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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Tununiq)

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Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

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

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

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

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo
(Iqaluit Centre)
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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, June 4, 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, Mr. Paul Okalik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Jeannie Ugyuk.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. James Arreak) (interpretation): Good morning. Before we proceed, I would like to ask Mr. Ningeongan to say the opening prayer.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. A wonderful morning, Premier, Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, and Nunavummiut. I send my regards to the people of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq at the end of this week.

Item 2. Ministers' Statements.
(interpretation ends) Hon. Keith Peterson.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 161 – 3(2):
Women's Correctional Centre**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the grand

opening of the women's correctional facility on June 11 in Iqaluit.

>>Applause

This is an important day that marks Nunavut's first facility built specifically to house low to medium risk female offenders and to run specialized rehabilitative programming.

The programming is going to focus on individual skills development. The aim is to provide life skill training to ease transition back into communities after incarceration by building an inmate's self-confidence to make positive life choices. The ultimate goal, Mr. Speaker, is to provide services and support needed to rehabilitate and reduce the possibilities of re-offending.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the caseworkers and staff from the Baffin Correctional Centre and Young Offenders who have volunteered to work at the women's correctional facility while caseworker candidates proceed through the hiring process. Their experience and input into the day-to-day functioning is greatly appreciated and indeed fosters the growth and success of the program.

In celebration of the completion of this building project, I am pleased to invite the Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council, Premier Aariak, Minister responsible for the Status of Women, and all Members of the Legislative Assembly to the official opening of the correctional facility on Friday, June 11, 2010, at 9:00 am. We look forward to welcoming all of our guests. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 162 – 3(2):
Cumberland Sound Turbot
Fishery Research**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Environment will be partnering with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the universities of Windsor and Manitoba this summer to conduct important scientific research in Cumberland Sound. The aim of the research is to gather much needed baseline information on the resident populations of various fish and marine mammal species within the sound, including Greenland shark, turbot, seals, and whales, while also testing alternative gear types that could be used to harvest turbot.

This project will build on a previous feasibility study conducted in 2009 which identified the need for more in-depth scientific research on turbot and Greenland shark movement patterns in particular. With support and involvement from the surrounding communities, this research project will involve:

- Assessing the daily and seasonal movements of turbot and Greenland shark in Cumberland Sound using satellite and acoustic tags attached to the fish
- Comparing the effectiveness of different types of fishing gear that could be used for turbot in Cumberland Sound, including pot

nets and trap nets, in addition to the currently used longlines

- Recording and monitoring the movements, distribution, and feeding behaviour of killer whales, beluga whales, narwhal, and bowhead whales
- Collecting tissue samples and size measurements from 10 harp and 10 ringed seals

The GN will facilitate this work through both in-kind and field support in addition to continuing to collect baseline biological information from the harvested fish in the 2010 summer fishing season.

Cumberland Sound currently hosts a seasonal commercial turbot fishery in the winter months, holding a 500 metric tonne quota. The GN strongly supports these research efforts as the continued sustainable growth and management of the Cumberland Sound turbot fishery is vital to Nunavut's economic development and to its continually growing role in Canada's commercial fisheries. *Ma'na*, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

**Minister's Statement 163 – 3(2): Inuit
Qaujimaqatqangit Research
Project**

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and a wonderful morning to you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues about an exciting research

project about *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* and high school education in Nunavut. This project pulls together some of our most accomplished educational partners.

Specifically, this project will investigate how Inuit high school principals in Pangnirtung and Clyde River work with their district education authorities to bring about change in their schools and engage students and parents through the implementation of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* in the school program.

Mr. Speaker, this project is spearheaded by the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs, the University of Prince Edward Island, St. Francis Xavier University, and the Nunavut Department of Education. ArcticNet, a National Centre for Excellence, awarded a one-year grant which began in May of this year. Until very recently, ArcticNet funded research on climate change, but as a result of the Inuit Education Accord initiated by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, they are now venturing into education research as well.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all of the researchers and partners great success in undertaking this project. I am confident that we will all profit from the important findings and that the resulting best practices will serve as a useful tool for administrators across the territory.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 164 – 3(2): Health Science and Health Career Camps

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to announce that the Department of Health and Social Services will be providing health science and health careers youth camps in Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit this summer. Up to 20 youth, primarily Inuit youth aged 11 to 13, will participate in each of these three camps.

Mr. Speaker, the goals and objectives of the health science camps are to:

- Inspire and encourage Inuit youth to pursue health careers;
- Build confidence in Inuit youth so they continue in school and qualify for post-secondary education in health career fields; and
- Involve Inuit community members to share their traditional knowledge and help Inuit youth make the connections between what is learned at camp and what is significant to their local culture and heritage.

Elders, Inuit volunteers, nurses, midwives, and other health care professionals will help lead the youth and act as positive role models during the camp. In addition, a cultural event will be part of the camp curriculum.

Funding to design this initiative was provided through Health Canada. The camps will be delivered in each of Nunavut's three regions by Actua, a charitable youth outreach organization that is experienced in delivering programs in Nunavut and in Canada that stimulate youth to consider science-based careers.

Mr. Speaker, these summer experience programs demonstrate our commitment to providing the youth with innovative training and education opportunities to prepare them for health services careers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Moving on with our Orders of the Day. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet - I forget which constituency - South and Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 246 – 3(2): Sporting a Montreal Canadiens Tie

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Good morning, Mr. Speaker. I am extremely pleased now that you know where my constituency is. I am very happy that today is Friday as we usually have laughs and jokes. As well, even in the House here, it seems to be a lighter day. I wish my constituents in Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove a wonderful day.

Spring is kind of hard to miss because migratory birds are returning and fish are starting to swim. (interpretation ends) The spring comes with it many predictable things. Geese come, fishing derbies happen...

>>Laughter

... and the Maple Leafs trade their hockey sticks for golf clubs as the real men begin to play for the Stanley Cup.

>>Laughter

Last year, Mr. Speaker, I had the misfortune of losing a bet with my colleague from Arviat and had to wear a Boston Bruins tie. The bet goes on, Mr. Speaker. This bet seems quite unfair as when Mr. Shewchuk wins, I have to wear a Boston Bruins tie, but when I win, he gets to wear Montreal Canadiens tie.

Mr. Speaker, by the look of his very fine attire today, I would like to commend Mr. Shewchuk for wearing the Montreal Canadiens tie and hopefully, it will become a tradition like that at least coming every spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Laughter

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Member's Statement 247 – 3(2): Summer Jobs for Nunavut Students

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the need for summer employment opportunities for Nunavut students. Mr. Speaker, as summer grows closer by the day, our young people are looking forward to the chance to gain experience and earn some income through their summer employment.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support employment opportunities for summer students. Having a job teaches responsibility and builds character. Mr. Speaker, I know that the Government of

Nunavut offers a Summer Student Employment Equity Program. This is an excellent program and I applaud the government for introducing it.

However, Mr. Speaker, for our students living in small communities, there are not as many opportunities. This is because the GN simply doesn't have a large presence in the smaller communities. For example, in my communities of Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk, very few GN job opportunities existed last summer. Most of the GN's summer positions are in Iqaluit and the regional centres across Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I have noted that some jurisdictions, including the Government of the Northwest Territories, have programs to provide wage subsidies to companies and other employers to hire and train summer students in small and remote communities. Mr. Speaker, I encourage our government to consider introducing a similar initiative in Nunavut. Our students will thank us for it.

Mr. Speaker, I will have questions on Monday for the Minister of Human Resources on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Member's Statement 248 – 3(2):
Nasivvik High School Graduates**

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again today is Friday and I'm happy that today is the end of the week. Whenever Friday occurs, especially in the spring, everybody gets ready to go hunting for the weekend. Those who are still working, they're already preparing to leave at five o'clock when their workday ends and they will be spending the weekend in a very scenic place. How wonderful.

Today, it is different. (interpretation ends) There is a different celebration today. It is a slightly different celebration. This year, Nasivvik High School is proud to be graduating 18 students.

>>Applause

That is our largest class ever.

These people who are graduating on Wednesday are: Albert Aglak, Jason Angnetsiak, Tyler Angnetsiak, Trevor Arreak, Pete Enoogoo, Kevin Enook, Patrick Idlout, Lionel Innualuk, Paul Maktar, Ashley Koonoo, Sebastian Maktar, Jay Simon Nashook, Jordan Ningiuk, Mark Nutarak, Adrian Ootoova, Ipellie Ootoova, Ledia Pewatoaluk, Donna Pitseolak, Johnny Lee Qanguq, Daniel Quasa, Andrew Tagak, and Darlene Simonie.

I would like my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Pond Inlet students in achieving the highest ever graduating class. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Member's Statement 249 – 3(2): Peter Siakuluk - Winner of Nunavut Quest - Pangaggujjiniq

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This winter during our session, I believe it was in March, I identified that there would be a dog team race from Pond Inlet all the way to Clyde River. Mr. Speaker, I am extremely pleased to inform the members that it did proceed from April 14 to 24 from Pond Inlet to Clyde River. This is now the 12th year of that dog team race.

What I'm extremely proud of, Mr. Speaker, and what I want to celebrate is that one of my constituents, John Ningark, the Member for Akulliq's constituent from Repulse Bay, as well as the Member for Tununiq, including the Member for the High Arctic's constituent from Arctic Bay, were all taking part. What I'm celebrating is that my constituent won over your constituents.

>>*Laughter*

Peter Siakuluk from Hall Beach has participated every year. He has not won before, but when he took part for the last time, he won. I am very happy about this.

This dog team race follows closely with the anniversary of the creation of Nunavut and I wish it to continue to operate. If there is another dog team race next year, we will again try to beat the

four members' constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 250 – 3(2): Spring has Sprung

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Spring has sprung and it seems like everything comes alive during this time. Students are finishing school and are starting to be out on the land. In the smaller communities, people are starting to filter out onto the land to enjoy the scenery.

I am very happy this week that we had a very productive meeting during our session. In addition, I am extremely pleased that the newest Member for Natilik was able to attend. I am extremely happy about that and welcome her again.

>>*Applause*

I now call the Member from Nanulik my *Ilataaq* and again I welcome him. He now knows that we are not as fearful as we look. Welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Shewchuk.

**Member's Statement 251 – 3(2):
Wearing a Montreal Canadiens
Tie**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay respect to my colleague and to honour our agreement that we had about wearing ties.

Mr. Speaker, last year, he had the privilege of wearing a beautiful, high quality Boston Bruins tie. As you can see, this one is pretty flimsy.

>> *Laughter*

However, I do feel good to honour our agreement and I think that my Boston Bruins had a wonderful playoff run this year and lost to probably the potential Stanley Cup winning Philadelphia Flyers.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Speaker, this tie is a little tight. As he said, my Boston tie was, but this one I think is a lot tighter and it does feel very choked and choking me, just like his Montreal Canadiens did again this year.

>> *Laughter*

I look forward to our advancement of our teams next year in the Stanley Cup playoffs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 252 – 3(2):
Forty-five Graduates of Inuksuk
High School**

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would never put myself in a situation where I would have to be in a situation like my colleague, Mr. Shewchuk, to have to adorn such attire. I think there is no way that I would ever put anything like that on, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to say, as my colleague from Pond Inlet pointed out, tomorrow here in Iqaluit is a very important and special day for the graduating class from the Inuksuk High School. In this year's graduating class, 45 students will be graduating. It's the second highest graduating class ever from the high school. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each and every one of them.

I'm sure that all of the parents of those 45 young adults are extremely proud of their children and those graduates too, I think, should be commended and should feel extremely proud of themselves. As they finish off this phase of their life and move on to the next phase, I wish each and every one of them, in whatever direction they choose to go in after their graduation, the best of luck.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say... I don't want to list off all 45 names, but there is one individual graduate that I would like to personally congratulate and that is my daughter, Eden, who is graduating tomorrow. I'll be at the graduation as one of those very proud parents. I wish her and all of her classmates the very best day tomorrow. Enjoy the day. They've earned it. I hope

they have a very safe graduation and a wonderful day tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say a special “thank you” to their principal, Mr. Terry Young, and his staff for their support throughout the years. If these individuals haven’t been at the high school, they would not succeed. I think the large number of graduates is a testament to the hard work and dedication that the staff at the high school do.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask all members to join me in congratulating this year’s graduating class from Inuksuk High School. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Tootoo, never say never. Members’ Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

**Member’s Statement 253 – 3(2):
Defending Montreal Canadiens**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wasn’t planning on making a statement today, but I must say I have to rebut some comments made by my colleague for Arviat.

>>*Laughter*

I take exception to his comment about some attire that he is wearing, that it is somehow not befitting.

>>*Laughter*

Any time I see a Montreal Canadiens anything, I am very proud of it, so I have to defend my Canadiens. This year, I was very proud of my Montreal Canadiens. Not only did they beat the top team in the NHL but they also beat the Stanley Cup champions, and they just have to learn how to beat mediocre teams.

>>*Laughter*

That’s what they will have to do is come up with a roster that can beat those teams that don’t really belong where they are. So it’s something that we will have to do in the off-season.

Just like my colleague from Rankin Inlet, it’s normal that my Canadiens go further than the Boston Bruins. There is a long history of playing the Boston Bruins and I think our record stands by itself that we usually win in those situations. Whenever I bet most seasons, I come out on top against the Boston Bruins.

So I look forward to the coming season and going all the way next year because we have tasted getting this close, I think we can go all of the way next year. I look forward to the coming season and I wish the best for the remainder of the two teams. Hopefully Chicago wins so that we can say better teams win in most cases.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 254 – 3(2): High Arctic Transportation Study

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to start by thanking Minister Tapardjuk for reminding me about the *Pangaggujjiniq* annual dog team race, which is an amazing race and includes many of the communities in the High Arctic. I know this year, there was a winner in Hall Beach and close behind in second was Mosesee Oyukuluk.

I was lucky enough to actually go by ski-doo this year from Arctic Bay to Pond Inlet and was hosted by Mr. Arvaluk and the good people over there, so it was nice. It was my first experience two and a half days caught in a blizzard. It was a very humbling experience not being able to go anywhere, or check your Blackberry, or email, or your phone. So for people who know me, that's quite a challenge sometimes.

I want to rise today to actually thank the Hon. Peter Taptuna yesterday for his Minister's Statement and his comments about the High Arctic Transportation Strategy. I know my three communities of the High Arctic are extremely anxious to find out the findings of his study that the department has been working on for the past year.

It's definitely an issue of air transportation. Mr. Speaker, the extremely high costs that we experience in travelling in the High Arctic weigh heavy on all my constituents. With no roads to the communities and one annual

resupply or sealift, everything comes through the air transportation.

It would be great sitting down with his department in July. I just wanted to remind him that in July, it will be my halfway mark in Resolute Bay. I won't actually be in Arctic Bay, I'll be in Resolute Bay, and I'll hopefully meet up with them. I know we have the dates to set up, so I'm looking forward to those meetings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Member's Statement 255 – 3(2): Edmonton Oilers - Future Stanley Cup Champions

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This being funny Friday, I thought I would throw my hat into the hockey ring here as well. We hear a lot about Toronto and Montreal, but I would like to tell you a story about the Edmonton Oilers, the future Stanley Cup Champions.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, I was in Cambridge Bay for a visit. We had our annual Umingmak Frolics and I had to participate in a corporate challenge daily. The boss of Finance over there told me that I had to be on their team. We won one of the corporate events, the backwards piggyback race.

I had to carry the young fellow who carried me down and he carried me back. You can imagine that I weigh quite a bit

and he stumbled about two metres from the finish line, but he tossed me over the line. I was laying there and everybody was all worried about me, but it was quite an amazing demonstration of strength. It was a good time with all of the events at lunchtime.

On the final day of the corporate challenge, we had to enter a float. No one could come up with any good ideas, so I thought, "Why not? I'll go out and get my truck, get out my Oilers flags." So I adorned my truck with the Oilers flags and went around.

Of course, every Toronto Maple Leaf fan that I saw, I was giving them the number one sign. Of course, they gave up their chance for a high draft pick to my colleagues, the Boston Bruins fan down here. There were some good pictures out there, but I think they thought I was thinking the Oilers were going to win the Stanley Cup that year. I'm telling them the first pick this year, the Stanley Cup coming in a couple of years. That will still be more cups than the Toronto Maple Leafs have won since, was it 1967?

Mr. Speaker, an odd thing occurred to me this spring as well. I don't mind admitting it. I temporarily became a Montreal Canadiens fan because they are a Canadian team and of course, we always cheer for Canadian teams, Canada first. We want to see the Stanley Cup return to Canada. It's been 17 or 18 years since that's occurred. I think Montreal was the last team that won the Stanley Cup in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I hope spring is eternal. I believe the Oilers will get the first pick this year. There are other draft choices

that will bring the Stanley Cup to Canada within a couple of years and certainly long before Toronto will. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Members' Statements. Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member's Statement 256 – 3(2):
Thank You to Everyone for a
Good First Week as MLA**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not going to be talking about hockey while all of my colleagues have.

However, I wish to express my gratitude for the hospitality and welcome I have received. Today is Friday and we will be enjoying the weekend, so I'm thankful for that. I'm also very grateful that everyone is so hospitable and assisted me throughout this week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Member's Statement 257 – 3(2): Go
Edmonton Oilers**

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues for this day. It's nice to see that we are all individuals and as well, collectively, we do have a sense of humour. At the same time, I have always believed that quality of life provides quality of service.

I, too, support Mr. Peterson as an Oilers fan. I think we're going to do quite well in the next couple of years.

>>*Applause*

If you consider the option of what we have in the future, we have something quite unique. We have this year's first draft choice of either Taylor Hall or Tyler Seguin. We have Jordan Eberle on the lineup, Magnus Paajarvi-Svensson, Cogliano, Gagner, Hemsky, and Horcoff. Hopefully in the next year or two, we can trade for our own Nunavummiuq, Jordan Tootoo, to join up with the Oilers...

>>*Applause*

... and hopefully we can have that for the Oilers. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 361 – 3(2): Status of a New Daycare Facility for Chesterfield Inlet

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This was asked by Mr. Ningeongan, the Member for Nanulik, and it's Question 361 – 3(2) on June 2, 2010 regarding the gathering in Labrador.

The national childhood education gathering in Labrador was organized by the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. The early childhood education work has a committee and it's involved with Health Canada. We didn't get an invitational

letter and therefore, we couldn't attend to this meeting that the member raised a question on.

What I'm updating the member on is based on what ITK released. There are three main regions that deal with aboriginal people and basically, they're dealing with the aboriginal health resources agreement. Kakivak, the Kivalliq Partners in Development, and the Kitikmeot Economic Development Commission were all tasked to identify who would represent this territory.

This is a meeting that was raised in the question. However, the Department of Education would be very pleased to be invited if there are any kinds of workshops regarding this issue, as they deal with this matter here in Nunavut.

So this is the information that I'm responding to based on the question that was raised, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 381 – 3(2): Baffin Bay Polar Bear Quota

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question to the Minister of Environment. I will try to ensure that he goes on TV because he is wearing a very nice tie.

>>*Laughter*

I would like to ask him a question. During our last session, he identified that they would be decreasing the polar bear quota for the Baffin Bay region, especially between Greenland and Baffin Island, by ten a year for four years. Again, this is an ongoing concern for Inuit.

We know that the federal government banned the export of polar bear hides as well as stopped the sports hunting of polar bears. My question is: what progress has been made? Does the federal government still have the ban in place? I would like an update. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for that question. As he has indicated, since that decision was made, I have written a letter to the federal minister, Minister Prentice, in regard to our concern and the management steps we are taking if it is possible to lift a non-detriment finding and the export ban to European countries. I have done that.

I have received a reply from Minister Prentice stating that that will not happen at this time. However, as we go on with the management of this population through the joint commission that we have an agreement with, Greenland and Baffin communities, it will be looked at further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

Sounds like my fellow Nunavummiut are getting the shaft on this one. They are getting their quota cut, but at the same time, they can't earn an income out of what's left of the quota.

Can I get a commitment from the minister that he will continue to press the federal government to lift the ban on exports on polar bears on Baffin Bay? The international community did not put this ban in place; they said no to a ban.

Can the minister continue to pursue this matter so that the people living in your communities, Mr. Speaker, who are hard-pressed to find any employment, have an alternative to at least earn some income from what they have left? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I would like to thank the member for his concern over this situation. I will make that commitment.

Every step along the way of our management process and our consultations through the joint commission that is set up, they will be reviewing things. As information comes forward, I will provide that information to Minister Prentice, and requesting along the way, and it is very important to our communities, that we do lift this finding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Has

the minister invited the federal minister perhaps to go and see the challenges that these communities face in terms of trying to generate any form of income in those communities? There are not a lot of opportunities to earn any sort of income and perhaps, if he saw that first-hand, he may reconsider lifting this ban on exports of polar bears. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will do what we have in our power to do. I will take that suggestion forward and review that suggestion with my department. I think it's a good one, and I think we could invite the federal minister to attend meetings at these communities and see what the reality is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 382 – 3(2): Mental Health Issues in the Corrections System

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

In response to my recent written question concerning the correctional system, the government has indicated that the rate at which adult male offenders in Nunavut re-offend is 72 percent.

The Department of Justice's 2010-13 business plan states that, "Mental Health is a significant component concerning

chronic offenders." The department's business plan also states that, "New mental health assessments have been implemented at the adult centre to provide more information concerning the client's condition. Programming for these clients is provided by a case worker under the supervision of the psychologist at the facility."

Can the minister provide us with some detail on how the Department of Justice is evaluating the success of programming for these clients? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. Mr. Speaker, I'm not the facility manager and I'm not into the details of what transpires out there.

I can assure the member that we take the situation with all inmates seriously. We offer them all types of programs to improve themselves, to better themselves, and if he wants the details of the type of programming that we provide to our inmates with mental health issues, I would be pleased to provide that to him later in the session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank him for that. Yes, I would like to receive some information on the types of programs.

My concern is if we have 72 percent of inmates re-offending and you have

programs out there to assess mental health issues, I'm just wondering how that is being evaluated. So if the minister could commit to when that would be happening. Thanks.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott. I can't give him a firm commitment, but we are willing to share any information with him and other Members of the House about programs that are available at BCC.

Mr. Speaker, all prisoners who go to the BCC and other facilities sit down and meet with caseworkers to assess their personal issues; what kind of programming they require, what kind of counselling they should receive, whether that is within Nunavut, Northwest Territories, or Ontario.

I would be pleased to direct my officials to provide that information for Mr. Elliott. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Again, this is from the business plan. Given that mental health is a significant component concerning chronic offenders, does the minister deem it necessary to pay more attention to the management of offenders with mental health issues? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott again for that question. He is asking a fairly tough question on prisoners with mental health issues. They do have to be assessed. They take specialized assessment tools to assess them. We have a lot of people who suffer from fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. I'm not saying that that's the fault of the prisoners, but we have to assess those folks to determine special treatment for them and that's very expensive.

I remember as a Member of the Second Assembly when I was asking questions about assessment of inmates. If they're chronic offenders, sometimes there are reasons why they are in jail. They may require some special review for people who have mental health conditions.

I have been digging into this on the FASD side anyway of how we treat people in the communities and how we treat them when they go through the court system. A couple of months ago, there were some experts from down south who came up to talk to our justice officials about people with mental health conditions. It is not always related to FASD, but they do require special consideration.

Chronic offenders, for one reason or another, go through the system, they get out, and then they are back again in months or sometimes very quickly. We have to look at why that occurs, so I have my officials working on this. I have had them working on it for the last couple of months and we are hoping to get some answers that we can share with the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because of what the minister has just said, are there any new strategies within your department to help with this situation? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated, we are looking into a number of things. We have to research all of this stuff. FASD is a recognized condition for a lot of people who end up in jail. I know the Yukon is taking the lead in how to deal with FASD. They have pilot projects over there. We were talking to those officials.

We did have some world experts in town two months ago who talked to the judiciary and to our lawyers and Crown counsel, I believe. I had the opportunity to talk to these two people and I have continued to dialogue with the lady who is a recognized expert on it. She has enlightened me about people with those types of conditions.

I have asked my department officials to start looking into that and talking to our colleagues in other departments because I don't believe it's just an issue that should be looked at by Justice. We have to involve Education and other departments, Health certainly.

At some point, I hope to be able to update the House on some of the strategies that we will try to initiate to help people with mental health conditions who are caught up in the justice system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq... Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan. Mr. Ningeongan. I'm sorry. Mr. Ningark.

>> *Laughter*

Question 383 – 3(2): Escorts for Medical Patients

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. I will ask him this question shortly, but prior to that, I believe our good minister sometimes travels to Montreal. Prior to 2011, if he ever goes to Montreal, I would like to ask him to make sure that he blesses the Montreal Canadiens so that they can win in 2011.

My question to minister is with regard to medical travel. I still get concerns expressed to me by patients, especially about the escort policy. People have been led to believe that escorts would be included and just prior to their travel, unfortunately, their escort could not be paid for. My question to the minister is: who makes the decision when escorts have been promised? Who really makes the final decisions?

Is the nurse who is a resident in the community or the nurses in the regional centres that are making the final decisions? Is it the deputy minister? Who makes the final decision on the escorts? I would like to give them an opportunity to call a particular number or person if they want to appeal. Can you please provide an update? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Minister of Health and Social Services,
Hon. Tagak Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I'm not much of a Montreal Canadiens fan. However, what I can say is that we really do assist them because Calgary gave them Mike Cammalleri and he scored quite a few goals. So that was Calgary's assistance to the Montreal Canadiens. Calgary is my team. We did not try to ask Cammalleri to go help them, but he was their most prolific goal scorer.

Mr. Speaker, with regard to the question, I know that this is definitely information that we have to provide to the communities, especially the smaller communities because again, they do not have as much information with regard to the escort policy.

Again, we have stated in the past that there are two sets of escorts. One is to assist the client. If the client is unilingual and cannot understand English, then yes, they require an assistant and the nurse can make that decision.

The second is when the patient is so sick and they are unable to look after themselves, the doctor makes the decision as to whether that really sick patient requires an escort due to their inability to perform their own functions.

Both of these decisions can be made at the local community health centre, but if there is any misunderstanding or disagreement, they can call the regional offices. The regional directors do have the ability to deal with the communities. If there is anything that needs to be dealt with, then it can go up to the deputy

minister. However, the policy related to escorts is available. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Oral Questions. Member for Nattilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Question 384 – 3(2): Status of Airport Improvements in Taloyoak

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

Earlier this week, I addressed the need for a new air terminal building in Taloyoak. In reviewing the government's current five-year capital plan, I have noted that the department plans to spend \$50,000 in 2012-13 on this project. However, no additional funds have been identified in future years.

Can the minister confirm when your construction of the new air terminal building will begin? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Yes, there are plans in place for the designing and planning of a new air terminal building in Taloyoak. At this point, until the design and planning is in place, there has to be a process of putting in the estimated costs and that's still in progress. We won't have that information until the planning and

designing is in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister indicate what will be the approximate cost for the new air terminal building and is this project eligible for federal funding under any of the Government of Canada's infrastructure programs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the project would be eligible for federal government infrastructure funding. At this time, we can't determine the estimated cost yet until the planning and designing is completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government's five-year capital plan also indicates that the department plans to spend \$100,000 in 2011-12 on a new airport equipment shelter for the Taloyoak Airport. Can the minister confirm that this project is on schedule? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. As far as I know, it is on schedule, but if that does change and I'm giving you inaccurate information, I will

get back to you on the scheduling of the shelter for equipment in Taloyoak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Are you done? (interpretation ends) Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those were my only questions. Thank you.

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

Question 385 – 3(2): Polar Bear Management and Quota System

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for my usual suspect, the Minister of Environment.

I just want more information because residents of Pond Inlet are still asking questions about what the minister stated. There were consultation tours going on in the High Arctic with regard to the Baffin Bay communities.

Once the consultations were done, the government direction was completely turned upside down. It's as if they believe now that there are more than enough polar bears; the polar bear population is not declining. Again, they based it on *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* as well as polar bear research studies.

However, what the residents want to understand is why, when the population is stable, the government is still trying to bring the quota down to the tune of ten tags per year for four years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for the question and clarify the question for him. We have changed our position on listing polar bears as a special concern under COSEWIC and SARA. The polar bear population that is being looked at under that system applies to all of Nunavut. We believe that we do have a healthy polar bear population in Nunavut.

Also in all my correspondence and anything that I have ever said about polar bears, we do realize that we do have a couple of challenges, one is western Hudson Bay and one is Baffin Bay. We are addressing those challenges through this joint commission that we have set up with Greenland that we share that population with and we are moving forward in the management plan. Those discussions and consultations are taking place with that commission. They have already met twice.

The member is very aware that I travelled in March to all of the affected communities and provided alternate programs and sources that the government has to look at keeping the polar bear industry alive and well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't quite get this part. It's very hard to raise income, especially with all of the challenges. In

Inuktitut, there really isn't a term to equate with that.

(interpretation ends) Perhaps I could try to suggest a question to the minister. What does he mean by challenges in the Baffin Bay and western Hudson Bay? Is he saying that they are still endangered species? Can he explain the definition of challenges in this case? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question again. I am not saying that they are an endangered species. There are no endangered species in Nunavut in regard to polar bears.

What I am saying is that there is concern over those two populations that have been addressed by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. Listening and getting all of the information from scientists, from communities, and from individuals, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board has identified them to us as populations with concern and we are taking the responsible management actions to deal with those concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister himself unilaterally made the decision earlier this winter to go ahead before the NWMB decision and after the review. The minister himself made a unilateral initiative to make a reduction of the polar bear quota in Baffin Bay by ten for four years.

When he said that the reversal of the position by the government was announced last week or some short time ago, why didn't he make this unilateral decision that was made back into the original numbers until NWMB makes a review and decision where it should go with that Baffin Bay population? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the member is confused. It was not the minister himself, me, that made that decision. The decision was made on recommendations by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board with respect to the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

The decision that I made to reverse our position as listing special concern is a completely different decision than that. The special concern, as I say, applies to all of Nunavut, the polar bear populations in Nunavut, and overall, we do feel our polar bear population is very healthy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think I'm the only one confused. I think that three communities in Baffin Bay are also confused on this one because the NWMB did not recommend a polar bear quota reduction this year. They said next year. The minister unilaterally fast-tracked the decision and maybe that is where the confusion arises.

Can the minister clarify that the NWMB, or Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, made the decision to start the quota reduction immediately? We must have read different messages that we got from NWMB and the minister's decision that was made earlier. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for that clarification and he is right about that. The NWMB made the decision to reduce the quota. They recommended that we start in 2011 and I changed that. I recommended and changed that variance so that we start this management system this year. The sooner we start this, it is going to be for the betterment of Nunavut and the communities affected that we get a more and complete population survey done. We will get that done sooner by starting this action. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 386 – 3(2): Issues with Essential Services in Sanikiluaq

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, the Hon. Peter Taptuna.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, in my Member's Statement, I called on the government to ensure that essential services, such as obtaining driver's licences and general

identification cards, are being delivered in a timely and efficient manner.

Can the minister explain what the process is to obtain a driver's licence and a general identification card and how long this process should take? 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 hon. member from Hudson Bay for that question.

The process starts by putting in applications by residents who are requiring driver's licence and general identification cards from the department. The applications are processed through our Motor Vehicles Office here in Iqaluit and after that, depending on the completion of an application, there may be some information going back and forth between the communities and the Iqaluit office here.

On the completion of an application, the application is verified by the Motor Vehicles Office here in Iqaluit and then sent down to Ottawa for processing and printing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. As I stated yesterday, many constituents in Sanikiluaq are waiting several months to receive their driver's licences. Can the minister explain why it's taking so long for the people of Sanikiluaq to obtain

their driver's licences? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for that question. I admit that some of these processes take a bit of time, a bit more than expected.

It takes a number of people and in fact, a team, to process some of these applications and get the service out to the residents of these communities. It's almost like teamwork. We have people here in Iqaluit, in these communities, down in Ottawa, at the hamlets, and it takes good coordination. At times, some of the best laid out plans on delivering the services don't usually work out, as we all know.

We're trying to make it more effective and trying to process some of these applications in a timely manner. I admit yes, some of these applications have taken a long time. We're hoping and we're trying to improve the system so that we become more effective to deliver these applications and the general identification cards and driver's licences to the community members. I agree that, at times, there is some inefficiency and we're trying to improve that within the department.

One of the things that our Premier and this government has committed to is that with the government liaison officers in these smaller communities, that would help us out tremendously in delivering the services to the smaller communities, not just in driver's licences but in other

government services too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue of the people of Nunavut having long delays in receiving their driver's licences was brought up in the House on March 15 by a colleague of mine. Back then, the minister said that he would look into the matter and try and fix the program. Again he's saying that they're trying to find ways to improve the program. Can the minister indicate how long it will take to have this program reviewed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. In delivering a service, you depend on key people within the hamlets, employees and whatnot down in Ottawa, and of course, here in Iqaluit and other various communities that coordinate some of these processes for the applications.

Again, I've got to mention that it takes teamwork to accomplish some of these things that his constituency is requesting. Recently, there were 24 applications from his constituency of Sanikiluaq. Twenty-one of them have been verified, evaluated, analyzed, and approved for printing and processing down in Ottawa.

So there have been some improvements, but yes, there are still a lot of improvements to be done. It's very difficult when you depend on a whole

number of people to get to that point of delivering a service. With additions down into the future with GLOs, or government liaison officers, we see some of these services improving.

Again I will admit, yes, we're continuing to strive to improve our services to the residents of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. When you just answered the question, you said that 21 of the 24 applications from Sanikiluaq were approved and sent to Ottawa for processing. Can the minister tell me how long it took, if everything was in order, from the time the application was taken to the time the driver's licences were delivered to the community if everything is okay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The evaluation of an application to the processing and printing of the card should take approximately four weeks before it gets to the applicant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan.

Question 387 – 3(2): Dialysis Treatment in Nunavut

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services and follow up on the minister's commitment to address the need for a dialysis machine in Nunavut.

In response to my questions on this issue that I asked on March 23, 2010, the minister stated and I quote, "We hope to have more developments that we hope to announce in our upcoming June session. I will ensure that the member is kept informed on the developments of this situation and what kinds of improvements we make."

Mr. Speaker, to date, I know for a fact that I have not been informed of any kind of development between that time and now. On June 1, 2010, I followed up on this issue with the minister and in his response, he stated again and I quote, "... as ministers, sometimes when we say something, we usually don't set a date. We try not to provide a deadline."

Mr. Speaker, the record shows that in this case, the minister did set a date. That date was June. We are now in June. Will the minister provide a detailed update on what specific steps have been taken to address the need for a dialysis machine in Nunavut and when will he provide that update? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I can respond to that. My previous comments were translated into

English and I am aware of that as he read them, but I believe that it wasn't entirely correctly translated. What I stated was, "I hope to" and in my opinion, this is true. However, "hope" does not denote commitment. We have a commitment to work on making improvements to the system and we will continue to report on them as we develop them.

The member has had meetings with me as well as my deputy minister. I can state that this is the case, although he did not mention that as happening. I have spoken with the member on more than one occasion. We have also kept him informed via email correspondence on this matter.

Based on these reasons, we are working towards providing support to residents with liver or kidney problems who require blood cleansing via dialysis. We really do need to support these types of people as a government. As with most cases where the service is not available in Nunavut, we have no choice but to send them out for treatment.

For those reasons, we will have to prepare and submit a budget, including any resources. Currently, we do not know how large of a budget this would require. As I stated yesterday, it is not as simple as picking up the dialysis machine and transporting it here to Nunavut as there are many factors we have to keep in mind. We require several trained staff to operate this machine.

As we start to resolve all of these related issues with the assistance of the medical team, we will inform the member. I believe that he stated at the beginning of the session that he would like to meet

with me and I agreed to make time to meet the member. We will meet with the member prior to the end of this session with respect to the dialysis machine issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We will look into the March *Hansard* and we will provide the results or findings. Your first supplementary, Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It should not be surprising that statements made by ministers raise people's expectations, especially those who have to be away from their home and family for long periods of time.

While I do recognize that sometimes things take longer than expected, I also feel it is important to provide clear and straightforward information to our constituents in a timely manner. I would also like to state for the record that between March of this year to date, I was not, once again I repeat, I was not informed of any kind of development until I started asking the question.

Can the minister provide some indication of what timelines are set for considering, deliberating, and deciding on the feasibility of a dialysis machine for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will read them in the statement. I don't think there was a Point of Order about this particular statement, but based on my previous and earlier response, it was in Inuktitut. When an Inuk asks me a

question, I try to respond in Inuktitut so that the answer can be clearer.

We have to provide these kinds of medical systems to our residents and wherever these machines are not available in Nunavut, the patients have to leave our territory and to receive treatment elsewhere. Prior to these machines coming into the health system, we have to have all of the processes in place.

With regard to the complex and technical nature of these machines, it's not because we are trying to provide the service to our residents but we are preparing for all of the medical and technical challenges that we face. We have to have some training and resources to ensure that it runs properly. There are many issues to deliberate.

I cannot make a definite response about a definite deadline here in this House when we have not completed those preparations, only when it has been deliberated and after approval of the budget. These are highly technical and cannot just be taken and left in a community in Nunavut. If that were the case, we would have done so long time ago. It is only after we have made all of the preparations and have the trained staff in place that there will be a dialysis machine in the future.

I know that the expectations the residents have is there will be a dialysis machine that will be up there, but we are developing our plans and we have not set a timeframe. That is why I have said that I hope we can have everything in place by this date, but again, we are undertaking all of the preparations to make sure that everything is in place by

the time the machine does come up to Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The dialysis machine would be an expensive investment for Nunavut. However, the cost of medical travel for the Department of Health and Social Services is also expensive and runs over-budget year after year after year.

Can the minister confirm whether or not his staff have compared the total cost of medical travel and accommodation for patients receiving dialysis treatment outside of the territory to the cost of a dialysis machine? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, if that was the scenario where we could compare medical travel versus dialysis machines, some of them will be higher and it wouldn't be very balanced either. The government does not operate in that manner, so what we have to understand is that we have to have everything in place, fully trained staff, and the fiscal resources available to ensure that the dialysis machine operates smoothly.

It's not just the funding that's at issue here. We need certified technicians who can run that dialysis machine. As I stated, we would also need to train operators. We need more than one operator as well because we will always need backup. It's not just the funding. If

it was just a funding issue, I am sure we could deal with that. The reason why I cannot respond about the timeframe is because there are other factors that we have to deal with.

We just compared medical travel and the continuum budget shortfall. It's true that we do always ask for supplementary appropriations dealing with health medical travel, but then again, we are trying to make more efficient measures in our report. I will work on that, Mr. Speaker, and provide a more comprehensive report down the road.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that in order to operate a dialysis machine in Nunavut, staff and technicians would need to be trained and hired. Can the minister confirm what steps have been taken to identify what training would be required to operate the dialysis machine and whether there are potential candidates for such training in Nunavut? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, based on his question, these are the kinds of issues that we have to prepare for. We do have a plan of action, but as all these things settle into place and the funding budget for this is approved, I will start reporting on these as we make progress.

One thing we know, Mr. Speaker, is that the dialysis machine that would assist those with blood disorders, we cannot deal with that here at the Legislative Assembly. We need doctors and administrators to deal with that. Again, we also have to look at other issues, such as the best practices of other jurisdictions or provinces on how they deal with that when they have remote community challenges.

These are all of the issues being studied by our health department. We will not swerve from that path and we will continue down that road. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 388 – 3(2): Status of Airport Improvements in Kimmirut

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

Last fall, the Legislative Assembly approved \$800,000 in the 2010-11 capital estimates for improvements to the runway at Kimmirut's airport. Can the minister indicate whether this capital project is on schedule to begin this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I'll have to get back to him on

that. I don't have that information in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, the airports in Kimmirut and Pangnirtung are extremely challenging places to land given their location. In March of this year, I asked the minister to look into doing a feasibility study to relocate the Kimmirut Airport. Can the minister update me today on the status of this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I think that changed throughout the planning because of some certain situation that the government is in and the member is fully aware of that. I'll have to get back to him on his question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess he answered part of my next question here where I asked him if it had something to do with the Nunavut Housing Corporation issue there. I would like to ask him if his department has looked to see if there are any opportunities to get federal money to relocate the airport in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take that question as a notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 389 – 3(2): Update on Test Fishery in Cumberland Sound

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment, (interpretation ends) Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

(interpretation) I am quite pleased that there will be research ongoing on the turbot stocks near Pangnirtung this coming summer and additionally, they will be researching other fish stocks during that time.

Our local HTO expressed a concern about the kind of fishing equipment used for this research close to our community. The concern was primarily with regard to bottom trawling, where they drag nets on the ocean floor and it completely vacuums everything on the ocean floor. They do not want to see that in the waters off our community.

Our community HTO would like to know if that will be the case and whether or not this devastating style of fishing will be used as per our concerns. That is my question to the minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the concern. Yes, that's right, there is going to be test fishing going on, as I made in the Minister's Statement, and we are aware that the HTO is concerned about the equipment that is going to be used. A concern that specifically gillnets were going to be used in the test fishery has been addressed and they have been, to my knowledge, eliminated from the types of gear that is going to be used. So it is being addressed, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. Again, he stated that this was being looked at, especially the concern expressed by the Pangnirtung HTO with regard to the research vessel.

When will he be able to inform the Pangnirtung HTO that their concerns have been addressed? When will his department inform the Pangnirtung HTO as to whether all of their concerns are been addressed? We would like to know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Komoartok. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that response might have been delivered already, but if not, I will assure that that happens as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. That's a very good statement to hear. What I want to ask about now is if there is research going on this summer. Will they be starting early? Again, there's a lot of loose ice and some landfast ice just offshore of Pangnirtung now, but it is melting very fast. When will this research vessel be going up to the Cumberland Sound? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Everything is in place, and the turbot test fishery will be starting in late July and going through early August. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 390 – 3(2): Investigation or Audit of Health and Social Services

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

Mr. Speaker, CBC News has recently reported that the Department of Finance is and I quote, "Investigating the Department of Health." For the peace of mind of Members of this House and listening public, can the minister clarify whether this is a routine internal audit or an actual investigation of alleged misconduct? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. Mr. Speaker, as we know, the media sometimes uses certain words to get readership and listeners out there.

Mr. Speaker, it's a routine matter. As I mentioned yesterday, the Department of Finance has a number of... we have Internal Audit Services, we can do compliance audits, performance audits, forensic audits, and operational audits. So I would like to reassure the members that we are doing our job and we're trying to help. We're working with Minister Curley's department to improve the financial reporting side of the Department of Health.

It was just expressed earlier by another member that annually, the Department of Health has over-expenditures. I have indicated elsewhere in conversations and meetings that right across Canada, the Department of Health in every province and territory experiences difficulties containing the growing health care costs that our resident populations deserve and need.

So this is just something that we have to do on a regular basis. Whether it's the Department of Health or some other department, the Department of Finance is there to help. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's good to hear that the department is not actually being investigated.

Nonetheless, can the minister indicate what the findings of this internal audit were? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. Mr. Speaker, I can't give that information right now. I haven't been fully briefed on the outcome of the audit, but at some point, I'm sure I'll be able to share that information with Mr. Elliott. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister explain how the Department of Finance is helping Health and Social Services to improve its financial management practices in response to some of the recommendations that the Auditor General and the Assembly made from its own Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts? Thanks.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm very pleased that Mr. Elliott is asking these questions. As we know, the Department of Health, pretty much since 1999, has been a key department in the Government of Nunavut. The Department of Health touches every person in Nunavut on a daily basis. Our relatives get sick or need care and attention consumes a growing amount of our finances.

We work with the Department of Health in terms of interpreting Financial Administration Manual directives. We work with them in analyzing monthly variance reports. We work with them in giving advice on contracting. We assist them with preparations of submissions to the Financial Management Board.

The deputy ministers and the assistant deputy ministers meet on a regular basis. I can't give details of how often they meet, but in Iqaluit, it's very frequent. The senior managers meet and talk about not just the Department of Health but all departments and they talk about services that are available to the Department of Finance to help train staff in preparing budgets, analyzing their budgets, and participating in the capital estimates process and the main estimates process.

It's an ongoing exercise, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that. Could the minister state when he hopes to have the results of the internal audit that will be complete? Thanks.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. I can't put a time on that. There continues to be an internal process similar to the way the Auditor General of Canada works. We have to sit down with her officials and talk about what we have found. I will have to talk with my colleague, Minister Curley, about the

outcomes of the review. At some point, we will be in a position to discuss it further.

Again, it is part of our role as the Department of Finance, a central agency department. It's not a case of setting timelines. We want to do a good job. We're not out there to do quick reviews. We have to look at all kinds of information and make sure that all of the facts are known and give everybody an opportunity to participate in the final outcome of the report.

Once that information is available, I will determine if I can share that with Mr. Elliott. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Document. Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 165 – 3(2): Dry Cargo Resupply Programme Activity Summary - Shipping Year 2008

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the following document: Dry Cargo Resupply Programme Activity Summary - Shipping Year 2008. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Tagak Curley.

Tabled Document 166 – 3(2): Saillivik Policy

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document that I spoke about: the *Saillivik* Policy. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Tabling of Documents.

Tabled Document 167 – 3(2): Elections under the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act

Members, as required under subsection 20.1 of the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table a copy of elections made under section 7 of the Act. Thank you.

Tabled Document 168 – 3(2): Funding Valuation of the Retiring Allowances Fund

Thank you, Members. As required by the Legislative Assembly's *Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table today the Funding Valuation of the Retiring Allowances Fund as of April 1, 2009. Thank you.

Thank you, Members. As required by the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table today the Funding Valuation of the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Fund as of April 1, 2009. Thank you.

Thank you, Members. As required by the Supplementary Retiring... that was already tabled.

Tabling of Documents. Are there any more documents to table? Item 14.

Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 32 – Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2010 – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet and Whale, that Bill 32, *Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2010*, 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 32 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Second Reading of Bills. Minister Peterson.

Bill 36 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2010, No. 2 – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the hon. Member for Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove, that Bill 36, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2010, No. 2*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill corrects inconsistencies and errors in certain Acts of Nunavut and corrects references relating to the Northwest Territories. 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 36 has received second reading.

Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent of the House to waive Rule 67(2) and have Bill 36 moved into the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The minister is seeking unanimous consent that Bill 36 proceed directly into the Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Bill 36 is now referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Elliott.

Bill 33 – An Act to Amend the Integrity Act – Second Reading

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit Centre, that Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Integrity Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill implements recommendations made in the Integrity Commissioner's 2008-09 Annual Report. The bill also introduces time limitations concerning investigations conducted by the Integrity Commissioner. It also corrects errors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. 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 33 has received second reading. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent of the House to waive Rule 67(2) and have Bill 33 moved into the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent that Bill 33 proceed directly into the Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are none. Bill 33 is now referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Elliott.

**Bill 34 – An Act to Amend the
Legislative Assembly and
Executive Council Act – Second
Reading**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit Centre, that Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill allows the Speaker to extend the exemption available to employees of the Office of the Legislative Assembly to other essential persons. The bill clarifies the Management and Services Board's authority to recover indemnities from members who fail to perform their responsibilities and give the Executive Council authority to adopt policies governing the payment of additional allowances to its members. The Speaker is granted the discretion to issue an attendance report. The bill makes minor amendments to the composition of the [Management] and Services Board.

Finally, the bill corrects technical errors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. 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 34 has received second reading. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent of the House to waive Rule 67(2) and have Bill 34 moved into the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent that Bill 34 proceed directly into the Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are none. Bill 34 is now referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Motion 024 – 3(2): Early
Adjournment**

Mr. Ningeongan: Pursuant to Rule 46, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Amittuq, that the House adjourn for the day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. The motion is in order and it is not debatable. I will not allow any debates on this motion.

>> *Laughter*

All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried. We will now proceed directly to Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that there's a meeting at three o'clock this afternoon of the Standing Committee on Legislation in the Nanuq Room.

Orders of the Day for June 7:

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

Speaker: Can we have order, please. Order. Proceed, Mr. Clerk.

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions

17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 28
- Bill 29
- Bill 30
- Bill 31
- Bill 33
- Bill 34
- Bill 36
- Tabled Document 13 – 3(2)
- Tabled Document 66 – 3(2)
- Tabled Document 99 – 3(2)
- Tabled Document 100 – 3(2)

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

- Bill 27

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Monday, June 7, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 11:53*

