be understood for who we are.

>> *Applause*

The second group that needs to hear more about us is the federal government. We already deal with them directly on a range of issues, but the matter of devolving federal jurisdiction of lands, waters, and resources to Nunavut needs to be explained. We have prepared ourselves for negotiations, as has Nunavut Tunngavik. We are still waiting

for the federal government to join us at the table.

From our conversations with the federal government, we understand that they have not seen clearly that we are prepared to handle additional responsibility. We think it's a perception problem, Mr. Speaker, and we are going to explain to the federal government how we will take on new responsibilities in a way that it is appropriate and prudent. Devolution remains a priority for this government.

>> *Applause*

### Summary

In the end, Mr. Speaker, it is all about working together, building our future together. *Tamapta* is an excellent agenda. Today, my budget connects our vision to the actions that we can undertake prudently with the resources we have available. This budget is the *Tamapta Action Plan* in dollars and cents. It is the fiscal plan through which we will build our future together.

>> *Applause*

*Koana*, Mr. Speaker. *Ma'na* and thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Item 3. Ministers' Statements. Premier of Nunavut, (interpretation ends) Hon. Eva Aariak.

### Item 3: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 098 – 3(2):  
Minister Tapardjuk Absent from  
the House**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to advise members that our colleague, the Hon. Louis Tapardjuk, will be absent from the House today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Ministers' Statements. Item 4. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Item 4: Members' Statements**

**Member's Statement 149 – 3(2):  
Working for the People of Baker  
Lake and Nunavummiut**

**Mr. Aupaluktuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to convey my deepest sympathies and condolences to the families who have lost loved ones. In Baker Lake, they are currently placing their departed one into the ground and they are in my thoughts. I would hope that others will be thinking of their loss.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, this morning, I went on the radio again in Baker Lake reminding the residents of Baker Lake and our constituents that my position belongs to the people of Baker Lake as it came from the people. In my mind, that is a directive that all in Baker Lake are represented.

The message was simple, that education and process is in constant work and democracy is working in Baker Lake. I recommitted myself saying that all of Baker Lake will be heard. Before my

term of office is over, all issues of Baker Lake that are brought forth will be addressed in hopes that not only will Bakermiut be contributors to Nunavut and Canada but demonstrate that we have the ability and will to lead by example collectively.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I just want to recommit myself to the people of Baker Lake because what I had done was I had explained and I owe it to the people of Baker Lake to explain that during the process of the holiday season, I had some complications in terms of medical, in which terms I wasn't able to participate in some festivities.

With that, I want to provide a full explanation to the people of Baker Lake that it is worthwhile to come back to the Legislative Assembly and as well, to be able to see and hear that this government is taking steps forward to listen to all of the people of Baker Lake, and that we are working collectively together to try and advance ourselves and also be participants, as well as trying to evolve with our Government of Nunavut as a territory. It's a great pleasure to work with my colleagues here.

With that as well, it was a recommitment not only because I needed to be reminded but I needed to be connected again with the people, and it was an honour to have that from the people who have not been represented in some categories and also by some elders who needed reassurance with the fact that there is some leadership in the Legislative Assembly. It's out of respect that I mention that to the elders and it's a good thing to see that. With the budget being addressed, I think we have a good future addressing this.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to continue on with my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Mr. Aupaluktuq is seeking consent of this Assembly to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may conclude your statement, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly, for allowing me to conclude my statement.

I wanted to speak about the creation of Nunavut with the goal of servicing Inuit interests, including our culture, language, and traditional knowledge. However, to date, we have to educate our fellow Canadians that Nunavummiut are quite capable people. Although we are showcasing our talents, sometimes it seems no one is paying attention.

The leadership of both the members and management is prevalent since we are dealing with capital projects, which Mr. Peterson alluded to in his budget speech. I also wish to state to my fellow Nunavummiut that this Legislative Assembly and its members work extremely hard to assist all communities in Nunavut.

When dealing with these matters, I don't only represent the interests of Baker Lake but all Nunavummiut. I would also like to thank the staff and Members of the Legislative Assembly because we have been elected to represent and provide support to our people and constituencies. I just wanted to make that comment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 150 – 3(2):  
Celebrating Cadets in Canada**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to start my Member's Statement by sending my condolences to my constituents in Arctic Bay.

Over the weekend, after a long fight with cancer, Daniel Oingonn passed away. Daniel was the former Fire Chief of Arctic Bay. He had served on the fire department for many years. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Mr. Speaker, on a more joyous note, I rise today to acknowledge with pride one of the finest youth programs in Canada, the Royal Canadian Army Cadets... oh, sorry, Royal Canadian Air Cadets. I work with both army cadets and air cadets.

Mr. Speaker, as I am sure you and my colleagues will have already noted, Air Cadets from 795 Iqaluit Squadron are our pages in the House today. Air Cadets will be paging all week. They do this, Mr. Speaker, as an exercise in citizenship and to celebrate the 40th anniversary of their role in this community.

Mr. Speaker, 795 Frobisher Bay Squadron was officially stood up on October 1, 1970. In 1989, the squadron's name was changed to '795 Iqaluit Squadron' to coincide with the community's name change. Mr. Andre Dumas, Regional Director for Transport



Canada, was the driving force behind the squadron's inception. The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #4, now Branch #168, became its first and only sponsor, a commitment which continues to this day.

Over the years, the squadron paraded in school gymnasiums and storage sheds until 1992, when the Royal Canadian Legion reaffirmed its sponsorship commitment by constructing a new and permanent home for the squadron, the Royal Canadian Legion Cadet Hall. This investment in the youth of Iqaluit supports their devotion to duty and community service.

Mr. Speaker, in 2008, 795 Squadron was selected by the City of Iqaluit as the top youth volunteer program in the city for its continuing positive impact on youth. Today, 795 Squadron is a model program with an enrolment of 52 youth aged 12 to 18 who are very active in all aspects of air cadet training.

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

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Elliott is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. You may proceed, Mr. Elliott.

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

Mr. Speaker, as part of the National Air Cadet Program these cadets undergo citizenship, leadership, technical, and physical fitness training, as well as other programs throughout the year. During

the summer training period, there are opportunities to travel to various training centres across Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the 2010 training year marks 40 years of service to community and country for the Iqaluit Squadron. Over the coming months, the cadets and their officer contingent will be celebrating this achievement.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of cadet corps and squadrons across the North. These programs offer incredible opportunities for youth to not only learn, serve, and advance but to be role models for their peers and to encourage good citizenship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Iqaluit Squadron and in recognition of the important role that cadet units play all across Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Mr. Ningark.

**Member's Statement 151 – 3(2):  
Appreciation of Fuel Rebate  
Program**

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Before I make my statement, I would like to wish the people of Kugaaruk, my wife, Celine, my daughter, Louise, my other daughter, Stella, as well as my daughter-in-law, Salome, along with our second daughter-in-law, Martina, and our third daughter-in-law, Mary a happy International Women's Day. I wanted to thank them for the immense support they have provided me to this date.

Prior to my arrival to Iqaluit, I received a letter from Kugaaruk, actually the day before I was to leave for this city. The letter was from this individual who wanted to thank the Minister of Finance or perhaps it was to Minister of Community and Government Services. In any event, it was with respect to the fuel rebate program.

This individual was successful in getting a fuel rebate cheque. This person is an elder and she lives in her own home. Every year, she would put snow blocks around the house because it is very drafty in the winter and consumes a large amount of heating fuel.

She would like to thank everyone, the Premier and the government. Although she thanked me personally for this initiative, she should be thanking our government. So I would like to thank the government on her behalf as well as my other constituents, Mr. Speaker.

So on behalf of any of my constituents who received the subsidy support for the homeownership fuel rebate program both in Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay, I would like to thank the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 152 – 3(2):  
Health of Member**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm quite ecstatic to see all of my colleagues again.

I was just down in Ottawa for a medical appointment where I had a follow-up visit. As my colleagues know, I had to undergo a surgical procedure last April and now I need to have regular checkups. Again, it's an ongoing checkup on whether my condition is worsening and it relates to my arterial condition. However, during one of my checkups, the doctor found that some of my arteries are becoming enlarged in other places.

As a private individual, if I underwent this surgery, I would have kept it private as most other people are prone to do. However, since I represent my constituents, I have to convey my condition to my fellow Nunavummiut. I believe that they ought to know about this condition, so I would like to inform them of my situation. I want my constituents to know since my relatives have already been apprised of my condition. I have spoken to my relatives separately and individually.

My doctor in Ottawa has informed me that I require a second surgery, which I agreed to. Once the surgical procedure has been set up and the time is scheduled, I will undergo the surgery. I was informed that there may be a team of doctors to operate on my arteries. Once she has put together a surgical team, she will be scheduling my next surgery. I'm fully prepared for this and have decided that I will indeed attend this surgery.

However, I would like to apologize beforehand as I may not be able to complete this sitting with my colleagues. Once my doctor has notified me about the dates of surgery, I have to drop everything to attend to the procedure.

I'm forewarning my colleagues that I may not be able to complete the session during this month. If I have to leave prior to the completion of the surgery, then my colleagues and fellow Nunavummiut will understand why I'm unable to attend the last few days of the session of the Legislative Assembly.

As I will need to undergo this operation, I will be leaving for Ottawa once called upon, but I cannot predict the dates I am to leave. I may actually be able to complete this session, but I have no idea as to what the timeline is. This decision will be based upon the doctor's assessment and her full complement of doctors to complete this operation.

I just wanted to inform my fellow Nunavummiut that this operation may occur prior to the completion of this session, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

### **Member's Statement 153 – 3(2): In Support of Sport**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my support for the important role that sport can play in the lives, well-being, and future of our youth across Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I have been following with interest the comments made by my colleagues on the difficulties faced by many of their constituents in accessing opportunities to participate in sport.

Some communities do not have the necessary recreational infrastructure for youth to come together and participate in

certain sports. Others have indicated that the high cost of airline tickets, especially from the more remote communities, prevents their athletes from travelling to tournaments and taking part in territory-wide competitions.

Mr. Speaker, even as our athletes travel outside of the territory to tournaments such as the Arctic Winter Games, I have noted in some cases that parents have to make significant additional commitments, such as providing extra funding or making billeting arrangements.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that I am not criticizing the work of the Department of CGS in its ongoing efforts to provide and maintain recreational facilities in our communities. In addition, the Department of CGS authorizes fundraising activities, such as bingo and lotteries, so that non-profit groups, such as sports associations, can raise money for their equipment and events.

I also want to make it clear that I am not questioning the goodwill and energy provided by Sport Nunavut through the Department of CLEY. The Department of CLEY focuses on many issues in support of youth and culture across Nunavut.

However, Mr. Speaker, I feel that as a government, we owe it to all of our youth and to all of our aspiring athletes to provide them with the best chances to get involved in sport, to participate as much as possible, and to have fair and equal access to tournaments and competitions that take place in our territory and beyond.

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

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, sport should not just be available to the privileged few who are fortunate enough to have large enough community halls or new arenas with artificial ice. Sport should not just be available to those youth whose parents have the extra time and money to make things happen. Sport should bring everyone together regardless of differences in their circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the approach to sport across Nunavut needs to be more coordinated and comprehensive. I believe that if all of our resources and energies were concentrated under one roof, we could provide more opportunities to more Nunavutmiut.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will have questions for the Premier on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Member's Statement 154 – 3(2): Birthday Greetings to Daughter**

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just realized yesterday how quickly time goes by when you're having fun.

Mr. Speaker, when I first sat as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, my daughter, Teia, was four years old. Yesterday, she turned 15. I would just like to say that time went by so fast that I must have been having so much fun over the last ten years. I would also like to take this opportunity to tell her I love her and I hope she had a very happy birthday yesterday.

I know that there are a lot of other people with the same birthday yesterday. I usually go through the list, but I don't have it all memorized, so I'm just going to say her and also, I did not forget some of the other people who have birthdays on the same day as my daughter.

I ask all members to join me in wishing her a happy birthday. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit East, Ms. Aariak.

### **Member's Statement 155 – 3(2): In Support of Youth**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to say that I am very proud of women today. I will make a more detailed statement tomorrow.

The reason I wanted to make a statement is that my colleagues' comments are right on the mark: youth need good recreational facilities.

I do remember the athletes who went to attend the Arctic Winter Games. I would also like to say how proud I am of the Iqaluit athletes as well as Nunavut youth.

Arctic Winter Games is not just about sports. It also has a very strong role in leadership training. This is very helpful and beneficial to all youth, so I am in support of all that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. We will move on with the Orders of the Day. (interpretation ends) Item 5. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 6. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Elliott.

#### **Item 6: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have to get used to introducing people as I'm not very good at it sometimes.

Mr. Speaker, my Member's Statement on Friday was about the relationship between myself and my mayors and how they keep me informed as to what's going on in the community because I can't always be there. It just so happens that the Mayor of Arctic Bay, Niore Iqalukjuak, is with us today. He is down here with QIA and he is also the community liaison officer for QIA, so I would like to recognize him. Welcome.

>>Applause

At the same time, as I mentioned earlier, there are four pages that I would like to recognize. Each day, there will be new four members that are coming in. So we have Warrant Officer Second Class Candice Sudlovenick, Flight Corporal Karle Kendall, Flight Corporal Jeneca Fanjoy, and Warrant Officer Second Class Colin Gunn. Welcome to the Chambers.

>>Applause

Finally, as I mentioned in my Member's Statement, the people sitting behind me, the cadet program could not happen without volunteers and staff. We have with us Captain Adam Chubbs, the Commanding Officer of the 795 Iqaluit Squadron. We have Captain John Graham, the Administrative Officer, and Captain Godfrey Mitchelmore, the Senior Training Officer.

Some of the people who are not here, who work with the cadets are: Lieutenant Leo Twerdin, Training and Range Safety Officer, Officer Cadet Sophia Arbeau, the Training Officer, Civilian Instructor Daniel Carter, Supply Officer, and Volunteer Doug White, the Public Relations and Band Instructor. Welcome.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although this individual was already recognized, I do

want to recognize my brother-in-law, who is my younger sister's husband, Niore Iqalukjuak from Arctic Bay. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. I can make a statement to him, but I won't. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Oral Questions. If there are none...

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation ends) Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

### Item 7: Oral Questions

#### Question 228 – 3(2): GN Policy to Protect Freedom of Speech

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Premier, as Minister responsible for the Nunavut Status of Women Council.

Mr. Speaker, as today is International Women's Day, I would like to follow up on a line of questioning that I began last Friday in a different context.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, I was interested to note that in her Minister's Statement on the reappointment of members to the Status of Women Council, the Premier stated the following:

"In speaking out and challenging territorial government, federal government, and other organizations' policies that impact women and in advocating for change, Qullit will continue to ensure that Nunavut is a

place where women's rights are recognized and respected."

Mr. Speaker, less than one month ago, the Status of Women Council went on the public record to say that they wanted a "clear policy statement from the GN that council members will not be harassed or intimidated for performing their duties."

Will the Premier commit to establishing a clear and public government policy that will provide the legal protection that the Status of Women Council has been asking for, yes or no? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking that very important question. I concur in that assessment and believe that within the government structure, anyone looking for information has the right to access the information.

Further, if that person wishes to undertake a whistle-blowing report, they have to be able to do so. This is an issue we are trying to resolve and I will be able to make a statement with respect to providing legal protection, especially in providing transparency with our government's decision-making processes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for that response. My next question would be: could the Premier commit to let us know when that

statement will be coming forward?  
Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): We are currently in the process of completing our review on the situation and once the matter is crystallized, we will report on it.

For example, it states in the document that the HR manual will be the main document utilized and any legal requirements listed in the *Public Services Act*. It states the timelines and length of time required to conduct reviews on the particulars related to that. It is currently available and is in the public domain. These are available and are already part of the processes used.

We are working towards the completion of the review and once the situation is cleared up, I will inform the member as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is it possible to get a timeline from the Premier as to how long that review would take? Are we talking two months, six months, eight months, or eighteen months? Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Ms. Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not exactly sure how much time is required to complete the review process, but once

we have a clear idea, I will ensure that it's released to the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I would like to know is that if I was working within the Status of Women Council, I would like some assurance. Can you assure that everyone within the council today that they would not be reprimanded? I think the report in the newspaper was something referring to Nunavut's paranoid political culture. Could the Premier commit to standing up for women if they speak up? Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, for women in particular and anyone, for that matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 229 – 3(2): Economic Development in Smaller Communities**

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, the Hon. Peter Taptuna.

As the minister will recall, he made a statement in the House on November 30 of last year concerning the Inuksuit Project to sell art made by Nunavut artists at the Vancouver Olympics. On February 15 of this year, he issued a

news release in which he indicated that \$58,000 worth of products had been purchased from the retail section at Northern House in Vancouver during the Olympics.

Can the minister update us today on the final sales figures from the Olympics and can he indicate how much inventory is still unsold now that the Olympics are over? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I can't give you the final numbers at this time. The Northern House that we operate in Vancouver is still open and we intend to keep the Canada's Northern House open until April 18. That's towards the end of the Special Olympics, the Paralympic Games.

As of the last report that I have on the sale of arts and crafts, it was around \$100,000 at that time, as of February 21, Nunavut's day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister commit to tabling a final document when the final sales are complete in April? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can commit to doing that once the final numbers and the final report of

the transactions are in. We expect that to be well over \$300,000 for the amount of money going back into the arts and crafts and the carvers of these communities where *Inuksugait* were purchased and also other arts and crafts. We expect well over \$300,000 by April. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Economic Development and Transportation is also responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation. Can the minister tell the House today how many of the corporation's subsidiaries were involved in providing products for sale at the Olympics? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. We had the Nunavut Development Corporation coordinating and dealing with the *Inuksugait* Project.

We also had other organizations that were involved – the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association and the Nunavut Tourism Association – and various other groups and individuals who are involved in our program down in Vancouver for the Winter Olympic Games.

Once I get the final numbers of the program and project that we held down there, I'll be sure to table the document for the House to see. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Mr. Rumbolt.



**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, the Nunavut Development Corporation is required by law to focus its efforts on creating “employment and income for residents of Nunavut, primarily in small communities.” Can the minister indicate how small communities such as Sanikiluaq benefit from Nunavut’s recent activities at the Olympic Games? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is absolutely correct. The Nunavut Development Corporation’s mandate under the Act is to assist the smaller, non-decentralized communities as much as possible.

Like any other community, Sanikiluaq was probably looked at and depending on the number of carvers who were available to do some of these projects for the Vancouver Olympic Games, I’m sure that they were contacted. To get into the details of that, I’m not sure, but I’ll make sure that once I have that information, I’ll make it available to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 230 – 3(2): Poverty Reduction in Nunavut**

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to Madam Premier Aariak and this is in regard to the particulars listed in the *Tamapta* document.

Further, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson, spoke to an issue regarding the working poor in Nunavut and how they can be provided assistance. I’m referring to the poverty reduction program, as it is called in English. It states that Nunavut Tunngavik, the federal government, the territorial government, and the private sector will be working to reduce poverty. Perhaps we ought to call it excessive poverty as that would be a better term. I’m speaking of the extremely poor people in Nunavut.

It is a very well-known fact by the rest of our fellow Canadians, both by the residents of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, that Nunavut has the highest level of poverty in Canada. This is not by choice. It is due to the dearth of employment opportunities in the smaller communities.

What I would like to hear from the government is a proper definition of poverty. I think we are all aware of what poverty is, but we would be best served to come to a common understanding of the term “poverty” so that it would be understood by all of our residents.

I wonder when the parties would be able to agree on the term “poverty.” My question to the minister is: how will the Premier work with her partners listed in the document to define the term? And here I am, talking about Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and private businesses here. When will the definition of what constitutes poverty be started? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for posing that question. As the member stated, Hon. Ningark, we already know what poverty is. Our government is looking at how we can reduce poverty and I can say that we will have to work with the various entities out there, including the private sector, to prepare a poverty reduction strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think all of us wanted to help the people of Nunavut. Since this information went out to the Nunavut communities, when are we going to see this poverty reduction strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will have to do a study first and of course, we unfortunately can't do everything at once right now. We need to have a proper plan before we get anything underway and at that time, we will be able to tell you when the poverty reduction strategy will be completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are already in the year 2010 and we're going to be dealing with the budget for 2010-11. Can the

Premier tell us if we're going to be able to get this before the end of the fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Poverty and the poverty reduction strategy will take a while because of financial restraints. We will have to put a strategy together and we're hoping to see that completed before the end of the fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 231 – 3(2): Responsibility for Sport and Recreation in the Government of Nunavut**

**Mr. Ningeongan**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier of Nunavut, the Hon. Eva Aariak.

Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I spoke about the important role that recreational facilities and sports can play in the lives and futures of our youth. A number of my colleagues have also spoken on this issue.

The Premier is ultimately responsible for the organizational structure of the Government of Nunavut. As I noted earlier, responsibility for sport and recreation is split between different government departments. Can the Premier advise the House on whether she has given any consideration to redistributing portfolios so that responsibility for sport and recreation,

including capital infrastructure and programs, can be brought together under one department?

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are going to have an ongoing review of how we can better structure the government and how we can reduce the costs to administer these programs. This is one of our priorities. I can assure the member that I will be looking into the matter that he raises. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Community and Government Services has responsibility for recreational infrastructure across Nunavut. Until 2004, the Department of Community Government and Transportation, the predecessor of CGS, had responsibility for Sport Nunavut. Will the Premier commit to considering the idea of moving all responsibility for sport and recreation back under the mandate of Community and Government Services? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I'll make sure that this is reviewed carefully and see whether we should put it back under the mandate of Community and Government Services or if we should consider other options. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your second supplementary, Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At present, responsibility for sport and recreation programs is with the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. However, this department's core mandate has an important and different focus on official languages protection and cultural promotion.

Will the Premier commit to working with her colleagues on both sides of the House to review whether all responsibility for sport and recreation should be transferred back to Community and Government Services? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 232 – 3(2): Status of Baker Lake Airport Improvements**

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

As the minister will recall, I asked him questions on November 26 of last year concerning the need for major improvements to Baker Lake's airport.

At that time, the minister was not optimistic that the Government of Nunavut would be able to contribute to this important project.

In January of this year, both Minister Taptuna and I were copied on the federal Minister of Transport's recent letter to the Mayor of Baker Lake. The federal minister has informed my community and I quote:

“As indicated during our meeting, the Baker Lake Airport upgrade appears to be eligible for funding under the Provincial/Territorial Base Fund. However, in order to receive federal funding, the Government of Nunavut would need to include the Baker Lake Airport initiative in one of its future Provincial/Territorial Base Fund Capital Plan Submissions.”

My question for the minister is this: will he follow this advice and formally request federal assistance for the Baker Lake Airport project, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. When the discussions were first initiated last year, the discussion was revolving around a new airport for Baker Lake. As a department, we supported the initiative, but we indicated that we couldn't finance it.

Last fall, as the member can recall, we initiated within our department a capital

budget of \$250,000 to renew the Baker Lake Airport Master Plan. If that's not showing support for the community, I don't know what is, but we do support the improvement and upgrading of the Baker Lake Airport.

According to the letter, there shouldn't have been any kind of surprises or bewilderment of why this government doesn't support our communities. We do. We did that by putting in a pile of money there to upgrade the airport and to come up with designs and planning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Hon. Minister Taptuna for that response. In all fairness to the department and the hon. minister, the minister has also been accepting of initiatives, but we do have some legislation to follow by. As a formality, I have to ask these questions on behalf of my constituents.

The supplementary I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker, is: the federal minister's letter to my community's mayor also stated and I quote:

“I would therefore recommend that you engage in discussions with officials from the Government of Nunavut regarding this initiative so that they might consider including it as a priority in their next capital plan submission under the Provincial/Territorial Base Fund.”

My supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, to the Hon. Minister Taptuna is: will he ensure that his department's officials meet this year with the community of Baker Lake to discuss ways the Government of Nunavut can support this important project, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the initiative of renewing the Baker Lake Airport Master Plan is already well established. There are going to be staff members from the department going there to determine what options are going to be taken.

Before we can actually submit an application for funding to the federal government, there has to be a plan of designs, a plan, and some clearly accurate estimates. We can't just go to the federal government and ask for a pot of money. There has to be a plan and actual estimates before we can do that.

I will commit to the Member of Baker Lake that yes, I'll have my staff look at this and come back with reasonable estimates, a plan, and a design on how the project is going to move forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the hon. minister. This government also supports a lot of initiatives, but it's clear to understand that, as the hon. minister already addressed, there has to be a plan and

designs with accurate cost estimates that have to be clear, which is understandable.

When I read the federal minister's letter to my community's mayor, it appeared very clear to me that the Government of Canada has been surprised at the GN's lack of support for this project. However, the hon. minister has addressed this issue at this time and I also want to ask formally in the House that I understand the hon. minister has initiative support and he also has legitimate policies and legislation to follow in order to accept a project.

I just want to ask as a formality: can the minister clearly explain to the House today why the GN has not provided more support for this project? Mr. Speaker, I understand he partially answered it, but I would like to ask for the record. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister Taptuna.

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

Initially, the request was for a new airport in Baker Lake. At that time, my department, including my senior officials, had indicated that the airstrip in Baker Lake and the infrastructure that was there was sufficient for the traffic that was going through the community. At that time, there were some other indications that the mining company was going to contribute funds for a new airport. We haven't seen any amount that the mining company is going to contribute.

At this time, the initiative that we did for Baker Lake was to renew the master plan and see what the airport actually needs in upgrading. There are probably going to be some upgrades to the apron and the air terminal, but once the project is looked at and whether there are more improvements to be made... the amount that we had approved at the time was \$250,000 just to take a look at renewing the master plan for the airport. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the hon. minister for the response. Will the minister or his officials and the department commit to contacting the federal minister as well as the private sector in our region to see if they are willing to make a commitment to make a contribution and also get back to myself so that I can report back to my constituents and to ensure that the Hamlet of Baker Lake is well informed about the commitment issues from the federal as well as the private sector?

Will this territorial government commit to that as well once there are other partnerships in place that are willing to contribute to this? I think it's a vital commitment not only to Nunavut but also to Canada. Baker Lake will be a very good contributing factor to the economic development of Nunavut. I think this is a vital project that can only enhance and better service delivery in which the people of Nunavut can also benefit from all sorts of mining activity not only in Baker Lake but also in the Kivalliq region as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. member for that question. There has already been some contact made with the private sector, especially with the mining company, and we intend to speak more about the amount of contribution that they are willing to make. Also, my staff has already been in contact with Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 233 – 3(2): Update on New Airport and Runway Replacement**

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for Peter Taptuna, Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Most Nunavummiut are now aware of other communities that have appropriate landing strips that meet their needs, even in diverse places such as Arctic Bay, where they are building an excellent new airstrip which is almost completed now. However, we have lobbied for a new airstrip in our hometown of Pangnirtung.

We are continually advised that our airstrip is inadequate and located in a dangerous area, as it is in the middle of the community; it is centrally located. The current fencing around the airstrip is dilapidated and there are holes all along its length. This type of disrepair is not the kind of memory we want visitors to remember. As the airstrip is right in the middle, if any aircraft was to skid off the

runway in either direction, it would hit only residential housing.

I would like to ask the minister if he has any update available for our community, as we haven't heard any news as to the status of the airstrip, and whether it will eventually be moved to another location. We have continually heard about a plan, but as of this month, we haven't heard any news about its status.

Is there a review currently underway within the Government of Nunavut to replace our airstrip? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The Pangnirtung Airport, as the member stated, yes, it is a safety concern; it's right in the middle of town. To move the airport to any other location is going to be up on top of the mountain. It has been identified as a priority further down the line to relocate the airport. The strategy and the implementation of that are still being looked at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response to my question as that is what I wanted to hear. With respect to the plans for relocating the airport, we know that there is preparation activities required to be completed.

I also know that there is a remote weather station currently monitoring the weather in that location. However, we have yet to see any further projects scheduled for either this year or the next. I would like to know if there are any projects his department will undertake to prepare for its eventual construction and I would like to know if there will be any progress made in the future.

We are running out of useable land, especially for residential lots within the town proper. If the airport is eventually relocated, then the airstrip lands could be utilized for residential lots as it is already covered with granular materials. With our current situation, we have an inadequate supply of residential lots in our community.

My question to the minister is: when does your department anticipate scheduling further projects to prepare for the relocation of the airstrip? Can the minister provide an update to our community of Pangnirtung? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that there's a study being done already for weather at the site in Pangnirtung, but I will get back to the member with accurate information.

We know that the relocation of the airport to another site is going to be a major cost that's estimated to be around 45 million dollars. In order to spend that amount of money, there has to be further study and engineering done. Once I get more pertinent information from the department, I'll make sure that I pass it

on to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 234 – 3(2): Update on the Social Advocacy Office**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, the Hon. Eva Aariak.

Mr. Speaker, in June of 2009, I raised concerns about the mandate of the Social Advocacy Office being too broad. In the fall of sitting of the Legislative Assembly, I once again asked questions and raised concerns about the speed at which the government is working on establishing this office. Could the Premier update us today on the activities of this office? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking me that question. We continue to progress on our work on this matter. We are currently working on the proposed site for the facility and the RFP for the project has been completed. We are now working on the details of the contract and the next step is for the construction to commence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** *Qujannamiik*, Premier. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was my understanding, from the answers before, that the job was going to be advertised before the New Year and hopefully someone would be hired in the New Year, but it sounds like the RFP is just going out now.

My second question is: under the social advocate's office, one of the key priorities was to complete the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy. Could the minister tell me if that strategy is completed and when it will be tabled in the House? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you. The Nunavut government is working on this with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and according to what I have heard, the board is near completion. Once it's completed, I'll be able to table it in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** The social advocate's office is also supposed to undertake a study to work towards the creation of an independent child and youth representative. Could the Premier update the House as to what has been done to update on establishing this needed position? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to this issue, the Minister of Health and Social Services is working very hard on



this issue. They have already met. The contents and the details of the child and youth representative will have to work on the details more. At this time, we had expended some funds on the study of this. I can't tell you when it will be completed, but we're working on this for sure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So is the Premier saying that Health and Social Services is taking the lead on this and working towards getting legislation of the *Child and Family Services Act* in place before it moves forward onto the youth and child representative position? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Various individuals within the departments of Health and Social Services and CLEY are working on this. The Department of Justice also has a role as well to review that because the various departments are working together on that and we need to be very well prepared before we table it. That is what I stated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 235 – 3(2): Definition of Poverty**

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am right across from the Hon. Premier. Earlier, I was asking about the poverty in Nunavut and I believe the response I got from the Premier was that the

government already knows the definition of what poverty is in Nunavut. I do not believe, Mr. Speaker, that every person who comes to the income support office will be able to get paycheques under the definition of poverty in Nunavut.

Now, my question, Mr. Speaker, is: will the Premier now provide the House the definition of what is poverty in the eyes of the government as a program giver? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't quite understand the question, so I would like the member to rephrase his question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Mr. Ningark, you have been asked to rephrase your question. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will rephrase my question. Understanding that not every person who goes to the income support office will be given a poverty paycheque and the Premier indicated earlier that they already know what the definition of poverty is, will the Premier share or tell this House what is the definition of poverty in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He already stated previously the definition of poverty and I agree with the terminology

he used in Inuktitut, which is *Ajuqsarniq*, meaning poverty.

I think he is asking for the formal definition of poverty. We could write it into the strategy as an agreed upon definition within the poverty reduction strategy. If we are to follow that definition of poverty, then I can table that information and how our envisioning of the process is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to my supplementary question, I wonder if this will occur during this session. I believe that this is the Second Session of the Third Assembly. My question is: will the Premier be able to provide this information prior to the end of this session or can she perhaps table that information in the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll try to have that completed before the session is over. If I can't have it completed by then, I'll do it during the next session. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't want to just

give high expectations to the people out there, so will the Premier commit to providing that information before we leave for home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Anti-poverty in Nunavut is very important to us and the people of Nunavut are very concerned about this. How should we eradicate poverty and how should we start dealing with that issue? I will be tabling that information.

As I stated earlier, we're working on this issue and I know that we're not going to complete this overnight. I know that we must look at long-term plans because this is a huge issue, but I'll try to provide that information right away and provide the definition in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Income support recipients really do need their support and I don't think I'm the only member who has been approached by individuals who have been denied. I hope it will not and that you make sure that it won't be like that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department gives out income support following their eligibility criteria and it's all stipulated in the eligibility requirements as to who is allowed to receive income support or not. In regard to the plans to make the strategy on how we can reduce poverty in Nunavut, we will try to make sure they are clear so that people can understand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Oral Questions. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Elliott.

### **Question 236 – 3(2): Freedom of Speech**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to briefly revisit my questions to the Premier concerning the ability of the members of the Status of Women Council to speak freely without fear of retribution from the government.

If I understood her response to me correctly, the government is reviewing its Human Resources Manual. However, this manual applies to GN civil servants, not appointees like the people who serve on the Status of Women Council.

The Premier appoints the members of the Status of Women Council. Will she publicly and clearly state today that the women she appoints to the council have nothing to fear if they speak their minds, yes or no? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Eva Aariak

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Your first supplementary... no? Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

### **Question 237 – 3(2): Apprenticeship Update with the Nunavut Housing Trust Strategy**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you are well aware, I asked questions in December relating to the status of training for those apprentices who are working under the Nunavut Housing Trust.

I asked the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, who referred me to the Minister of Education. I asked the Minister of Education, who, in turn, deferred it to the adult educators. The Minister of Nunavut Arctic College took my question as notice and I did receive a written reply from the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College outlining the apprenticeship training being offered in January and March of 2010.

Mr. Speaker, my point in asking these questions was to ensure that the young apprentices in our communities did not miss out on their training opportunities. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, my questions were to no avail as this has happened in Arctic Bay. Not only once did our apprentices get overlooked but twice now, they have been missed for their opportunities to go out of our

community for their theory of apprenticeship of training.

Mr. Speaker, I will try again to see if, through my questioning, I can ensure that my constituents receive the training they are entitled to. Mr. Speaker, I'm at a bit at a loss as to which minister to address this question to, but I guess I'll start with the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

My question is: what mechanism is in place to ensure that efforts are being coordinated and that those apprentices who are learning through trades through the Nunavut Housing Trust, which is managed by the Nunavut Housing Corporation under the apprenticeship program which is managed and funded by the Department of Education with programs delivered by the Nunavut Arctic College, will be able to reach their goals of earning their red seal before the Nunavut Housing Trust Program is completed? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Congratulations to Mr. Elliott for actually putting that all together. I know for years, it has always been frustrating trying to get it passed around and I apologize if that happened. I'm sure it wasn't done intentionally by any of my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, as I had indicated before and as Mr. Elliott pointed out, the Housing Corporation just provides the opportunity for apprentices to work whether they're working for a general

private contractor in a community or with the local housing organization. So that's our role and we track, as a corporation, just a number of registered apprentices within any work project.

But as far as where those individuals are at in their apprenticeship program, the member, again, is correct that the management of that program is done by the Department of Education. If something has not happened there, I will commit to the member to personally look into it and see what happened in the specific circumstances that he's talking to.

As he has indicated and I'm sure as a corporation, I believe we want to try and encourage and develop as many apprentices and tradespeople as we can throughout the territory given the opportunities that we have for them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So is the minister saying that I should tell the youth apprentices in the community to talk directly to him or do they talk to their employer? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think if those individuals have concerns, as Mr. Elliott pointed out, they should be talking to him.

I would be more than happy to sit down and get some specific information that he's talking about and follow up with my colleague, the Minister of Education,

and try to find out what happened in that particular case. I know and I believe I'm not responsible for the management of that program, but my understanding is that the requirement of the employer of these apprentices is to get a hold of the Department of Education.

I stand to be corrected, but if memory serves me, and we all know how our memories are at times, I'm under the impression that the employer that the apprentice is working for needs to get in contact with the Department of Education to arrange for the training component part of their process to happen, that they have to let them know that they have obtained the right number of hours they need before they can move on to their next level of training, and so on and so forth.

But again, I would be more than happy to sit down with the member and get the specific information, it sounds like it's quite a circle that he outlined there, to try and alleviate that and make sure that we can make it a straight line for the individuals he's talking about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that reply. I know when this whole \$200 million Nunavut Housing Trust started, I was working, at that time, in my position as an adult educator and saw it as a tremendous opportunity for people within the community to get the skills and the red seal that is so hard to get in the community because of all of the different stumbling blocks, whether it's passing the entrance exam, whether it's

actually finding an employer, or whether it's, once you find an employer, being able to be trained under someone who is actually qualified.

So it would have been my hope that this \$200 million would actually train more people than there are actually being trained. When they started the original negotiations and they were asking contractors in Arctic Bay, it's the Arctic Bay Housing Association that was responsible for administering the program.

My understanding was that one of the key objectives was to make sure and when contractors put their bid in, they had to make sure, prove, and show how they were going to train their employees or all of our people within the community so that they would reach this potential of getting the qualifications that they need.

So you're saying that's not being followed through within your department. There is no one hired in that position to make sure these people are being trained and followed up. It's really the responsibility of another department. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would say to the member that that's not what I'm saying and I'm sorry if he misinterpreted what I said.

As far as the administration of the individuals who are registered under the apprenticeship program, I believe it's the employer that has to register them with the Department of Education and that

program. That's my understanding of it. Again, I stand to be corrected as I am not the Minister of Education, but it's my understanding of how it works.

How the Nunavut Housing Corporation tracks is we contact the Department of Education and we get the information from them as far as the number apprentices and where they are working throughout the job sites. Also, when we get substantiation from whatever contractor it is, we're looking to make sure as far as the payroll requirements are met for local hires and the Inuit employment numbers are the same. We're also looking at the stats on the apprentices there as far as payroll goes.

I want to make it clear that as far as the formal training outside of the hours that they actually do on site, I believe it's something that needs to be arranged between the contractor or the employer and the Department of Education. That's my understanding, but like I said, I stand to be corrected. I will publicly find out right after Question Period if I am going to be corrected or not and I will let the member know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was concerned because you had said it was the responsibility of the employer. Where my concern comes in is it's specific for Arctic Bay because I'm not sure, I haven't found out from other communities, how the training is going in other communities.

If it's the employer's responsibility and there is an employer for this case, for the Nunavut Housing Trust, is the Arctic

Bay Housing Association, which, to me works at arm's length with the Nunavut Housing Corporation, how was this allowed to happen? Within the framework of how it's working in Arctic Bay, if you have specific contractors, it makes it seem like there's going to be no training going on. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sorry, I was just trying to find the right page here and specifically, the member is talking about Arctic Bay.

As far as the numbers I have and again, this is just the number of registered apprentices in Arctic Bay, it's my understanding that there are seven right now. At what level they're at, I'm not sure. The kind of information that the Housing Corporation keeps track of is how many we have and that as far as what trade and what level they're at. That's something that is run through the apprenticeship program with the Department of Education.

Again, I commit to the member, if he sits down specifically, instead of going the roundabout route of getting passed on, if I get the information directly from him as to what happened with those individuals from their point of view, I will commit, on our side, for the corporation to have my officials check with the Arctic Bay Housing Association and find out what happened from their point of view, and then see if we can find a way to make sure that, however unfortunate it is, what happened doesn't happen again.

Obviously, it seems like there is just a communication breakdown somewhere and I commit to working with the member to ensure that that communication breakdown doesn't happen again so that these young individuals can go on and get the training that they require. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Going back to our Orders of the Day. Item 8. Written Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

#### Item 8: Written Questions

##### **Written Question 011 – 3(2): Government of Nunavut Responses to Resolutions Adopted at the 2009 Kitikmeot Mayors' Conference**

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have one written question and it is directed to the Hon. Premier, Eva Aariak. I believe it was on Friday when I asked the government what happened to resolutions that were made during the mayors' conference in Cambridge Bay. The question is:

- 1) What were the Government of Nunavut's responses to the resolutions adopted at the 2009 Kitikmeot Mayors' Conference?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Written Questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

##### **Written Question 012 – 3(2): Government of Nunavut's Actions in Response to Motion 46 – 2(4)**

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have a written question to the Premier, Eva Aariak. Before I do, I would like to comment that upon the review of your *Hansard* that you have gone through in the last couple of days when I was in Ottawa, after reviewing the questions, I would like to ask a question to the Premier.

I would also like to comment that, as a number of my colleagues who now sit on the other side of this House will recall, they voted with me in favour of a formal motion that was passed by this House in 2008. I am pleased to ask a written question today on this matter to Premier Eva Aariak.

1. As of March 4, 2010, what action has the Government of Nunavut taken in response to Motion 46 – 2(4), which was passed by the Legislative Assembly on September 18, 2008 and which recommended that the Executive Council of Nunavut, pursuant to section 47 of the *Nunavut Act*, advise the Commissioner of Nunavut to request the Auditor General of Canada to undertake a comprehensive audit of the Government of Nunavut's evaluation and award process in relation to *RFP 2007-52: Standing Offer Agreement for Medical Travel on Scheduled Airlines?*

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Written Questions. Item 9.

Returns to Written Questions. Item 10.  
 Replies to Opening Address. Item 11.  
 Replies to Budget Address. Item 12.  
 Petitions. Item 13. Reports of Standing  
 and Special Committees. Item 14.  
 Reports of Committees on the Review of  
 Bills. Item 15. Tabling of Documents.  
 Member for Baker Lake, Mr.  
 Aupaluktuq.

**Item 15: Tabling of Documents**

**Tabled Document 113 – 3(2):**

**Correspondence to the Mayor of  
 Baker Lake from the Federal  
 Minister of Transport,  
 Infrastructure and Communities**

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr.  
 Speaker. I wish to table today a copy of  
 the January 13, 2010 correspondence  
 from the federal Minister of Transport to  
 the Mayor of Baker Lake concerning  
 improvements to the community's  
 airport. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you,  
 Mr. Aupaluktuq. Tabling of Documents.  
 Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Tabled Document 114 – 3(2):**

**Government of Nunavut's  
 Submission to the Nunavut Impact  
 Review Board Concerning the  
 Kiggavik Project**

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr.  
 Speaker. I wish to table today a copy of  
 the Government of Nunavut's  
 submission to the Nunavut Impact  
 Review Board concerning the proposed  
 Kiggavik Uranium Mining Project near  
 my home community of Baker Lake.  
 Although this short document is  
 available to the public on Nunavut

Impact Review Board's website, it has  
 not been tabled in this House yet.

As a courtesy to the government, I wish  
 to advise that I will have detailed  
 questions on this matter at tomorrow's  
 sitting or later this week. I encourage the  
 appropriate department to be prepared.  
 Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq.  
 Tabling of Documents. Mr. Shewchuk.

**Tabled Document 115 – 3(2): US  
 Proposals to Transfer from  
 Appendix I to Appendix II**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you,  
 Mr. Speaker. I would like to table the  
 following document: "*US Proposals to  
 Transfer from Appendix I to Appendix  
 II.*" Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Tabling  
 of Documents. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Tabled Document 116 – 3(2): Arena  
 Ice Plant Feasibility Study**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr.  
 Speaker. I am pleased to table a copy of  
 the arena ice plant feasibility study for  
 Coral Harbour and Arviat. I would like  
 to thank the Minister of Community and  
 Government Services for having  
 undertaken this important work and  
 providing a copy to me. Thank you, Mr.  
 Speaker.

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

Tabling of Documents. Item 16. Notices  
 of Motions. Item 17. Notices of Motions



for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Hon. Keith Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 22, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2010-2011...*

**Speaker:** I'm sorry, Mr. Peterson, that I have to cut you off. I'll give you time to move your motion at Item 19. One moment, please.

Thank you. Item 17. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Motions. Item 19. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Hon. Keith Peterson.

#### **Item 19: First Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 22 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2010-2011 – First Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll try this again after my short rehearsal.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 22, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2010-2011*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour, raise your hand, please. Opposed. The motion is

carried and Bill 22 has been read for the first time.

First Reading of Bills. Item 20. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Hon. Keith Peterson.

#### **Item 20: Second Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 22 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2010-2011 – Second Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 22, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2010-2011*, be read for the second time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 22 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Item 21. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 22 with Mr. Schell in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:37 and Committee resumed at 16:02*

**Item 21: Consideration in Committee  
of the Whole of Bills and Other  
Matters**

**Chairman** (Mr. Schell): I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following item to deal with: Bill 22, *Appropriation (O&M) Act, 2010-2011*. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to commence the review of Bill 22 and the main estimates for the fiscal year 2010-11. We will start today with the Department of Health and Social Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Do members agree that we proceed with the main estimates for the Department of Health and Social Services?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Bill 22 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2010-2011 – Health and Social Services – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman**: I would now like to ask Minister Curley, responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, to make his opening remarks.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to take this opportunity today to present the 2010-11 Main Estimates and Business Plan for the Department of Health and Social Services.

Before I begin, Mr. Chairman, first of all and while we're in the Committee of the

Whole, I would like to state that the Department of Health and Social Services is committed to the vision and guiding principles outlined in *Tamapta: Building our future together* -- we have embedded them in the department's strategic and operational priorities for 2010-11 with specific emphasis on the following: (1) helping those at risk in our communities; (2) addressing social concerns at their roots; (3) improving health through health prevention measures in the communities.

I would like to share some of my department's key initiatives for the coming year, which will be:

Mr. Chairman, if we address the needs of children early, we can promote more stability in their future in Nunavut. To this end, we will be reviewing the *Child and Family Services Act*, which will include extensive consultation with Nunavutmiut on the most appropriate ways to support Nunavut's families and to protect our children in our communities when they are living in unsafe conditions. We are also examining existing and new early childhood health and development programming to ensure it is holistic for children and families in Nunavut.

We continue to actively implement the addictions and mental health framework, including developing both in-territory land-based, and facility-based treatment options. This will provide the necessary, culturally appropriate supports for long-term success of reducing the impact of addictions on families in Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, the health issues associated with high tobacco use take their toll on the lives of Nunavutmiut. In

this coming year, starting on April 1, which is the government's fiscal year, we will develop and begin implementing a Tobacco Reduction Strategy that will focus not only on reduction but also on prevention of tobacco use. As with any physical addiction, we can't make people want to stop smoking. However, we can be here with the tools to assist them when they make the choice to quit.

Every individual has a role to play in their own health and well-being. And every community has a role to play in the health and well-being of its residents. Community involvement in identifying and addressing health needs is crucial. Community health committees are a key partner to my department's success and we will work harder to strengthen, perhaps empower them, Mr. Chairman, and further rely on their knowledge to guide our program development and service delivery.

Mr. Chairman, the 2010-11 operations and maintenance budget for the department is the result of tough decisions during which the department had to balance financial reality with the health and social service needs of Nunavutmiut. This includes several factors we have to take into consideration. However, I can assure all members that we will remain committed to supporting and sustaining an effective and efficient publicly funded health care and social services system without a reduction in quality of care for the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, our main estimates are broken down into the following branches: Directorate, Social Services, Public Health, Treatment, and Health Insurance. At our appearance at the

standing committee this past winter, the members asked what makes up the directorate. This is the branch where we reflect the functions of our management and administration through corporate, finance, human resources, communications and health information technology responsibilities that support the whole department. This amounts to 9 percent of the departmental operations and maintenance budget.

The proposed 2010-11 operations and maintenance budget from April 1, 2010 to the end of March 2011 is \$264,507,000. This is a net increase of \$6,315,000 over our 2009-2010 main estimates of \$258,192,000. Some of the more significant increases are as follows:

- **Compensation & Benefits**  
This comprises the largest portion of our budget for health and social services. Our staff make our health care system work and strategic investments have been made in health human resources. We will be required to meet collective agreement salary increases in the amount of \$6,900,000 in 2010-11. However, \$2,400,000 of that will have to be funded internally by my department and we had to look for these funds as the increase to our budget under this item was inadequate. That is why our department will be making a request to you today of a supplementary appropriation in the amount of \$4.5 million for compensation and benefits of our current departmental staff. Funding totalling \$622,000 is also new funding for two additional public health nurses and to fully staff the new mental health and addictions

office in Cambridge Bay is included in the \$4.5 million allotment.

- ***Child and Family Services Act* review**

The department is requesting \$600,000 in 2010-11 to begin a comprehensive review of the *Child and Family Services Act*, with the intention of introducing new legislation within this term of government that is geared towards the needs of Nunavutmiut and this will commence after the comprehensive review.

- **Contracted Services – Qikiqtani General Hospital**

With respect to the Qikiqtani General Hospital, we are requesting additional funding of \$541,000 for contracted operating room nurses for surgical procedures. They require more nurses to assist the surgeons. The hospital operation room previously had no budget for contracted nursing services, services that are required occasionally to fill in when a nurse is on vacation or leaves the job, as these positions cannot be filled by nurses who are not emergency room trained.

- ***Child and Family Services Act* – implementation of recent legislative changes**

Additional funding is required to fund the implementation of the amendment of the *Child and Family Services Act* to ensure that youth between the ages of 16 and 19 years are provided with adequate and appropriate supports. It was amended this past winter and this also required new funding of \$521,000 which we have included in our new estimates,

and this is particularly for residents between the ages of 16 and 19 years who we also have to look after in our social services program. Prior to this year, anyone over 19 years of age was not eligible for assistance.

Mr. Chairman, over the course of the coming year, my department will strive to protect and improve the health of Nunavutmiut in order to ensure that individuals, families, and communities are leading healthy lives. It will be challenging to meet the growing needs and expectations of Nunavutmiut while balancing my department's fiscal reality. Members' continued support is essential to the advancement of our work, especially in the initiatives I have spoken to, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Yes.

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

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Minister, for the record, please introduce your witnesses.

**Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman and my colleagues. On my left is Deputy Minister Alex Campbell and on my right is the Executive Director of Corporate Services, Debora Voth. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

**Chairman:** Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have comments? Please proceed, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the hon. minister for being here as well as his delegates over here at the witness stand.

Members of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have reviewed the 2010-11 Main Estimates and Business Plan of the Department of Health and Social Services and I am pleased to provide you with the opening comments.

The standing committee notes that the 2010-11 operations and maintenance budget for Health and Social Services is \$264,507,000. This amount is \$6.3 million more than the main estimates for 2009-2010 that were approved in this House during our last budget review. However, the proposed budget is significantly less than the department's revised O&M budget for 2009-2010 which includes amounts allocated through supplementary appropriations.

Members note that supplementary appropriations for the Department of Health and Social Services are brought forward by the government with disturbing regularity. It is difficult to compare budgets from year to year when the actual costs for each fiscal year are consistently higher than the budget that was approved. Mr. Chairman, given the department's ongoing pattern of incurring over-expenditures, the standing committee is not convinced that the proposed budget before us today is a realistic projection of the department's spending for 2010-11.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recognizes that the Department of Health and Social Services has attempted to implement a number of measures to control costs and has received some guidance and suggestions for improvement from the Auditor General of Canada.

The Auditor General's report on the financial management practices of the Department of Health and Social Services was tabled in this House on April 1, 2009. Public hearings on the report were held in September of 2009 by Members of the Legislative Assembly. Members are aware that the Department of Finance, as a central agency, is working with the Department of Health and Social Services to address some of the more critical financial management procedures. However, it has been noted that more work needs to be done.

For example, the department continues to base its proposed budget for compensation and benefits as if all of its positions were filled on a full-time basis. However, on average, over 30 percent of Health and Social Services staff positions are consistently vacant. As the year progresses, contractors such as agency nurses are hired to work in positions which remain vacant, which in turn requires significant transfers within the budget from compensation and benefits to contracted services. In some instances, actual costs have exceeded budgeted amounts which then lead to over-expenditures. Practices such as this should be discouraged.

The standing committee encourages the department in its efforts to improve its budget planning process. At the same

time, it recognizes that a number of factors pose a challenge to successful budget planning, such as growth in the population, the rising costs of goods and services, and increased expectations from clients as well as unforeseen expenditures relating to health situations such as the recent H1N1 outbreak.

Mr. Chairman, staffing has been a continuous challenge for the Department of Health and Social Services. The standing committee appreciates the efforts of the many Health and Social Services staff who end up doing the work of two or more people. The standing committee is of the view that a more rigorous approach should be taken to determine service delivery models within the department and to allocate resources accordingly.

The department's business plan does list a number of important strategies, such as the Public Health Strategy, Mental Health Strategy, Tobacco Reduction Strategy, and other initiatives which will focus resources on specific areas, such as maternal health, addictions, and health promotion. However, the standing committee recommends that the minister work with his staff to develop an overarching strategic plan for the department as a whole.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee has noted that a number of GN departments have shared or overlapping responsibilities which can lead to time-consuming, costly, and at times, confusing duplication of services. For example, both the departments of Health and Social Services and Justice play a role in addressing domestic violence and situations of abuse.

The Department of Health and Social Services has developed its policy for family violence shelters whereas the Department of Justice continues its implementation of the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*. Members encourage the minister to work with his colleague, the Minister of Justice, to ensure that such efforts are fully coordinated. At the same time, the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is proposing to focus on social safety net issues while social services delivery falls specifically under the mandate of the Department of Health and Social Services.

Committee members continue to have concerns that policies, initiatives, and programs directed towards vulnerable groups in Nunavut society are not well coordinated. The committee encourages the minister to work closely with his colleagues, especially the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, on initiatives relating to children, families, and other socially vulnerable groups.

Mr. Chairman, as you will recall, following the October 2009 Full Caucus gathering, Members of the Legislative Assembly committed to developing new child and family services legislation as one of the key initiatives of this Assembly. Members will be closely monitoring the development of this legislation. Standing committee members have heard a number of concerns from constituents with respect to the practice of placing children in care outside of the territory, far away from their families and culture. Concerns have also been noted with respect to adoption policies and procedures.

Mr. Chairman, following the dissolution of the divisional health boards, community health committees, called committees of council, were established under municipal authorities and funded by the Government of Nunavut. These community-based committees of council can play an important role in promoting health and wellness.

However, for many such committees, their mandates remain unclear and there is a lack of guidance, support, and monitoring for their activities. In addition, current levels of funding for such committees and the initiatives that they may wish to undertake remain limited. The standing committee encourages the minister in his efforts to strengthen the role of these committees.

Mr. Chairman, committee members recognize that a key element of success in the implementation and delivery of health programs is the incorporation and inclusion of Inuit culture and language. This applies not only in the areas of terminology and programming but also in the training, recruitment, and retention of Inuit into the health professions.

Members encourage the minister to continue working with his colleagues, the Minister of Education and the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, to prepare Nunavummiut for careers in the health care professions, including the areas of mental health, dental therapy, and social work.

Members are aware that significant funding for entry level courses such as the college foundation courses has been provided through the Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative. Members were pleased to note that the

federal government has temporarily extended this funding for the next two years.

Mr. Chairman, the committee recognizes that social workers in Nunavut require a broad range of training and experience, as well as a certain level of cultural awareness and sensitivity. The department has faced some difficulties in recruiting individuals who meet these criteria. Members urge the department to work with Nunavut Arctic College to support the appropriate training and qualification of Nunavummiut to work in these areas.

Nunavut Arctic College's Nursing Program has seen some success in graduating nurses to date. The standing committee was pleased to note that the minister and his officials have given some consideration to implementing measures such as return of service contracts to ensure that Nunavut-trained nurses will work in the territory after their graduation.

Mr. Chairman, standing committee members continue to express concerns with a number of the department's policies and practices and the inconsistent manner in which they appear to be implemented. Constituents continue to have problems with medical travel and accommodation. It is not always clear to our residents what eligibility criteria are applied to travel, escorts, and accommodation. In addition, the families of Nunavut residents who are required to go out of the territory to receive medical services that are not available in Nunavut have expressed concerns over the lack of support and the level of stress faced by individuals so far

from their home and culture while receiving care.

The standing committee is aware that the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is reviewing a number of programs, including those related to supplementary health benefits, and looks forward to reviewing the results of this initiative.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee supports departmental programs which focus on specific social health issues that are of concern across Nunavut, including nutrition issues, such as diabetes, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, and sexual health, as well as programs to monitor and control the spread of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis or viral outbreaks such as H1N1.

Members were pleased with Nunavut's overall response to the national threat of an H1N1 pandemic and congratulate the minister and his staff for the success in addressing this issue proactively. Members would be interested in receiving a report of the final accounting of costs related to addressing exposure to the H1N1 virus across Nunavut as well as lessons learned from a broader pandemic preparedness perspective.

Mr. Chairman, the high cost of living in Nunavut's communities is frequently demonstrated by the comparative prices for nutritious foods. Good and adequate nutrition is a critical component of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Committee members would be pleased to receive further details on departmental initiatives relating to specific nutrition issues, such as sodium or trans-fats.

Last year, the federal government released two reports concerning the Food Mail Program and has indicated it will continue to fund and review the program. In December of 2009, the Premier tabled a copy of the Government of Nunavut's response to those recommendations and members were pleased to note the government's position on this issue.

Mr. Chairman, the committee recognizes the department's ongoing need to invest in electronic health information systems for data collection, case management, and evaluation. Members encourage the department to use these systems to analyze and communicate trends in the health status of our population to address specific health issues across the territory. Members further urge the department to use the collected information to analyze and determine high cost areas in the delivery of health services and maximize the efficient use of our resources given the limited funds that we have.

Mr. Chairman, as I noted at the beginning of my comments, the standing committee is concerned that the proposed budget for the Department of Health and Social Services for 2010-11, which represents over one-fifth of the Government of Nunavut's total operations and maintenance budget, will not be adequate. The committee encourages the minister to continue in his efforts to improve financial management within his department and to take the necessary steps to control expenditures.

At the same time, Mr. Chairman, the standing committee is of the view that the federal government bears an important fiduciary responsibility to the



people of Nunavut. The standing committee was very pleased to note that the federal government has announced that it will be temporarily extending funding for the Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative for another two years. However, members urge the minister not to rest in his efforts to access additional and sustained federal funding for health and social services across Nunavut. The committee stands ready to support the minister in his efforts in this area.

That concludes my opening remarks. I anticipate that individual members will also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his opening comments. I would also like to thank the Chair. I think I called you Mr. Speaker earlier.

With respect to the community health committees, I believe that they fall under the mandate of hamlet councils. The

minister has stated that he would like to devolve more powers to the health committees so they may take on more social services and has expressed desire for his department to work more closely with them. I thank the minister for this. I hope this is realized now that we expect it to happen.

Referring back to the hon. minister's opening comments on page 2, the last paragraph in English, (interpretation ends) "Every individual has a role to play in their own health and well-being. And every community has a role to play in the health and well-being of its residents. Community involvement in identifying and addressing health needs is crucial." We all agree. Thank you.

"Community health committees are a key partner to my department's success and we will work harder to strengthen, empower and further rely on their knowledge to guide our program development and service delivery." (interpretation) I hope that this is realized while under the current minister, who I knew before he became the minister and who I regard as friend.

Mr. Curley used to say that when you go to a health centre, they just give you Tylenol and tell you to call in the morning. The nurses have nothing but good intentions and are trying to help the patients as best as they can. However, I have heard more than once and I'm sure that my colleagues have also been made aware about patients who have gone to the health centre thinking they need medical attention but told that they are well enough and in good health, only to find out later that they're suffering from some terminal illness when it's too late to do anything.

I know that there is commitment to address this as it says on page 2, the department is asking for our help as it serves us. Perhaps there is a need for better diagnostic equipment and techniques to catch these cases, especially cancer. If health centres in the communities of Nunavut were better equipped with diagnostic means, then this issue could be addressed properly. The nurses would like to provide better service and the patients deserve that, but perhaps there are problems in communications because the patients sometimes feel that their needs aren't being addressed properly. I thank the minister for seeking solutions to these issues.

I also received two letters from my constituents and I have them here with me, although I'm not going to read them out. They both speak to the issues of medical care. I will provide copies to the minister at the end of this session. I want copies of these letters sent to the proper complaint process, but I don't know who to contact. I apologize, Mr. Chairman, I received these letters very recently and I wanted to bring them up with the proper authorities. I would also like to speak to the minister personally on the matter.

I have no further comments to make in my statement. I wish to thank the minister and express my constituents and my support for him. These patients are seeking help when they go to the health centre and some of them for serious medical reasons.

During the page-by-page review, I will have further comments to make as they arise. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I don't see any question there, so we will move to the next one. Mr. Arvaluk, please.

**Mr. Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Curley for his opening comments. Though you brought up most of the important and pressing issues, I would like to comment on your statement, especially the language on page 2, in the last three paragraphs, 3, 4, and 5.

I would like more recognition of the difficulties faced in trying to quit smoking. I, fortunately, finally succeeded in quitting smoking, and that will be a year next month.

>>*Applause*

I found out recently that I have problems with my liver and I should have known better all along. We don't worry about such things in our youth but as we get older and have been smoking for 40 years like I have, we realize that things are bad for our bodies. We were never informed about such risks.

We have always known as Inuit, we gather berries, leaves, roots, etcetera, so that our natural diet is good for our bodies. However, we didn't know that some of the store-bought food was unhealthy and that the stores don't care at all but would rather make money. That is their purpose, to make money.

Many clearly know that some foods should not be processed that way, such as potato chips, Coke, and others that are extremely unhealthy, that cause tooth decay and many serious threats such as diabetes. The makers of these products

know of these things, but the products make such huge profits, so they keep marketing such products. It is clear that these kinds of products are bad for our health.

Those of us who went to residential schools were taught that certain foods are bad for our health. Along with the introduction of schools here, these products became available to us. Our parents, who knew nothing of any of this, readily adopted store-bought foods, which their children seem to prefer over traditional foods.

Upon my return from residential school, I started working. It was shocking to find younger Inuit children starting to lose their teeth and obesity was becoming a problem. We, the older ones, still had all our teeth. What was abnormal was that the younger children were losing their teeth when it was only the elderly prone to this problem. When these older folk were younger, they ate only healthy food and they never had obesity problems even though they ate plenty.

We fully support your efforts on reduction of tobacco use, as you state on page 2, but we would also like to see support for those who live in our communities to be able to make and afford healthy choices.

There is a spacious co-op warehouse in Pond Inlet. Half of that warehouse is filled with junk food, such as pop and chips, and even before the next sealift season, all of it will be bought and consumed. Pond Inlet has a small population of about 1,400, but they seem to prefer junk food since they are not aware of more nutritional alternatives.

I know that you said that people should have some responsibility for their health and that it is up to them to make healthy choices, but some people really don't know that junk food is bad for their health. We, especially you as the minister, must educate the public about healthy food choices and nutritional contents of food available in stores; information that we already know here. Perhaps we could do this through an adult education program.

There have been home economics classes held in the past. This approach could be used to teach nutrition to the public, to teach cooking, which foods are good for your physical and mental health. There are still people out there who don't understand why their children are always so hyperactive when they themselves give junk food to the children to keep them from crying. Some parents don't see the connection between hyperactivity and junk food. We need to educate the public about the causes and effects of sugar.

Another brief comment I would like to make is concerning your opening statements on page 4, under Compensation and Benefits. I understand that for the year 2010-11, \$6.9 million will be spent on this budget item. I understand that this is as per the agreement that was reached, but I also read from the committee report that you will have to use up 100 percent of these funds to qualify again for the next budget cycle. I would like this reviewed and changed.

In addition, under bullets 2, 3, and 4, especially bullets 2 and 4, there is an expectation from the public to see something done about TB patients who

were sent down south to sanatoriums, especially children who were sent outside of Nunavut to Winnipeg and other major centres, and who came back having lost the ability to speak Inuktitut. They came back strangers to their customs and families and having lost their taste for traditional foods.

I am very pleased to see that the department wants to do a comprehensive review of their child and family services. Inuit children will hopefully not have to go outside of Nunavut when they can stay in Nunavut when help is available and wherever possible, send Inuit children to other Inuit communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased and grateful for your opening comments. Once we start the page-by-page review, I am sure we will all have a lot to say. I would like to thank the committee chairman for his opening comments. I would also like to thank John Ningark and Mr. Arvaluk for their clearly stated comments.

With respect to John Ningark's question, I know that we will have opportunities for in-depth discussions as we work through the review, but yes, we would like to work closely with community health committees and I know that we have much work ahead of us. We have devolved some of the responsibilities to the hamlet councils who have established these community health committees.

I would like to say that we are cognizant of the facts referred to in Mr. Arvaluk's comments regarding nutrition and healthy living. I believe that we can work closely together on this to reduce preventable health problems like these so that our nurses, who are always very busy, can focus on other pressing issues. Alex Campbell and I are continuing to work on this issue. This coming year and up to April 1, we will be providing you with regular updates on our progress.

Arvaluk's comments are taken to heart because we know we need more public education initiatives. With respect to aboriginal health, I would also like to point out that there is additional funding from the federal government. Perhaps some of this funding can be used directly by health committees and we will look into that. I understand now from James Arvaluk's comments where some of the funding could go. Sometimes we have to wait a while for those programs' dollars to actualize.

With respect to the funding process, I can tell you that annually, the budget process, and I think Arvaluk knows how the process works, takes a whole year to work through the cycle. Although we request for the largest funding, we don't always get what we ask for. Last year, in our proposal, we asked for more than what the actual budget line says. However, we have to allocate and share some of the funding with other departments. The funding is inadequate as it now stands.

We are forced to haggle and negotiate this particular \$6.9 million for employee salary increases. All told, this translates to about a 5 percent increase for the entire public service starting on April 1.

We were told that this funding will not be disbursed all at once. In fact, the contribution agreement provided \$4.5 million, but \$2.4 million will have to come from my department at the expense of other programs and services. These are other increases elsewhere for sure.

I will conclude my remarks for now and as we go through the page-by-page review, Mr. Chairman, I am sure further questions will arise. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. I will just let you inform the members that we should be just asking direct questions on the opening comments. We have lots of time to go through page-by-page and come up with other questions. I only have one more member on my list, Mr. Elliott, and then we will go page-by-page on general comments. Thank you.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My comments are sort of directed towards page 3 of the minister's opening comments in the second paragraph where he said, "Mr. Chairman, the 2010-11 operations and maintenance budget for the department is the result of tough decisions during which the department had to balance financial reality with the health and social service needs of Nunavummiut."

I just know in the past, the Department of Health and Social Services has repeatedly overspent its budget. Almost every year, supplemental appropriations have been brought forward. From the statements made in Minister Peterson's Budget Address, it sounds like with the H1N1, I guess the government's reaction to that is there is going to be another supplement for that.

Your proposed budget for 2010-11 is significantly less than the revised budget for 2009-2010. With what you are saying, do you think that the budget for 2010-11 is realistic? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the question. I think that all of the members know that the health department is one of the most difficult aspects to pin down to the penny in view of the fact that medical care is not readily available in Nunavut as it is for most Canadians in other jurisdictions. So that normally is the main cause, outpatient expenditures continue to rise and increase, particularly when health care or treatment is not available in Nunavut.

I think the member should also recognize the fact that out-of-territory services that we normally incur throughout various provinces, one area that I note that the committee has done much work on is the rising cost of these services. For instance, year to year, the costs have continued to rise beyond Nunavut's borders and therefore, these are one of the major contributing factors of increased costs.

I can have Debora Voth, with your permission, Mr. Chairman, to explain exactly why we have experienced such pressures. I believe that we have done our homework but at the same time, we are very aware that each year, there are unplanned expenditures that's to come upon the department and therefore, it's one of the departments that's very difficult to really pin down to a penny.

I would like Debora Voth to explain further some of the pressures and whether or not our budget is realistic. I think you will agree that most of the departments normally don't get what they ask for. Budgets are normally capped at certain levels and the department then has to try to manage within that approved budget by the FMB. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Elliott.

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

**Chairman:** Mr. Aupaluktuq, go ahead.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to advise the proceedings at this time, Mr. Chairman, that we seem to not have a quorum at the moment. I just want to raise that to your attention, sir. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Yes, go ahead, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Earlier, Mr. Chairman, I asked you to see if Debora Voth could respond to part of the question from Mr. Elliott. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Ms. Voth.

**Ms. Voth:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department is under incredible financial pressure in a number of areas. One of them is pointed out in the minister's opening remarks and that has to do with the compensation and benefits.

One of the perceptions, for example, is the department has a vacancy rate of

over 30 percent. I think it's around the order of about 38 percent. The perception is that if you have a vacancy of 38 percent, then the department should be saving money. However, what happens is we still have to deliver the services. To deliver the services at the 38 percent vacancy rate, it actually costs more money. That's one of the pressures that we're under.

Also, we spoke a little bit about the out-of-territory hospitals. For example, in the out-of-territory hospitals, in-patient rates have increased steadily each fiscal year at about 3.5 to 5 percent. Outpatient rates have increased to 41 percent over 2007-08 to 2009-2010. Those are incredible rate increases.

What is happening in the south is there are incredible pressures within the other jurisdictions to ensure that services they deliver to other provinces and other territories, patients from out of province, that they actually recover full costs. We are finding that they are paying more and more attention and making sure that the rates that they charge to us reflect what it actually costs for them to deliver those services.

Another example is between the years 2001 and 2006. We also have volume pressures between those two years. Referrals to Ottawa increased by 63 percent, while population growth was only 11 percent. We have population growth, but that is not the only pressure that we have on health and social services. We also have actual usage by each individual member of the population has increased.

That's a 63 percent increase in referrals. At the same time, there was an 11 to 18

percent increase in the population. Referrals to Ottawa have increased by 7 percent in 2007 and 9 percent in 2008. We are facing incredible pressures in health and social services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Voth. I have no more members on my list for general comments. You still got some? I thought you were done.

>> *Laughter*

Go ahead, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess there was some confusion.

I can appreciate what the minister is saying in terms of being able to pin down certain costs and whatnot, and then the minister said as well that the costs are increasing. That's why I actually asked the question that I never got an answer to. How realistic is the budget if you keep telling us, and you just went on about how the costs are going up, there is an increase in usage of the department's resources and there is a \$10 million decrease in what the department is asking for.

I just wanted to ask again: how realistic is that if, in previous years, you have been asking for more and more money as the year goes on? You just got done saying that the costs are going up and now the budget is actually \$10 million less than it was before. How can you justify that? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question that has been asked is quite significant for the department. Over the past nine years, we have continually gone back to FMB to ask for supplementary funding. The member is absolutely correct. We have been projecting, as best as we can, realistic projections through the course of the year.

To answer the question that you raised, we have increasing pressures for the health system to deliver its mandate. We certainly could do with more money in delivering our mandate. However, we do appreciate that we also have to work within our own government and FMB processes, Cabinet processes. As the minister indicated earlier, we are provided with targets that we need to work under as a department. We have tried very hard to live within those targets on an annual basis.

As the member will also appreciate, the Auditor General has noted in her report that the department should stop coming to the government after the fact to ask for this money. For this past year, we have tried to forecast more realistic amounts to the end of March, hence we went to FMB and the Legislative Assembly prior to year-end to try and overcome the over-expenditure and not to spend the allocation that is not there for us. In other words, we shouldn't be breaking the *Financial Administration Act* to deliver these services.

We do have a number of strategies as well that one of the members mentioned that are on the books right now. We're a bit behind in implementing some of those plans. Once we start implementing some of those plans, some of the results

will start coming in. As an example, with the nurse recruitment and retention process, we are already starting to see some improvements to our hiring of agency nurses. It's coming down this fiscal year. Hopefully we're not going to experience any increase of cost there and hopefully that will come down at least \$4 million this year.

We have hired 61 nurses in total since the strategy started, but at the same time, there have been 25 resignations through that process, so over 30 nurses have been the net difference to the system. We are trying to live within our means, but it's certainly very difficult to live within those means given the challenges that the minister and Madam Voth mentioned earlier.

As an administrator, yes, certainly, there is not enough there. We would like to see a lot more as a department. At the same time, we need to work as a team with the rest of the government in trying to handle some of our financial pressures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that explanation. It must be hard trying to balance the needs of people's health in Nunavut.

My next question goes along with some of the stuff the Auditor General's office has been saying and you had alluded to it a bit in your answer, Mr. Campbell. Now that you have the budget that you are putting forward and working with, what steps are being taking to ensure that the department's proposed expenditures for

2010-11 stay within those budget guidelines?

I know taking into effect what Mr. Curley said about you can't pin down some cost, but there must be some type of a plan in place to stay within your budget and if you could explain that, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. I will have Alex respond to the budget management. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. About this time every year, I do send out a directive to the senior management staff, a directive that has fiscal management restraints, financial management items that I want the senior management to adhere to. I would go through our regular administrative stuff. Travel, for instance, is easy to tackle, as well to curtail travel, to watch the overtime and things like that. I go through a list of things that we need to curtail.

I also say that we shouldn't be hiring agency nurses, we shouldn't be hiring contractors, and we shouldn't be hiring consultants. So I say all of those things to the senior management. I have pushed back on the variance reports that we do get on a quarterly basis, challenging the numbers that are provided to me on a regular basis with the support of the executive director from corporate services. I try to put the onus on management to manage within the



allocation that has been provided to the department.

So there are a number of fiscal management tools that I try to implement in the department. When somebody has a bright idea to do on an initiative, I always ask for a business case before we even consider the proposed letter executive management level. We are doing our prudence in trying to manage within that framework.

I should say that my finance staff are projecting a shortfall for next year already. We haven't even started April 1 and we're already projecting some expenditure patterns that are going to be tough to handle in the next fiscal year.

With that, as I said, there are a number of things that we can do as well, like we can delay some of our hiring, but again, we're at about 38 percent vacancy right now and it's very difficult to manage the department without people working in those positions. I guess in a roundabout way, I'm just suggesting that it's tough to continue to manage the department given the fiscal climate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to get some background too in terms of the motion that was put forward in the House back in November by Mr. Okalik and seconded by the minister with the Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative fund.

I know the federal government announced in their budget a two-year window where we're kind of safe for the

time being. Has your department heard back anymore as to when do negotiations start with that? Is it a possibility that it's going to be cut back next year? Do you have any of that information or have you been in contact with the federal government on that? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Is that for Mr. Campbell or the minister? Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. Yes, our team, at the moment, as we speak, is in Ottawa trying to nail down the three-party or four-party deal with the federal government. We pretty well have a clear understanding what our share will likely be out of the two-year program that the federal government extended. Before I get into the details, I think it's appropriate to thank all of the members for their support. That definitely puts pressure on the federal government.

My colleague, the Minister of Finance, did his share of lobbying. I know the Premier did with the Prime Minister, as well as the Deputy Premier had a direct lobbying meeting with the Minister of Indian Affairs some time this winter in Yukon. I would like to acknowledge all of the members and my colleagues who did a great job in lobbying the federal government.

I think even though we're short of a five-year agreement, at least two years, we have a bit of a breathing space. During that time, we're going to continue to put pressure on the federal government and hope that maybe we will see a different way or a different program established. I know we certainly would like to continue to discuss infrastructure

requirements of the health facilities for Nunavut. That will be the Cabinet's responsibility with my input into the whole thing.

I would like Alex to go through some of the territorial health sustainability initiative. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had our deputy ministers' conference call on Friday, the deputy ministers of the Yukon, Northwest Territories, and me, to map out and reinforce the fact that there shouldn't be any funding changes to the way the allocation was managed before.

Nunavut's share of the \$60 million would be about \$14.5 million per year. So it's \$10 million for medical travel and \$4.3 million for what we call task initiatives. So that is going to be our position going into the federal government, that we're going to stick to our heels and dig in our heels, and hopefully have the same funding arrangement.

The other thing that I should mention is that we do have other federal funding dollars that we rely on as well under public health. They are roughly around \$13 million to \$14 million and we negotiate those amounts every year. So that also goes a long ways to addressing some of those expenditures in partnership with Health Canada that we talked about earlier, Vote 4 funding.

We tried to also manage some of our challenges by partnering with the federal government on these initiatives. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the other questions I have is: will you be bringing forward another supplemental appropriation request in this session?

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Mr. Chairman, I will have Debora Voth respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Go ahead, Ms. Voth.

**Ms. Voth:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Health and Social Services is coming forward with another supplementary appropriation for this session. The majority of the supplementary request has to do with the treatment costs for H1N1. In the session this past late fall/early winter, we came forward for the immunization program. At that time, we realized we would have to come forward for the one time.

What we wanted to do was identify one-time costs that we did not feel would be carried forward into the next year. That would be the vaccination supplementary appropriation and now the H1N1 that wasn't carried forward into our funding pressures for next year. We also have an additional dollar amount that we now have more information to make better estimates.

We made our estimates in December, where we would come in at the end of March, and now we have adjusted those and feel that we will, in order to pay our bills, need more supplementary

appropriations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Voth. Any more questions, Mr. Elliott? Go ahead.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of questions. There was a mention of medical travel. When will the regional medical contracts come up for renewal? Thanks.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the question. My understanding is that they will be up for renewal next year. We have one more year due for the life of the medical travel contracts for various airlines in Nunavut. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm wondering too, in terms of the status for the boarding home contracts for Yellowknife, Edmonton, Winnipeg, and Ottawa, if I could get an update on those. Thanks.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. I'll have Mr. Campbell go through those projects. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the Yellowknife boarding home, we do have a new facility there that is slated for official opening some time at the end of April. It's already

operational right now, so we do have a long-term commitment for that operation in Yellowknife.

The one in Edmonton, the contract itself for that one is coming up soon. What we have done is we have extended that contract for up to a year. We're going to be reviewing some of that extension and see how long we can operate that. We also extended the one in Winnipeg for another year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Any more questions, Mr. Elliott? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also want to welcome the Hon. Minister Curley, also Ms. Voth as well as Mr. Alex Campbell. It's hard to try to lay this all out, the whole complication of cost allocation and as well as priorities for the government as well as the departmental priorities themselves.

I appreciate the fact that, and listening to your opening comments, as well as responses to my colleagues' remarks to your opening comments, it was good hear that there is an understanding of the difficulty of providing as much as we can to all Nunavummiut.

As I have said in the past numerous times, your department deals with the most difficult and sensitive issues that affect people's lives. All departments in all areas do, but health and social services, I personally think, has the most impact on daily activities next to education.

In regard to your opening remarks, on page 3, the first paragraph, you noted

that you did have to make tough decisions in which you had to balance financial reality with the needs of Nunavummiut. The minister states, “I can assure all members that we remain committed to supporting and sustaining an effective and efficient publicly funded health care and social services system without a reduction in quality of care.”

With the cutbacks last fiscal year and the foreseeable does not seem so bright as well, I was glad to hear the Deputy Minister, Mr. Alex Campbell, stating a response to an earlier comment that they’re looking to hope to reduce some of the costs incurred by the department by using agency nurses.

One of the things that struck me was quality of care. It’s known in all of Nunavut, as well as in Baker Lake in particular, that constituents have expressed concern that there is no continuity in quality of service from agency nurses as a result of the numerous, repeated turnover of nurses coming and going, that they don’t provide consistent services. We understand the challenges that this faces the department in terms of having permanent nurses versus providing any service.

What I want to say basically is that I’m sure there will be other members asking some questions in regard to the page-by-page.

It is also known that with not any foreseeable increase in dollars coming, I would like to express the severity and the seriousness that we should try to implement immediate nursing retention in order to avoid agency nurses so that

we have people who want to be in the North. That would provide some consistency, familiarity with elders, familiarity with some illnesses, familiarity with babies’ needs, and familiarity with special needs. I think that’s very critical.

I have had one constituent come and share two different diagnoses from two different nurses. She tried to address, as a mother, her issues about her baby’s concerns, a mother knowing how to take care of her child, knowing what the issues are. She was given two different diagnoses. Each time she tried to address them both with the two different agency nurses, she was, for a lack of a better word other than in her own words, spoken down to and given a big, whole array of education as to how to care for her child while her child is sick. This was in the same week.

She tried to address it in a diplomatic way. “I just want my daughter to get quality of service here right now. Rather than you trying to educate me on how to do this, can you just do your job and assess my child?” She was rather embarrassed and shocked about that because she felt offended that this person in a position of authority, in her eyes, who has the special authority and special power over providing a quality of service or a need, it was almost like she had her hands slapped just for wanting to address the consistency and quality of service.

Now, with that, I have had the delight of using agency nurses and I’m very thankful for the service that I got for my immediate concerns. It actually took me two tries to get through to one of the nurses to get a quality of service. I went

back to the health centre twice in one day to see and get the same service with two different results.

I think that what it comes down to is quality of service and quality of care. I think that's the one thing that we always like to do as legislators as well as the minister of the department is to provide quality of service and care.

I can honestly attest to say that I admire how you guys have been juggling the difficulty of how you administer the departments and the priorities. It's not easy listening to all of this because as legislators and public officials, we are bombarded daily by concerns. It's our job to do that and it's our job to scrutinize the government, but it's also our job to support the departments and also to provide some input.

I really like the dialogue that the department is opening up with and I think that we should stay focused on the issue that quality of care and quality of life is something that should be first and foremost in all areas in Nunavut. I just want to commend the department for their willingness to hear and listen, but as well, I look forward to seeing a reduction in agency nurses and having permanent nurses.

I just wanted to share that with you and thank you for the opportunity, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. I don't think there was any question there and I have nobody else on the list for general comments. We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting with page H-4. Health and Social Services.

Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$22,989,000. Are there any questions? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** We will move on to H-5. Branch Summary. Health and Social Services. Social Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$36,434,000. Agreed? Mr. Elliott, go ahead

**Mr. Elliott:** I'm sorry, I must have been sleeping. Could we go back to H-4? I have some questions on that one, but we kind of jumped over it very quickly, if everyone is in agreement. Thank you.

**Chairman:** I'm going to have to ask the committee because that has already been agreed to. So it's up to the committee if they want to go back to that. Does the committee agree that we go back to H-4?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Let's go back to H-4 then.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So I can go? Thank you.

Last year, you published a set of guidelines for Nunavummiut who wish to bring forward complaints or concerns about health and social services. To date, how many concerns and complaints have been brought to the attention of senior management officials, and what steps were taken to address and resolve them? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will take the question as notice. I think it's important that we provide the stats on that. I will try to do it region by region. Even as we speak, I had one today. I don't know whether I will include these in the stats or not.

At one point, when you were in my office, I recall telling you that I had one call at three o'clock in the morning. What would the president do when he receives... I am kidding.

>> *Laughter*

Three o'clock in the morning, there was a complaint. I do get calls at home and the most shocking one was at three o'clock in the morning. I think it's very important to address that issue because not only are we concerned with the statistics but we are interested in responding to the patient care and I thank Moses for raising some of these points.

I share with my officials at all times that our health care workers should be sensitive and that they need more training in that area, and we've got to do better in that area. I want to acknowledge that we take these complaints seriously and I believe there is a two-way approach to this whole issue, not just the health care worker but also the patient's right to be treated fairly.

In order to provide justice to the question, I will have to take the question as notice because we don't have the stats with us on this right now. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. When you get the information, you will

just update the members on that. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was going to say that I don't think we can take questions as notice in Committee of the Whole, but as long as the minister has committed, could he give me a timeline as to when we might be... is he going to table these annually or is this something he's going to give to us internally? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. I suppose, Mr. Chairman, we could do it whichever way works best or preferred by members. Obviously, we don't have a mandated complaints requirement to table them by way of law, but voluntarily, we will certainly and I will agree to table any information I can during this session. It's a matter of getting our officials to put it together and we will have that information practically as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that commitment. In the business plan on H-3, one of the objectives of your department is to work on a privacy policy framework. I have just noticed over the past year working as an MLA: will this framework provide MLAs with some sort of guidance as to how they can best provide support and assistance to the constituents without infringing upon their private rights? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. I think this is a very sensitive and very important area that the privacy of patients is really quite critical and I really don't think that we can play around with it politically or make it a conveniently politically correct way, I don't think there's such a thing as that.

I noted that the Privacy Commissioner's report was very cautious even though that some members took her report that she had no problem with issuing privacy-related H1N1 issues or listing communities publicly. The department was very cautious in issuing numbers at that time. I'm not trying to revisit that, but I just want to let you know that in view of the fact that we have small population in some communities, we didn't want to treat them as separately from larger communities. Therefore, we took the safe side on that one.

I believe, in my interpretation, the Privacy Commissioner was quite cautious that a small community like Whale Cove would probably have concerns whereas in Yellowknife, you can have a little more insulation with protecting individuals from patients being revealed as to who has that particular kind of illness.

So having said that, Mr. Chairman, what I'm saying is that I don't think we can link the politicians with the right to privacy when we deal with the privacy rights of individuals medically. So we will take the cautious side on this one and continue to work on what we commit to do.

I think it was more related to how much you reveal when certain illnesses or pandemic kind of illnesses are occurring, should you have a cap on numbers that you're safe to release or whatnot and that kind of stuff. We're working on a number of parameters on this one, so it's not as straightforward as it appears to be, but we want to remain on the cautious side in favour of the patients' rights to privacy. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Any more questions, Mr. Elliott?

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the minister's answer, but my point is I was hoping that the minister could commit that while they're talking about the privacy policy framework to again not include in the formal process as to this is what our role is but provide us with some guidance as MLAs in terms of how to do our job effectively so we don't actually cross that line. If you guys are reviewing it and you're coming up with a privacy policy now, why not include us?

Like I said, I have been sort of stumbling through over the last year and I have tried to be as careful as I can with any information that people give to me. I know, in dealing with your office specifically, when I received emails or letters back, no private information on patients is in there and I know it's there for a reason.

It's not that I want to know the private information, it's just that I want to be able... I guess for any new MLA in the next Assembly, it would be nice to have them come in and be able to look up this policy and follow it instead of having to sort of fumble through it and possibly

make mistakes. That's what I'm trying to get at, if the minister could commit to something like that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Mr. Chairman, I don't want to be advising the member on a particular sensitive issue, but I was a regular MLA for a long time and one of my sources for any advice when I was confused or needed assistance was the Law Clerk of the Assembly, a very useful individual to have when confused with a certain protection and interest on sensitive issues related to privacy and so on. They are there to guide the MLAs and I took advantage of that.

But for us to commit to something that would really be bordering on the patients' rights of privacy related to complaint aspects, I think, is really complicated. I don't know whether my deputy minister has any further comments on that one, but I would like to invite him at least.

Normally, many of the complaints that we receive from individuals, from my office particularly, without commenting, a lot of times, we just pass them on to the department because they are sensitive, they must be protected, and filed accordingly and properly. So I would like to have the deputy minister share some of the issues on this. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have anything to add.

I think the minister did an excellent job in outlining the process. Thanks.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** I guess I'll ask this question because I know Mr. Okalik had brought it up before and he's not with us today. He was mentioning and we were just talking about privacy and people's information and how the health centres in the smaller communities seem to go on the radio and call people to go in for their appointments. I'm just wondering if there has been any update as to whether the health centres have been notified about this or if you have checked back to see if this is an infringement of privacy. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. I'll have Alex Campbell respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we did follow up on this issue from our appearance at standing committee. We have talked to a number of communities. The use of community radio has been a long-standing practice that has been used by local radios. We find that it's not revealing the person's illness or the state of the call. It's just to alert people that are either on land or we can't get a hold of them by phone, they don't have phones.

Local radio is a good way to communicate and say, "We're looking for you. You have an appointment at the



health centre. If you want to come now, you should come to the health centre.” That’s the response that we get from the communities when we did follow up on this particular issue. We were also advised that the individuals in question had given permission for people to get a hold of them by radio. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Any more, Mr. Elliott? Go ahead.

**Mr. Elliott:** In the opening comments, Mr. Campbell mentioned something about being fiscally responsible and pulling back on service contracts and before contracts actually going out, he wants a business plan and a business case before it’s approved and before contract services are awarded. Does this go all the way up to the top in terms of ADMs and DMs as well? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. I’ll have Mr. Campbell respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer is yes, it goes right to the top, including myself as deputy minister, the ADMs, the executive directors, and the directors of the organizations. They get the same directive.

We’re supposed to follow the rules of engagement that are approved by Cabinet and FMB. The *Financial Administration Act*, the procurement procedures of CGS, and all of those

instruments that are supposed to guide us are adhered to, but there is always a qualification for that.

There are some instances that we do have, particularly our department, a lot of sole source contracts that we issue primarily to service providers down south. When patients are in urgent need of services, we do refer them to services down south that are not on our standing offer or where we have to go through a sole source. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of spending within your office as the deputy minister, do you present your business cases, your sole source contracting, and your contracting to the minister himself for review and then he approves it to go through just to continue along with the fiscal responsibility? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Alex will respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The deputy minister is the chief executive officer of the department, so I do most of the approvals in the department. The minister does approve my travel when I travel out of the territory, or travel within Nunavut, or travel out of the country. In some cases, other executive

members approve travel out of the country for certain reasons.

For all other issues, I do have a process in place in the department. I do have an executive committee that comprises of the ADMs and the directors of policy, and the executive director of corporate services. Before things come to that level, they come from the senior management group. After reviewing the process, the senior management group recommends initiatives to the executive management group.

Before it comes to the senior management group, there is a leaders and partnership committee that is composed of all managers in the organization having an opportunity to participate and input into a recommendation of a policy that needs to be made or if there is a business case that they have developed. As an example, if they want to develop a treatment facility, I highly encourage and direct my staff to work through the department to make sure that we consult within the department as well as other departments to make sure that we're not overlapping.

There are various checks and balances in the system. Debora Voth is the comptroller for the department. She makes sure that she provides the advice and she flags things that are not consistent with the *Financial Administration Act*. There are rules of engagement within the system that have some checks and balances to make sure that we are all managing our finances in a prudent manner. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. I would like to remind all of the members that electronic devices are not allowed in the House over here and make sure you have them turned off. Any other questions, Mr. Elliott?

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the department's business plan under page H-3 for the priorities, it talks about the Nunavut Integrated Electronic Health Record System. It will be implemented in four of the communities. Is it ready to go? Is everything on line in terms of infrastructure for that? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Mr. Chairman, the information that I have is not good, but Alex will explain exactly what's involved in this particular project. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In response to the member's question, yes, we recently awarded a contract to a provider to start working on the process. We should be working with the four regional offices to try and set up the electronic health records system in the regional centres. It's our plan that all 25 will eventually be on the electronic health records system at some point in the next three years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I was reading through the different parts of the business plan, it talked about

different information that's going to be collected on patients who go into the health centre and people who receive service from the health centres.

I can see the need for the collection of that information because it helps access for funding in different areas and it also gauges in statistics. Are the clients who are being served told that? In terms of their privacy and in terms of their personal information, are they being informed and told that this information is being collected on them? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Alex again will respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, all patients will be advised of the privacy obligations and commitments that we have to make and they will have to fully understand what the electronic health records system will do to provide a better quality of care for the patients. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question about one of the priorities as well talks about the development of a health services strategic plan based on the results of the Health Services Evaluation project completed in 2009-2010. Just as a question to start with: has that Health Services Evaluation project been completed in 2009-2010? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. Mr. Chairman, Alex will again respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for the question. There are two parts to the answer.

Over the past year, we have been working on getting a solid inventory of what is out there in all communities with respect to the infrastructure and the services, particularly the level service that we are currently providing. We had a team of experts going around to every community. I think there are still four communities that need to be visited, Arviat, Kugluktuk, Kugaaruk, and one other community. That is the inventory part, doing an in-depth analysis on what is out there.

Over the past year, we also have engaged the team of experts from across Canada to do an evaluation on the system that we do have. The plan is that I would be making recommendations to the minister and to the Cabinet at some point in the next year on the results of that work and to provide some recommendations on the strategic directions and a strategic plan for the department.

That is where we are at with that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Realistically, will this be completed in the 2010-11 fiscal year? Thanks.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. Alex again will respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The plan is to have the work completed in the next three months, make some recommendations, and then hopefully get to the point where we can make some recommendations to fit into the main estimates next fall. That is the whole plan that's in place right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also on page H-3 in the business plan, one of the priorities talks about strengthening, empower, and support community health committees. I'm just wondering if he could expand or if the minister could expand on how they are going to attempt to do that over the next fiscal year. Thanks.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I responded in part to Moses Aupaluktuq's comments on that, mostly in Inuktitut, I believe, but I think it's important that at least the department establish a much more solid partnership arrangement with the community health representatives.

In view of the fact that we have some aboriginal and public health-related funding programs that tend to be moved or transferred through this government and administered in a number of ways by this government, I believe we have a real case to establish a much more solid relationship with health committees on exactly how it is going to shape. It's probably a bit early, but our officials are going through options at the moment. In terms of a timeframe, I believe that we should have completed all of that work in 2010 for sure and I would like to keep you at least up to date on what's happening.

We have learned now that we need to have a much more solid working relationship rather than a token one, as it appears to have been for so long. I believe that having a proper relationship with them perhaps can help some of the comments like James Arvaluk was making in a case earlier. I think they can all be incorporated so that they can become awareness groups as well with some of the public health issues that many of our communities are facing. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So I guess what the minister is saying is they're just going to try and increase communication with the health centres or there is no firm plan as to "This was the capacity or these are the shortfalls that we saw in health committees across Nunavut and we're going to provide some type of gap training to build the capacity within the communities." That hasn't been done. It's sort of at the infancy stage is what you're saying,

where you're just going to start phoning up the health committees and ask them how they're doing. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Not quite because I don't think I would go for that kind of approach personally. I have billed some institutions. I have billed some very important... including Nunavut. I don't play around with those stuff. I think James Arvaluk knows that quite well.

When we say that we're going to review them, we're going to strengthen them, we're going to give them some teeth so that they can play a role, but I would separate the public health aspect to medical. Medical care should be continued by the health centres.

I think that there is a tremendous role that the committees can play. Whether we want them in the same capacity or not is something else. Surely, I think that we can give more training to them. There was already some funding available for training. We do have officials and personnel to do that right now, but we need to do more.

We need to actually give them some programs that they can deliver within their community. After all, it's their communities and the department is there to serve and provide resources to them. How it's all going to shape out will remain to be seen, but we are committed to giving them more resources and responsibilities.

Exactly how the program will shape up will likely take a bit of time. We're not just going to do it on the telephone

either; we will have people visit communities to work with them. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's what I was hoping to get. I don't know if the minister misunderstood what I was asking, but to me, it says in there, "Strengthen, empower and support Community Health Committees."

I'm starting to get frustrated when government officials and ministers continue to say that, "We will work on this. We will review it. We will come up with a strategy." I wanted some specifics in terms of what are you talking about. We're passing millions and million of dollars on lots of reviews of things and continue things, and then we're told, "Sorry, we didn't get that done, so we're going to do it again this year." I was hoping for some concrete things.

You mentioned programs. You are going to offer programs and you said built up Nunavut. You said you built up different organizations. Well, you must have had a plan in place to make it happen that said... well, again maybe the suicide prevention strategy, it says, "The ASIST workshop is something that we see needs to be put in there, so that's what we're going to do to help combat that."

I was asking for specifics in terms of how you are going to strengthen community health committees. So far you said, "Yes, we will travel around to communities." I was able to get that out of your answer, I was able to offer them programs. That's what I was actually

asking the minister. I was asking for specifics.

You didn't say that? I thought you said that, I'm sorry. Pardon me?

>>Laughter

Anyways, I'll ask the question again, because obviously, I'm confused and maybe it's because it's the end of the day and I'm not listening very well. I could have sworn that I heard the minister say something about programs. I could have sworn he said something about travelling. My question again is: what are you going to do to strengthen, empower, and support community health committees? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Mr. Chairman, first of all, the government is committed to helping the community health committees in strengthening and giving them all of the support that they can get, providing that we can afford it. Obviously that, it's going to be. We are making a commitment through this line item that we are committed to improving relationships with them.

If you want to take my word for it, it's all going to differ from community to community. Some communities will be a lot more advanced than some. So therefore, it's difficult to pre-plan exactly what we're going to give them. Otherwise, that I would call top-heavy, 'This is what you are going to do.' We're going to have to meet with them. We're going to have to work with them. We're going to have to see what kind of

strength and capacities they have in their communities.

One thing for sure is we would like to improve relationships with them. As we develop those plans for each community, we will make announcements in this House and perhaps publicly within the communities. We are committed to improving relationships with them so that they are not left hanging out there, being a committee without much to do. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the community health committees, does the community health representative, who is employed by the Government of Nunavut, who works under your department, who is also mandated to provide programs within the community and help the community develop; are they required to be a part of the community health committee? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Your time is up after he answers the question. Your ten minutes are up. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. First of all, the community health representatives do a very fine job for the department in a number of communities. I can specifically say that we have been very pleased with Arviat. For a long time, they have had very effective community health workers. It has been more like a tradition in Arviat that they do that.

I was also impressed last year when we were in Cape Dorset. The community health representative was very effective in giving support to those elders who were not able to get their medication directly themselves, particularly also with the tuberculosis that was quite prevalent at that time. I was very happy to see the community health worker doing a great job.

To answer the question, they are not necessarily a part of the health committee, but we will make sure that they have a relationship with the health committee. That's one thing that we committed to doing and we will like to certainly at least clarify the roles so that they don't overlap but maybe share resources at the same time. It is a project that we have committed to and we certainly will keep the Members of the House informed as to what kind of progress we are making throughout Nunavut. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

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

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

I would like to thank the minister and your officials, and I guess we will be back at it tomorrow afternoon. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Going back to our Orders of the Day. Item 22. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Schell.

### **Item 22: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Schell:** Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 22 and the main 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? Mr. Arvaluk. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand, please. Opposed. The motion is carried.

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

### **Item 24: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk (Mr. Quirke):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that there's a meeting of the Regular Caucus at nine o'clock tomorrow morning in the Tuktuk Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for March 9:

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. Replies to Budget Address
11. Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
13. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
14. Tabling of Documents
15. Notices of Motions
16. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
17. Motions
18. First Reading of Bills
19. Second Reading of Bills
20. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 22
21. Report of the Committee of the Whole
22. Third Reading of Bills
23. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. There was a typo on my paper. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 9, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:07*



